

PROCEEDINGS  
COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF  
S. V. U. S. A.

1914-16

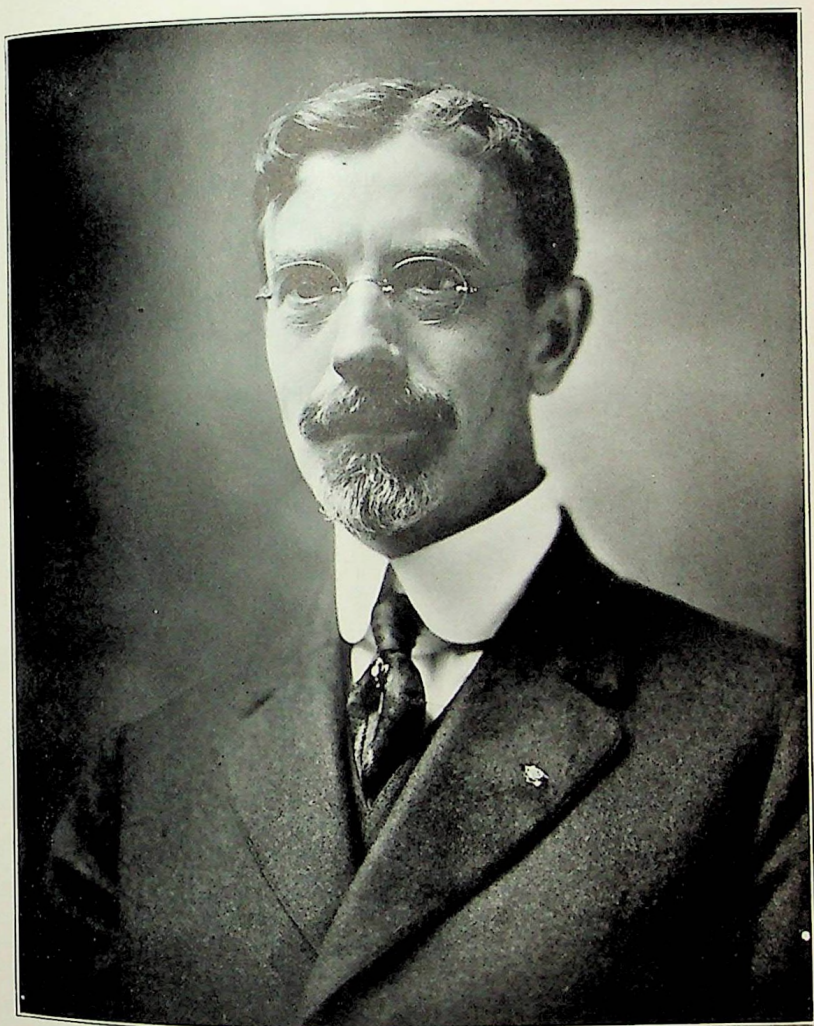


PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
THIRTY-FOURTH  
ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT  
OF THE  
COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF  
SONS OF VETERANS  
U. S. A.



HELD AT  
WASHINGTON, D. C.,  
*Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday,*  
*September 28, 29 and 30, 1915*





CHARLES F. SHERMAN.  
Commander-in-Chief, Mount Vernon, N. Y.



## TUESDAY MORNING SESSION

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Meeting called to order by the Commander-in-Chief, Charles F. Sherman, at 10:00 A. M. in the "lounge" of the Shoreham Hotel.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Brothers, it gives me great pleasure to introduce to you at this time Brother G. W. Sollers, chairman of the entertainment committee. (Applause.)

G. W. Sollers: Commander-in-Chief and brothers of the Thirty-fourth National Encampment of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.; I esteem it a high honor upon this occasion to invite to this city, the grandest capital of the greatest nation on earth, the men and the sons of the men who have bequeathed to us that priceless heritage, that flag, which, purified by fire and kissed by the rays of God's eternal sunlight, shines out today, the most resplendent national emblem under the blue vaults of heaven. (Applause.)

We welcome you with love, with fidelity. We propose to make it as pleasant for you as possible. Our homes are yours and our hearts beat in unison with yours.

Brothers, my most pleasant duty is to introduce to you today a gentleman in whom all of us Washingtonians take a fatherly interest. Washington is exceptionally fortunate. You have often heard of the city fathers. Now, here is a city with three papas. I am now about to introduce to you a gentleman whose name sounds good to us, and he needs no further compliment when you hear it, Commissioner Brownlow, Washington, D. C. (Applause.)

Commissioner Brownlow: Mr. Commander-in-Chief, Delegates to the Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.; I can only add to what Mr. Sollers has said, that you are welcome. I want you to feel it. I want you to know that although Washington is given over today to the veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Sons of Veterans are no less welcome. We are about to place upon you a burden of helping to welcome the older men. As the head of the Police Department, as the head of that part of the government of the District of Columbia which has to do with keeping order and with doing the best we can to entertain our visitors, I want to bespeak in the very first sentence of my talk your aid. We want you to help us to give these old men the best time they have ever had.

This is the first time in my life that I ever was in a meeting of the Sons of Veterans, although I, too, am a son of a veteran. (Applause.) My father was a private in Company I, Third Tennessee, C. S. A. He was wounded and captured at Fort Donaldson, taken to prison in Chicago. Fort Dearborn then



stood on the site now occupied by the Dearborn Street Station in Chicago. He was wounded again there. A boy of about thirteen or fourteen years old asked a guard to let him look at his rifle. He gave it to the boy and the boy thought he would see if he could shoot a rebel, and he did. (Laughter.) I have always claimed that my father was wounded further north than any other soldier in the war.

He was wounded again at Atlanta and again in a little skirmish in Arkansas very late in 1864. At any rate, he was taken prisoner when he was wounded the last time and was taken to the penitentiary in Little Rock, which was the federal prison, and there he was when the war ended. So, he was wounded four times fighting for the Confederacy.

One of these wounds, a minie ball that he received in his hip at the Battle of Atlanta, caused his death forty-two years after. The minie ball was encysted in his hip, but afterwards when he began to be older, past sixty-five, the ball began to work its way out of the socket. Science had so far progressed that we took X-ray photographs of it. He was too old and too weak to stand an operation, and we have X-ray photographs showing the progress of that ball. He died forty-two years after from the effects of that shot. It worked into his kidney and set up lead poisoning, of which he died.

The first speech I ever heard my father make was an address of welcome to the reunion of the G. A. R. at Littletown in Missouri, where we lived. (Applause.) I am not only the son of a Confederate veteran, but by inheritance and persuasion a Democrat. (Applause.) I was born in a small town in a backwoods county in the Ozark region of Missouri. There wasn't a railroad in the county then and there isn't a railroad in the county now. There were a great many Republicans there and very few Democrats. The normal vote when I first began to know about such things was about twelve hundred Republicans, about six hundred Greenbackers or Union Labor or Populists, or whatever was the third party, and about fifty Democrats. We were very much in the minority. There were only four Confederate soldiers who lived in the county at that time. My father was one of them. Practically everybody that was old enough who lived in the county had been in the Union army.

They had a big reunion there and for some reason or other that little bit of a village of three or four hundred people had taken it into its head that it ought to be incorporated, and it was. Then they had a city election and my father was elected mayor. He ran on the Democratic ticket, I think. The rest of the ticket got about four votes and he got them all. So that it fell to his lot to welcome this first G. A. R. reunion. It was such a success, away out there in the backwoods, far removed from any railroad, that that county and town bought a magnificent grove for that purpose, and the reunions for all that part of Missouri are still held in that grove every year on the twenty-fourth of August. I was a little bit of a fellow when I heard my father welcome them. And so, in spite of my Confederate ancestry, I feel that I am entitled to this privilege. And, when the committee came to invite me to welcome you to the national capital, I didn't hesitate for an instant. I accepted because I wanted to come. (Applause.)



The city of Washington is the embodiment of the growth and glory of our common country. When the great schism came in 1861, Washington was little more than a struggling village lining long, muddy roads, with here and there a magnificent marble palace that seemed not to predict the future, but rather to mock at the efforts of these people to build up a great nation. People who came here from Europe, used to the great capitals of the older civilized nations, used to laugh at us. Well meaning men like Dickens and Thackeray laughed at the effort to build a capital of a great nation in a swamp; it seemed to them ridiculous; and down to that time it was ridiculous. We weren't a nation. We were a loose confederacy of states. There was a political theory rather than a political principle involved, and whatever may have been the sincerity of the men who held to one idea as to the theory or to the other idea as to the theory, it was all fought out from '61 to '65, when the national theory triumphed.

I am not at all ashamed of my Confederate ancestry. I am not at all ashamed that my father believed that his first duty was to his state. I am not at all ashamed of the principles and ideals of the government for which the six hundred thousand men who wore the grey fought. I am not at all ashamed of those things, and we need not be, because the bravery of the men in grey, the courage of the men in grey, the devotion of the men in grey, is now as much a part of the common heritage of us sons of veterans who wore both colors, as the bravery and the courage and the devotion of the men who wore the blue. They were all Americans. (Applause.)

I thank God that you meet here now, that fifty years after the close of the war we are all one. There isn't the slightest bitterness between the two. Everything is forgotten. We are all Americans. There is one Union, one country, and there is no division in it either geographical or psychological. There is no North, there is no South, no East, no West, no aristocracy, no lower classes; we are all the same; we are all Americans, and every one of us ought to be proud that the reason for our greatness, the reason why we stand here the freest citizens of the greatest republic in the world, is that we had forefathers who fought for what they thought right, regardless of the consequences. (Applause.) I am sure that every one of you whose father fought for the Stars and Stripes will join me, whose father fought in a lost cause, in a pledge that whatever may come, we will devote every atom of our energy, every drop of our blood to the upholding of the common heritage of the republic, and the eternal emblem, the Stars and Stripes. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: While not necessarily scheduled at this time, in order to give a proper and fitting response to the words of welcome addressed to us by the Commissioner, I have the honor of calling upon our Senior Past Commander-in-Chief, George B. Abbott, to respond. (Applause.)

George B. Abbott, Illinois: Mr. Commander and Mr. Commissioner: I will settle with the Commander-in-Chief after he goes out of office. We will have a little accounting.

But I deeply appreciate the courtesy of the Commander-in-Chief in calling upon me. I have attended many National Encampments, have listened to many addresses of welcome. I



don't recall that I ever listened to one with more pleasure than I have this morning. We come here and the weather is delightful, the town is beautifully decorated and we meet a welcome on every hand. When we leave Washington, I know we will take with us the most pleasant of recollections.

I imagine the Commissioner had a tip that I was to respond, because I am from Chicago, but I trust that he will not have it in for me, especially since I was not the boy that fired the shot. (Laughter.)

The sentiment of the Commissioner should make a deep and lasting impression upon us, for its breathes of that true spirit of loyalty that particularly at this time in our nation, those of us whose hearts beat with true patriotism feel deeply on that question. It is a serious question that confronts the public, and I am sorry that there is some indication that there is a division of opinion. But the sentiment expressed by the Commissioner, which has a deep response in the hearts of all sons of veterans, North or South, Confederate or U. S. A., is what we need. I don't feel on this happy occasion that we need refer to that any further, but I couldn't let it go by without saying that I appreciate that sentiment. I know it is a true sentiment, because I have spent much time through the South, and I know what the feeling is. I know what the feeling of my brothers in the Sons of Veterans is.

We wish to thank you for this welcome to your city. We will try to respect the authority of the Police Department. Of course, Brother Marsh of Illinois is here, and Brother Michael Crowley of Massachusetts, but they have promised to behave thoroughly and carefully, and we will try to see that they don't cause the police any special trouble, and no one else will, we know.

I again thank you for your welcome. (Applause.)

The guest is escorted from the room.

The Commander-in-Chief appointed Division Commander John A. Corcoran of New Jersey, National Inspector, and Brother William M. Anderson of New York, Color Bearer.

H. H. Hammer called the roll of officers of the Commandery-in-Chief.

Charles F. Sherman, Commander-in-Chief.

William F. Chambers, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Fred J. McMurtrie, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Clifford E. Batchelor, Council-in-Chief, chairman.

H. C. Springston, Council-in-Chief.

Charles C. Behnke, Council-in-Chief.

Edwin M. Amies, Chief of Staff.

Horace H. Hammer, National Secretary.

James Lewis Rake, National Treasurer.

William M. Coffin, National Counselor.

Rev. Ernest L. Benson, National Chaplain.

George W. Penniman, National Patriotic Instructor.

All are present.

The Commander-in-Chief welcomes all who are present at a meeting of the Sons of Veterans for the first time.

The taking of the password. All are found to be qualified to remain.

After prayer had been offered by National Chaplain Rev. Ernest L. Benson of Madison, Wis., the colors were presented, pledge of allegiance given and the colors saluted.

The Commander-in-Chief then recognized the presence of the following Past Commanders-in-Chief and extended to them a most cordial welcome:

Louis M. Wagner, Pennsylvania.  
George B. Abbott, Illinois.  
James Lewis Rake, Pennsylvania.  
R. M. J. Reed, Pennsylvania.  
Edward R. Campbell, Maryland.  
William G. Dustin, Illinois.  
H. V. Speelman, Ohio.  
Edwin M. Amies, Pennsylvania.  
Ralph Sheldon, New York.  
Edgar Allan, Jr., Maryland.  
Ralph M. Grant, Connecticut.  
John E. Sautter, Pennsylvania.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The Credential Committee is as follows:

H. H. Hammer, chairman, Pennsylvania.  
L. S. Barnes, Ohio.  
W. H. Hart, Connecticut.  
C. H. Young, Rhode Island.  
W. S. Beilby, New York.

The Commander-in-Chief gives outline of events to take place during the convention.

Chief of Staff Amies gives instructions in reference to the parade.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The Washington Evening Star will today have an historical story of the Sons of Veterans in connection with the historical story of the Grand Army of the Republic. We will now listen to a report of the Credential Committee.

Reading of report of Credential Committee.

H. H. Hammer: I move that the report be adopted and carried as the first roll call.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The motion is considered as formally adopted, and the report of the Credential Committee will be considered as the first roll call.

George W. Penniman: In reading the roll call of the officials and members of this body, I noted that there was one omission in the response. There lies today at his home and upon his bed, from which, probably, unless through a marvelous Divine Providence, he never will rise until that time comes when he is taken from that bed to be placed in that low, green tent whose curtains never upward swing, one of the best beloved of the brethren of this Commandery-in-Chief.

Thirty-one years ago last month it was my privilege as a representative of the Commandery-in-Chief and of the then Commandery of the Third Grand Division, to attend in this city of Washington the meeting of the Second Grand Division of



our organization. At Detroit last year a brother whom I have not met for many years handed me a picture of what has become an historic group. That brother was last year honored because of his splendid service for the order and for other reasons, with the position of Personal Aide upon the staff of our beloved Commander-in-Chief.

Words of a very disquieting and discouraging character come from his home. In all probability he will never meet with us again. When he has been with us, he has been life and hope and courage and inspiration to the members of this body. Because of this critical illness of our brother, Clarence E. Holmes, I rise at the beginning of our proceedings to offer my motion. The peculiarity of the motion and its apparent incompleteness will be explained when I say to you that for several weeks no message of any kind except the personal presence of his heart-friend, our Commander-in-Chief has been allowed to cross the threshold of his chamber. Otherwise, I should make my motion in a different form and with a different phrasing.

I move that a committee of such numbers as it may please you to appoint, that committee to be composed of members of this Commandery-in-Chief who have been members of this organization for thirty years or more, be appointed to present at some appropriate time during these proceedings such an expression of our love, of our sympathy, of our heart-reaching love and sympathy and condolence, that shall fittingly express what we really feel because of the absence of Brother Holmes, because of his condition and because he is awaiting that summons when at God's command he shall pass through the shadowy gates to reach the sunlight of the eternal hills. I make you, sir, that motion, and you may appoint that committee at your will and of such members as it may please you to make.

Motion seconded. Unanimously carried. Committee appointed later.

Edwin M. Amies: I have the following resolution:

*Whereas*, The European war has proven that if we prize our liberties and institutions, we must prepare to defend them; and

*Whereas*, Every day of the conflagration demonstrates that we must not only be willing to defend, but must be prepared to defend our country; and

*Whereas*, The founders of our Constitution placed in the hands of Congress the authority to call every citizen to arms in the event of war; and

*Whereas*, The spirit of our institutions should require that laws be enacted by which the burden of military service be equally distributed upon all citizens; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., appeal to Congress that at the forthcoming session a comprehensive military policy be enacted into law by which the people will be prepared to discharge their duty under the Constitution in the event of war; and be it further

*Resolved*, That in carrying out this policy the General Staff of the army be called upon to make a report upon a military

policy in harmony with our institutions by which a trained citizen soldiery can be secured through the adoption of something like the Swiss and Australian systems.

Motion that the resolution be accepted. Seconded.

W. F. Chambers: I offer as an amendment to that motion that the resolution be referred to the Committee on Resolutions. Seconded.

Franz Sigel: In seconding that motion, I do it for the reason that I believe the subject requires a more careful consideration than could be had at the present time, and should be further reflected upon. I think, therefore, on the grounds of wisdom, it would be well to refer it to the Resolutions Committee, so that it may be fully considered, and have them present it in such form as to be unobjectionable to the members.

The amendment is adopted and the resolution of E. M. Amies is referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

Mrs. Andrews and Mrs. Rutledge, Mrs. Shaw and Mrs. Barringer are escorted into the room.

Commander-in-Chief Snerman: Brothers, it gives me much pleasure to present to you at this time Mrs. Andrews, chairman of the Ladies' Citizens Committee, accompanied by Mrs. Rutledge, Division President of the Maryland Sons of Veterans Auxiliary. (Applause.)

Mrs. Andrews: Commander, and may I say Brothers: As the daughter of a veteran who served entirely through the war, have I not the privilege of greeting you as my brothers? (Applause.) We wish to welcome you in the name of the women of Washington, the women of your capital. And, while we welcome you as women of Washington, we want to ask this of you, as you come to Washington, this beautiful city of yours, ours, our capital, the capital that was saved by your fathers, our fathers—for all patriotic women surely look to the preservers of our Union as our fathers—we want you to think of this capital and we want you to go away feeling that it is distinctively yours. The joys that are here, the beauties that are here are the result of the service of the men of the states—and may I say also the women of the states—and, if I didn't have a stenographer here, I'd say, I am not saying anything about suffrage. We think of but one standard of life, the equal standard, your father, my father, your mother, my mother, and the distribution of duties is all right so far as I am concerned.

I came only to say that we welcome you and to ask your presence at our tree planting this afternoon. The women of Washington in making preparation for your coming and the coming of our soldier boys thought of what they could do that would be something that you would like to have us do. Social functions you have of your own, and we thought we would like to ask that the Grand Army leave one more impress on this capital of theirs. They preserved our Union and saved our capital, and now we wanted to ask them to put one more touch, this time an emblem of life in another way, not a monument, but something that grows, something that has life in it, something with its roots in the ground and branches pointing heaven-



ward, saying to every passerby—as you look, remember that the joys of this country, the advantages of this country, are due to the preservers of our country. We want to plant some trees in that spirit this afternoon at two o'clock. There will be two Lincoln trees planted and the ground dedicated for two more, Grant and Lincoln. Personally, Mr. Commander, I wanted to add another, that of Sherman. Do you know what that means? We have monuments, but these trees will be kept alive, kept intact by the country that these men saved.

Again, we welcome you. Anything that we can do that we have not done, will you say, please do it? (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Will you give attention to a few words from Mrs. Rutledge, who has already stamped her individuality as well as her ability upon many of those who were here early for the Encampment. (Applause.)

Mrs. Rutledge: In the name of the Maryland Division, within whose limits you have assembled, with my Sister Shaw, representing my committee from the Maryland Division, and also at the same time in the name of William B. Cushing Auxiliary No. 4 of Washington, D. C., with my Sister Barringer, representing the Auxiliary, we bring to you the greetings of the two at the same time.

As Mrs. Andrews has told you, you are the sons of veterans, and some of us are the daughters of veterans, but some of us who are not daughters of veterans, and I am one of them, have, I believe, even a higher title; I am the wife of a son of a veteran. (Applause.) And, as the wife of the son of a veteran, with all the sacred duties that that means, it is left to me to instruct the future sons of veterans. If I am not loyal and true and patriotic, brothers of the Sons of Veterans, what will the future Sons of Veterans be? Though we be many, our interests are one, our purpose is one and our aim is one. Have you thought that that interest and purpose and aim centers around that one flag that was designed by a woman, made by a woman? Happy omen, for the women of our land must unite with the men to keep that flag truly great. We need the strength of manhood to defend it when stern war calls them forth, and the tenderness of our womanhood to care for the wounded and dying. But it has a higher, nobler significance than that. It needs the strength of our manhood to keep it flying over a peaceful country, and the finest of our womanhood to further those interests of peace. Let both the men and the women unite to instill into the hearts of the children that that flag is truly great only when it stands for the brotherhood of man and the uplift of humanity. (Applause.)

In the name of the Maryland Division and in the name of William B. Cushing Auxiliary of Washington, we bid you welcome with true, old fashioned Maryland hospitality. (Applause.)

The guests are escorted from the room.

The Commander-in-Chief announced the members of the various committees.

## CONSTITUTION AND LAWS.

H. V. Speelman, chairman, Ohio.

George B. Abbott, Illinois.

F. T. F. Johnson, Maryland.

E. W. Sanford, New York.

R. H. Dexter, Rhode Island.

## RITUAL AND CEREMONIES.

W. B. McNulty, chairman, Pennsylvania.

W. O. Cobb, Maine.

John D. Hopper, New Jersey.

A. W. McDaniel, Indiana.

G. W. Palmer, Wisconsin.

## RESOLUTIONS.

J. E. Sautter, chairman, Pennsylvania.

T. L. Aughinbaugh, Ohio.

Guy Richardson, Massachusetts.

C. A. Dorsey, Missouri.

Franz Sigel, New York.

## OFFICERS' REPORTS.

Ralph M. Grant, chairman, Connecticut.

H. H. Hale, Massachusetts.

W. T. Church, Illinois.

M. E. Gibbs, New York.

Frank Shellhouse, Indiana.

## PRESS.

W. G. Dustin, chairman, Illinois.

Edgar Allan, Jr., Maryland.

E. R. Campbell, Maryland.

E. K. Du Puy, Maryland.

E. C. Irelan, Maryland.

## FRATERNAL RELATIONS.

W. B. McBryar, chairman, Pennsylvania.

W. L. Barnum, Illinois.

A. A. Bronsdon, Massachusetts.

W. L. Van Horn, Minnesota.

A. J. Boutwell, New Hampshire.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The Press Committee is authorized to enlarge its committee to any extent necessary to give publicity to the Sons of Veterans' Encampment.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief will assume the station of the Commander-in-Chief.

W. F. Chambers takes charge of the Encampment.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman reads his report.



## REPORT OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

*To the Officers and Members of the Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.*

*Greetings:*

The convening of this the Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans is epochal in its significance, for it marks the semi-centennial of the end of the War of the Rebellion, and very properly is being held in the city of Washington.

We who have been spared to assemble here today are deeply grateful to our Supreme Commander-in-Chief, who ruleth all things, for His goodness and mercy, which has followed us all through the past year. May his spirit be amongst us all during this encampment, and His influence extend to all parts of this land.

And while we rejoice at the keeping power of the Almighty we are reminded as we glance about the encampment that there are some brothers of many years standing who no longer share with us in the flesh the joys and sorrows of life, for they have been translated to the heavenly sphere where they await the coming of their brothers.

## NECROLOGY.

One of the most prominent of our brothers to be thus translated was Colonel William H. Armstrong of Indianapolis, Ind., who died September 28, 1914, after a short illness. He may be credited as the Father of the Order in his state, for he served as Provisional Commander, and for his services was given the rank of Past Division Commander. Among all the members of the Grand Army of the Republic none were more conspicuous in their interest for the Sons of Veterans than he, and we owe him a debt of gratitude for the very friendly relations now existing between the Grand Army and the Sons of Veterans.

New Hampshire Division suffered the loss of two Past Division Commanders. Brother S. Willey who died August 2, 1914—having served as Division Commander in 1895-6-7 and Brother Ernest B. Folsom who served as Division Commander in 1899 and died March 19, 1915.

Startling in its suddenness was the announcement of the death of Brother William A. Personius of New York Division, which occurred February 4, 1915. This Brother had occupied nearly all the positions in the Camp, frequently attended the Commandery-in-Chief as delegate, and in 1907 was elected Division Commander of New York. At the time of his death he was again serving as Camp Commander. He commanded the respect of all who knew him, and his life may be summed up in the one word "loyalty."

The death of Past Division Commander George W. Morgan of Ohio was a great loss to that prosperous Division. He attained membership in 1900 and served through the various Camp offices, and in 1913 was elected Division Commander, serving with credit to himself and satisfaction to his brothers. His untimely death occurred December 9, 1914, when he was in his early manhood.

D. C. Tillotson of Kansas was the most conspicuous member of this Division to join the majority on the other shore. Brother

Tillotson joined Old Abe Camp, No. 16 of Topeka, Kansas, September 11, 1891, and departed this life August 1, 1914. He served in various offices in the Camp and in 1905 was Division Commander, and in 1910 was National Counselor. He achieved considerable fame as a public speaker and was always an untiring worker in his Camp.

Massachusetts Division certainly suffered a great loss when Past Division Commander William Stevens entered the eternal bivouac. His connection with the Order took him back to the early days. He was Captain of his Camp in 1887 and in 1890 served as Colonel. During all the remaining years he was active and for 14 years served as Treasurer of his Camp. His death occurred on January 26. Beloved by all who knew him both in the Division and Commandery-in-Chief his parting leaves an aching void that cannot be filled.

This brief but sincere reference to these departed brothers serves but to remind us of the great work that has been performed by them and the other brothers who, during the year have past from our midst. Let us emulate their virtues, cherish their memories, and be inspired by their example.

When I am dead, Friends,  
Carve no words in marble for epitaph,  
Nor raise for me a splendid tomb,  
For at such things time shall laugh,  
But hold me in your faithful thought,  
While briefly thought and life are lent;  
Your tears shall be my ample praise,  
Your love my monument.

Any review of the work of the past year must of necessity be very brief. Much has happened that at the time seemed to possess much significance, but time has largely dispelled that, and other things occurred, the full portent of which was not fully known, and even now we stand so near that year that is closing that we must wait for the future to determine whether that which has been done has been of a permanent character.

Sufficient to say that my immediate predecessor was a man fully devoted to our work and possessing an untiring love for the Union Veterans and their descendants. The Order of Sons of Veterans has been prospering for more than a decade and your Commander-in-Chief is of the opinion that when he assumed the responsibilities of his office that it was in a more substantial and prosperous condition than ever before, though there was a time when a few more members were reported.

#### MEMBERSHIP.

As to the details of membership and variations thereof, the report of the National Secretary will provide that. June 30, 1914, we had 1147 camps and 49,987 members. June 30, 1915, we had 1225 camps, and 53607 members, and there has been instituted since June 30, 23 camps with 761 members, and our membership at this time is therefore 1,248 camps and 54,378 members.

Proud as we may be of this splendid showing yet it will profit us but little if we fail to recognize the responsibility that rests upon us to whom the welfare of our Order is committed.



To whom should we give praise for this very creditable showing? To the workers, the Division Commanders of 1914, supplemented in a few instances by the recently elected Division Commanders, and to the Division Organizers, some of whom have given illustration of remarkable devotion to the cause.

Enthusiasm is infectious; therefore, catch it. Begrudge every lost action as a loss of power. Remember to keep yourself in the sphere of Enthusiasm and it will carry you far on the tide of human endeavor.

I call the roll of the several Divisions and find that they have contributed the following number of new camps and members. You are to be the judge as to whether this is meritorious:

NEW CAMPS AND CHARTER MEMBERS.

Divisions	Camp Charter Applica- tions	Applica- tions	Camps Insti- tuted	Charter Members
Alabama and Tennessee ..	2	41	3	53
California and Pacific ....	1	68	1	51
Colorado and Wyoming ...	3	76	3	77
Connecticut .....	2	101	2	94
Idaho .....	..	..	..	..
Illinois .....	15	541	14	485
Indiana .....	5	207	5	161
Iowa .....	6	169	6	216
Kansas .....	11	321	10	294
Kentucky .....	1	18	1	21
Maine .....	9	238	8	194
Maryland .....	4	144	5	105
Massachusetts .....	2	36	2	35
Michigan .....	5	195	5	234
Minnesota .....	1	25	1	16
Montana .....	..	..	..	..
Missouri .....	2	103	2	81
Nebraska .....	6	171	6	252
New Hampshire .....	..	..	..	..
New Jersey .....	9	207	8	138
New York .....	9	241	10	280
Ohio .....	22	997	22	832
Pennsylvania .....	17	609	17	734
Rhode Island .....	1	17	1	17
Vermont .....	1	19	1	15
Washington .....	3	157	2	121
Wisconsin .....	12	267	12	244
Totals .....	149	4968	147	4750

Five camps and 142 charter members, applications for which were approved in the preceding term, were instituted during the present term.

During the encampment a telegram was received from the Division Secretary of Ohio stating that Ottawa, Ohio, mustered camp of 25 members, and Seaman closed with 79 members, so that the record for the administration is:

Camp charter applications approved—151. Applicants—5,072. Camps instituted—149. Charter members—4,854.

And what shall be said of such Divisions as have not given us any camps. Is it because there was no need, or due to reasons beyond the control of the Division Officers? The first seems improbable, the latter more likely, though none the less regrettable.

#### ADMINISTRATION.

It was a matter of sincere regret that I was obliged to issue an order at the very beginning of my term forbidding the attendance of members of women's allied organizations at our meetings on account of violating the constitution. The matter will properly come up for action at this encampment and I believe should be favorably acted upon.

In order that the Senior and Junior officers of the Commandery-in-Chief might share in the responsibilities of administration a division of territory was effected. Largely experimental it has proven of some value and resulted in all Divisions coming in closer touch with the Commandery-in-Chief than formerly.

During the winter circulars were prepared and sent to all Post Commanders and Aides of the Grand Army of the Republic in the United States appealing for information and such assistance as would result in the formation of new camps of Sons of Veterans. Such response as these circulars brought was indeed compensation for the year's work. Never before did I know of the high regard so universally held by the Grand Army for the Sons. And as a result many camps were formed and many more will follow, for it was like sowing seed that is to grow and mature at a later day. All that is required to continue these results is to address another letter to the same persons by the first of November. It was my intention to send a "follow up" letter but my time would not permit.

The first thing to engage my time after getting settled in my work as Commander-in-Chief was to hold a series of conferences with such Division Commanders as were available. The first conference was held in Boston and included all of the New England States. The second was held in Philadelphia and included the middle states. At these conferences plans were discussed for the improvement of the Order, and I believe that some of the prosperity of the past season may be ascribed to the interest engendered upon such occasions.

To cite one illustration: I met at the Boston Conference the Division Commander of Maine, Dr. W. O. Cobb, who gave me a cordial invitation to visit in the state of Maine. Hitherto it had been supposed that Maine was a closed state from December to March, but I visited the Maine Division the last week of January and found it thoroughly alive. Large and enthusiastic meetings were held in several cities, and as the result of hard work Maine has already given us eight new camps and more to follow.

Maryland was another state that was considerably quickened by such a conference and this Division shows a gain of 5 camps. In November I visited the Division of Illinois and witnessed large class initiations in several cities. Feeling that a closer relation between the representative heads of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Sons of Veterans would be beneficial, continued the journey to Des Moines for the purpose of meeting Commander-in-Chief David J. Palmer.



With the opening of the spring months there came the usual visits to Division Encampments, with Massachusetts the first and New York the last, covering three full months.

I was permitted to be present at 17 Division Encampments and visited several Divisions whose Encampments I could not attend. In most cases the allied organizations were in session at the same time and I was glad to attend sister organizations and convey to them the greetings of the Sons of Veterans. Particularly did I welcome the chance of speaking to the Grand Army of the Republic. In all cases I was given a welcome befitting the station I occupied.

The Council-in-Chief appropriated \$1000 and when that was nearly exhausted, made an additional appropriation of \$500. I have expended in the interest of the Order \$1368.76, largely for traveling. If this seems a large amount, bear in mind that I made four trips to the West, two trips to Maine, spent 40 nights in sleeping cars, and traveled more than 30,000 miles.

#### THE SUBURBAN PLAN.

There are many communities where there are not enough eligibles to form a camp, yet such as are there are interested not only in the Sons of Veterans but in the work that has characterized the Sons of Veterans for many years. This condition has been cared for by the members of the camp going into such a community, annually holding a meeting, and initiating all that can be secured. The result is that these persons renew their interest in the work and at least once a year participate in a meeting. The dues to suburban members may be a little lower than the resident members.

#### AIDES.

Believing that the system of aides as inaugurated and continued by my predecessor was beneficial, I followed a similar plan but with this variation: Appointments were made only for the securing of 10 candidates in three months, 15 candidates during my administration, or for the instituting of a camp. The other appointments were in accordance with previous procedure. Notwithstanding the more difficult requirements, I can report having named 116 aides, and in many cases believe the honors were worthily bestowed.

My chief regret is that more did not qualify and that many looked upon the honors so lightly that they were not willing to give the necessary time or effort to accomplish what was so much desired and needed.

#### SONS OF VETERANS RESERVE.

From an observation of this feature of our order at close range, I am lead to believe that the Reserve can be and ought to be made of much more importance in our work. We may well consider in what esteem our organization would be held by the United States Government if today we had fifty thousand men, uniformed, equipped and drilled, so that if an emergency necessitated their use for defense purposes they could be called upon and available for mobilizing in thirty days. The fact remains, notwithstanding the value of this feature, that it is all so little appreciated, and that the strength of the Reserve is much less than it ought to be.

It does seem as though all of our Order should support the Reserve, and that every uniformed and equipped company should be a part of it.

#### DISPENSATIONS.

It is an old saying that hindsight is better than foresight and I am ready to believe it. I had hardly assumed office before I was besieged by Division Commanders for dispensations to institute camps without complying with the constitutional regulations and as I was but a novice, I complied. My judgment after a year's experience is that dispensations for instituting camps without going through the regular procedure is unnecessary and detrimental to the Order and under no consideration should be resorted to only during the closing days of an administration. Dispensations were granted to the following Divisions: Maine, Illinois, Kansas, Ohio, California, Missouri, New York, Wisconsin, Michigan and Rhode Island. And by these dispensations no material advantage was gained.

Other requests came in to set aside the eligibility clause as well as other parts of the Constitution all of which had to be refused.

#### SPECIAL DAYS.

While February twelfth cannot be considered as belonging exclusively to the Sons of Veterans, it remains a fact that much of the popularity this day now enjoys is due to the impetus given by our organization. The usual number of Lincoln's birthday banquets were held, though the Commander-in-Chief was able to participate in but five.

Memorial Day with all its tender memories was observed more largely than ever before and more and more members of the Sons of Veterans came into their own through their efforts to relieve the Union Veterans of the work incidental to the day.

I direct your particular attention to the report of the National Chaplain in this connection. It shows an improvement all along the line. Consider the lesson conveyed by placing more than 117,000 flags on graves of veterans, and nearly 120,000 graves cared for on Memorial Day. The number of members attending Memorial services is less than one-third of our membership, while less than half participated in Memorial Day exercises.

Veterans' night was suggested for the 19th of November. And while this event has been observed somewhat in the past never before in the magnitude as last fall. The surviving veterans were entertained by the Sons of Veterans and their Auxiliary, and it is my judgment that the celebration should be made permanent and once a year the camp should honor itself by entertaining in a special manner such of the veterans as survive.

*Recommendation No. 1.*—That the Commander-in-Chief designate one night in each year to be observed by all Camps as "Veterans Night."

#### BUTTON HOLE DECORATION.

In accordance with the action at Detroit Encampment I appointed a committee consisting of Past Commanders-in-Chief



Bolton, Grant and Division Commander Shellhouse to prepare a button hole insignia.

This committee made its report in February and the same was published in the March Banner. I submit this report to you for final action.

This committee recommends using the medallion part of our badge in size not to exceed 9/16"x11/16". A well known firm of manufacturing jewelers have offered to make these insignias for 5 cents apiece, and with a first class die we ought to have something that will not be changed for a generation.

Nothing in our Order's history has provoked more discussion, and the whole thing is not of the importance that has been attached to it. The proverbial red flag in front of a bull is like the dove of peace compared with the rosette in front of some of our brothers.

#### JUNIOR ORDER.

By action of the last encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief the Committee having the matter in charge was continued, to formulate a system of blanks for orderly conduct of the Junior Camps. This Committee made a report which was printed in The Banner for April. And in order that the Commandery-in-Chief may put the stamp of its approval on the matter the report is presented to the Encampment.

From a close scrutiny of the report I am lead to believe that it lacks in many important particulars. The ritual instead of being written for early adolescents is practically the original ritual of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. It lacks several features to bring it into harmony with the older organization. No patriotic instructor is provided. In installation of officers the obligation is given to the elected officers and then repeated with but slight variation for the appointed officers. In the latter are the words, "On my honor as a man," which seems more than inconsistent for 12 and 14 year old boys. It is also mandatory for all members to join the Sons of Veterans when becoming 18. No fee has been fixed for charters or prices of supplies. Already a controversy has arisen as to priority. And if the Commandery-in-Chief is to make up a list of supplies for the Junior Order it will mean an additional investment of several hundred dollars, particularly as a charter must be lithographed.

From observation I should think the Junior Order should be under the direction of a committee of three members very much as our military department. And this encampment should appropriate a sufficient sum to provide the necessary supplies.

Then a chapter ought to be provided in our Constitution for its government, or what has been done will lead to confusion.

*Recommendation No. 2.*—That a standing committee of three shall be appointed by the incoming Commander-in-Chief to have full charge of the Junior Order, and the Council-in-Chief be instructed to appropriate not less than \$300.00 to supply the necessary forms, blanks, rituals, etc.

#### DISCIPLINE.

I am forced to the belief that as the average age of our membership increases the common sense and good judgment of our members likewise increases. As proof, there has come

to my attention but one case involving dismissal from the Order. This case was against Adolph Hoeffling of New York Division. After due trial he was found guilty of misappropriating funds of the Camp, and as a penalty was dishonorably discharged from membership. All papers in the case being correct and proper procedure having been followed the action of the trial board was approved.

#### APPEAL BEHNKE VS. HELM.

On the 12th of September Brother Chas. C. Behnke member of the Council-in-Chief preferred charges against William G. Helm, Division Commander of Missouri, alleging malfeasance in office, conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, etc.

After an exchange of several letters I ordered the Division Council of Missouri to hear the charges, acting in accordance with the Constitutional provision adopted at Detroit.

In due form a trial was held before the said Division Council of Missouri on the 3rd of February, 1915, with two members of the Division Council present. Brother Behnke refused to proceed with the trial on the ground that a stenographer was not present to take the evidence offered. Consequently nothing being offered to prove the charges the Division Council found the charges not proved and exonerated Commander Helm.

These findings were then filed with this office.

On March 11th Brother Behnke filed notice of appeal from my order to the Division Council of Missouri to hear the charges, alleging among other things that the constitutional provision under which the trial was held was not legally adopted at Detroit: that the trial could not be held with two members of the Division Council sitting, and further that no stenographer was provided.

This office held that the constitution had not been violated, that trial with two members was legal and that a stenographer was not a legal requirement.

Brother Behnke thereupon appealed from the decision of this office to the Commandery-in-Chief, and I submit the same to you.

#### DECISIONS.

A number of questions were submitted for an opinion all of which were referred to the National Counselor and in each case his opinion was concurred in.

From Maryland—Can a Junior Vice Division Commander act as teller.

From Kansas—Can the son of a Union Soldier with honorable discharge who was forced to join the Confederate army be admitted.

From New York—(a) Election of absent members to office; (b) Election of Camp Secretary and Camp Treasurer.

From Connecticut—1. (a) Can rejected applicant on transfer apply a second time in less than six months; (b) If applicant on transfer is rejected can he attend Camp meeting; (c) Can Camp rejecting applicant reconsider or rescind its action.

2. (a) Can Camp by-laws provide for election of transfer member by yea and nay vote, (b) Can applicant on transfer be



admitted except by ballot, (c) Can Camp admit an applicant on transfer to membership without application, and referring same to committee, (d) If application is rejected should record be made on transfer card or otherwise.

Is the son of a man who served in the Revenue Service during the War of Rebellion eligible to membership?

#### CONSOLIDATION OF DIVISIONS.

A question as to the power of the Commander-in-Chief to remove a Division Commander for failure to perform his duties was submitted by the Commander-in-Chief to the National Counselor. This officer gave as his opinion that the Commander-in-Chief by virtue of his office is clothed with all the needful powers in maintaining the supremacy of the law, even though not specifically referred to in the Constitution.

Thereupon the Commander of Washington Division, W. K. Sickels, for failure to attend to the business of the Division was suspended from command and A. H. Lyon, Junior Vice Division Commander placed in temporary command. As the Division Encampment was near at hand the Division Council was not ordered to convene and when this Encampment was held Acting Commander Lyon was duly elected Division Commander and his administration of affairs has justified the confidence of the Commander-in-Chief. The Division of Washington is today in better shape than ever before.

The Commander of the Division of Oregon was continually negligent of his duties, and finally he wrote to the Commander-in-Chief asking to be relieved of the command of the Division. Said request met with immediate compliance, and as there was only a semblance of an organization in that State it was deemed for the best interests of all to disband the Division of Oregon and attach it to the Division of Washington. Accordingly orders were issued which had that effect. A few of the Camps have been saved and today Oregon offers a good recruiting ground.

In Idaho a similar condition prevailed as in Oregon. In the words of a former Division Officer of that State there never was a genuine Division in Idaho. So after much correspondence and mature deliberation an order was issued disbanding the Division of Idaho and attaching all Camps in that state to the Division of Montana with Joseph W. Whritenour of Helena in command.

It was a matter of regret to have to lose two Divisions but actually they possessed nothing except a name. This does not of necessity imply a loss of membership, and now I feel that our Order is actually stronger because of their discontinuance. To bring Divisions into existence when they lack in every particular save the number of Camps is little less than fraternal malpractice and should have the condemnation of our membership. The idea of Divisions of less than a hundred members selecting a permanent member of this body every year is preposterous.

#### AFFILIATED BODIES.

The usual relation has existed among all the allied patriotic organizations, and the annual state meetings have been characterized by a fraternal intercourse, and interchange of

courtesies never exceeded. More and more is it becoming the accepted thing for all to meet at the same time and place.

#### GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

Under the leadership of Comrade David J. Palmer of Iowa, this, our parent organization has had a year of prosperity. But, that does not infer an increase of Posts or membership for this organization will report at its encampment a membership of 159,863 in 5452 Posts. Their loss by death for last year was 11,431 members, averaging practically one thousand per month.

Words fail me to write as I would prefer of these, our honored veterans. For four long years of war they bore unflinchingly the hardest tasks committed to man, and then when the spirit of war was over they took up the difficult, but more common task of peaceableness and gave an example unparalleled in the history of the world. Since which time no great event has occurred in the United States that has not felt the influence of the "old soldier." They are with us today but like the leaves in the Fall season they are dropping to Mother Earth to be folded in her loving embrace. And as they stand in the eventide of life, their feet on the edge of the river, they hear the gentle movement of the waves breaking, breaking on the shore of eternity.

As the rays of the setting sun become more horizontal, they rest upon these survivors of our country's defenders, illuminating and making them more radiant until they shine with the effulgence of the noon day sun. And as the close of the day is the most beautiful, who shall say this is not the most beautiful period of their existence? They are with us in large numbers today. We pray they may be dealt with very kindly by Father Time, and held as in the hollow of the hand of the Almighty.

Glad robins singing in the boughs,  
Low murmur of the bees,  
A hillside burying ground closed round  
With wilding apple trees;  
The snowy flowers drift softly down  
Upon the quiet graves,  
And in the south wind over one  
A small flag gently waves.  
Those floating colors make for me  
That grassy mound a shrine.  
What though the one who sleeps beneath  
Knew naught of me or mine?  
Yet that brave life, quenched long ago,  
Seems of my own a part;  
For he who dies for freedom lives  
In every freeman's heart.

#### WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS.

Born in 1883 when it was recognized by the Grand Army of the Republic at Denver as its auxiliary it has continued ever since with an unbroken record of usefulness. It numbers in excess of 160,000, the largest body of organized patriotic women in the United States, and second only in membership to its fountain head of inspiration, the Grand Army of the Republic. Practically equal in existence with the Sons of Veterans, it has



achieved a marvelous record of service, which makes ours seem even insignificant. No task too great, no service too hard, if it will contribute to the comfort of the veterans.

Presided over by the most estimable of women, Mrs. Sarah E. Fulton, of Rochester, N. Y., I am assured this year has been one of progress. Privileged to meet often with Mrs. Fulton, I found in her a most delightful companion, a woman of rare common sense, absolutely devoted to the interest of her organization and always and everywhere a firm and loyal friend to the Sons of Veterans.

Frequently, during the year request of officers of the Woman's Relief Corps for assistance in organizing have been made, all of which have met with a ready response.

As time goes on the Woman's Relief Corps will become closer to our organization and we can well afford to cultivate this relation, for the time may come when the Woman's Relief Corps and the Sons of Veterans' Auxiliary will be consolidated.

#### SONS OF VETERANS AUXILIARY.

This organization has the same relation to the Sons of Veterans as that held by the Woman's Relief Corps to the Grand Army of the Republic. Its National President, Mrs. Bessie B. Bowser, has given her time and talent and has the pleasure of reporting a net gain of nearly 2,500 members for the year with 53 new Auxiliaries. Endorsed by the Sons of Veterans in 1884 and a national organization effected in 1886 it has had a splendid growth and now numbers nearly 15,000 members. It is able to maintain its organization on a per capita tax of 12 cents per year. It is all its name signifies, and even more. Many camps owe their existence to the Auxiliary, and from an intimate acquaintance of many years believe we could not afford to dispense with their services. At present their chief handicap is due to the fact that they cannot organize except on invitation of a Camp and yet there are many places where if they could organize an Auxiliary a Camp could be easily started. It may not be the highest type of chivalry to let the women go ahead and become pioneers, but the Sons of Veterans would not suffer by so doing.

It may not be amiss to remind the brothers that the Sons of Veterans have no other recognized and approved auxiliary than the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary.

These words from Hiawatha seem apropos

"As unto the bow the cord is,  
So unto the man is woman;  
Though she bends him, she obeys him,  
Though she draws him yet she follows;  
Useless each without the other!"

*Recommendation No. 3.*—That the thanks of this body be transmitted to the Sons of Veterans' Auxiliary for the very generous help given the Sons of Veterans, both in organizing and maintaining our Camps.

#### THE DAUGHTERS OF VETERANS.

This organization had its inception in May, 1885, and was fully born December 12th of the same year. Its membership

the first of this year was slightly more than 8,000. Their per capita tax is 10 cents per year and they make reports semi-annually. During the year I have met their National President, Mrs. Lulu M. Carlin, frequently, and can testify to not only her organizing ability but her interest in the Sons of Veterans as well. They work in harmony with the allied bodies but pride themselves on the fact that their membership is dependent upon a soldier's heritage.

#### LADIES OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

This organization came into existence in 1886 and now has more than 55,000 members paying a per capita tax of 12 cents per year. They are proud to have paid more than a million dollars for relief. Their chief distinction is that eligibility is limited to lineal female descendants and blood kin nieces. In this respect they differ but slightly from the Daughters of Veterans and should a consolidation of the women's patriotic organizations occur we might expect to see these two become one.

Their National President, Mrs. Mary A. Jameson, preserves the best traditions of their successful executives, and by her ready wit has added considerably to her fame as a platform speaker.

#### UNPREPAREDNESS OF OUR COUNTRY.

No man's patriotism rises higher than his realization of the need that his country has for him.

And what shall be said of the unpreparedness of our country. Fifty years ago we lost much time and many valuable lives because the North did not believe war was imminent. But our defenseless condition did not deter the enemy, and we paid dearly for our sins of omission. The price we paid would not have been too dear, however, if we had learned the lesson. But we did not, and today we give but a sorry exhibition of what a nation's preparation should consist.

The fathers of our country feeling that a large standing army was a menace, ordained that our army in time of peace should not exceed 25,000. But think of what the United States consisted of at that time. In area 892,135 square miles and a population of less than 4,000,000. Today we have an area of 3,743,306 square miles, with insular possessions almost equal to original territory, and the population is somewhat in excess of one hundred million.

With such enormous increase in territory and people our standing army has been slightly increased from time to time until now we have a regular army, staff and line of only 93,016. Within continental United States we have 48,428 regulars. Of these 17,948 must be kept in fortifications. Therefore our mobile troops, including engineers, cavalry, infantry and field artillery consists of 30,481 men. The militia with paper strength of 127,000 has but 60,000 in readiness for service. Regulars of 48,000 and militia of 60,000 gives us an army of 108,000, but on account of manning the forts we could make an army of but 90,000. General Leonard Wood recently said that it would take at least 30 days to mobilize our puny army of 30,000 to say nothing of the militia, and then we would have no reserve.

To be reasonably well prepared for defense, we should have an available army of half a million men which would be but



one-tenth the size of Germany's and one-twentieth the size of Russia and one-half the size of Japan.

It is not only men that are lacking; we have neither guns nor ammunition sufficient to assure success for our army, if our nation was threatened with war. If guns are not supplied on the battlefield with the ammunition which they can be reasonably expected to use, they are not efficient, and when a gun has exhausted the ammunition supplied it becomes as useless as junk; in fact it is worse than junk, for it must be protected by other troops.

"The War Department believes, after extended study, that in case of War with a first-class power an army of 500,000 men will be needed to give this country any chance of success against invasion and that this force will be needed at once. To make it efficient it must be given its proper quota of field artillery. To do this, this artillery must be on hand, for it cannot be supplied after war is started. A municipality might as well talk about buying its fire-hose after the conflagration has started. A fire department without its proper equipment is worthless irrespective of the number of men it has; and so would be your armies, unless you provide in peace the material which will make them effective in war."

A city without police protection would be a mecca for all evil doers and deserve the opprobrium which would be heaped upon it for its mistaken policy—And in a larger sense our Nation needs equally to be protected or it may suffer as never before.

At the present time the soothsayers are singing their siren songs of peace, while the Ship of State draws nearer and nearer to the breakers upon which we are in danger of foundering unless our policy of unreadiness is corrected. And the pacifist, or "peace at any price" people are humming the lullaby "I didn't raise my boy to be a soldier." Damnable! There would be just as much justification for a song entitled, "I didn't raise my girl to be a mother."

Before the President can get funds for national defense he must have the support of Congress. Before he can count on the support of Congress he must have the active, virile sentiment of the American people.

What can we as Sons of Veterans do to remedy this deplorable condition?

First—Give to our President in this crisis the benefit of our moral support, and withhold all criticism unless fully justified.

Second—Lend our active support to the organized militia wherever possible.

Third—Make it clear to our representatives in Congress that they must immediately take steps to correct our weakness, by providing for an adequate army and navy and both sufficiently supplied with equipment and munitions to be effective.

Fourth—Develop our Sons of Veterans' Reserve and make it a greater factor in our defensive policy than ever before.

*Recommendation No. 4.*—First: That this Commandery-in-Chief, through its duly qualified officers, communicate to His Excellency, Honorable Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States, our desire to have the nation's interests conserved by the maintenance of an army and navy that shall be adequate for

all ordinary defense purposes. Second: That we most heartily endorse a policy of preparation that shall provide ample munitions and equipment for both army and navy. And third: That every Camp of Sons of Veterans in the United States be requested to adopt resolutions favoring an increase in our army and navy, and all the necessary equipment for both, and that such resolutions be sent to the various representatives in Congress, urging prompt action thereon.

#### APPRECIATION.

It is indeed difficult to speak of the cordial relation existing at all times among the members of the official family. My thanks are hereby expressed to all who in any way contributed to make the year successful. Both Brothers Chambers and McMurtrie showed a willingness to do all they could, and each certainly stamped his individuality on the membership in his respective territory.

The National Counselor by the long incumbency of his office has certainly added fame to the legal department. His opinions and decisions are always models from every standpoint and I count myself fortunate to have had the counsel and advice of Brother William M. Coffin, of Ohio.

The National Chaplain and the National Patriotic Instructor, both comparatively unknown to most of our members at the time of their appointment have, by their timely and patriotic articles in The Banner, magnified their offices.

Brother Amies, Chief-of-Staff, is serving the Order best by his interest in the Reserve. I extend to him my grateful thanks for services rendered.

For the past ten years James Lewis Rake, National Treasurer, and Horace H. Hammer, National Secretary, have more than any other set of men been the Commandery-in-Chief. Their interest is of the enduring kind, for the Commanders-in-Chief shall come and go but they abide, and why should they not. By their incumbency the Order is well served. Brother Hammer knows all the details and ramifications of the multifarious duties of his office, and is of exceptional value, not only to his Commander but to the new Division officers as well. Obligated to deal with many who lack in familiarity of our details he preserves his equanimity under most trying circumstances, and informs every new Division Commander and Division Secretary how to make the quarterly reports. His persistence in following delinquents has saved faltering Divisions many times. Never obtrusive, but always willing to suggest when desired he is of unquestionable value. His position corresponds to that of a nation's premier and he certainly upholds the best traditions of his office. I have made large demands upon his time for various things all of which have been satisfied. To no one do I owe a larger token of appreciation than Brother Hammer.

To my Personal Aide Clarence E. Holmes am I indebted for much of the honor that I have enjoyed as your Commander-in-Chief. The friend of many years, and a better friend no man ever had, lies today on a bed of sickness. While we are enjoying the renewals of friendship my closest friend is in such a condition of existence that only our Father knows whether he is to be permitted to remain with us or join the majority on the other side.



God grant that Clarence Holmes may be spared. He is worthy of your fervent prayers.

#### CONCLUSION.

The sands in the hour glass of time are running low. Soon it must be reversed, and a new Commander-in-Chief will become responsible for the material welfare of the Sons of Veterans for another year. Whoever he may be, he is entitled to the same spirit of loyalty that has been accorded his predecessors.

Gladly shall I relinquish the arduous work of this office, hoping that my incumbency has not been without its special value to some.

The experiences of this past year are graven deep on my heart. Love for you and the work has increased as I have had this more intimate relation. I trust that you may have had a similar experience. May we all be deeply impressed with the importance of the work.

Soon after my installation, I said "Service" would be my watchword. Not service for one year, but for the rest of my life. I hope as I again take up the lesser work in my camp to have a part in bringing to a realization the predictions of our optimistic friends of one hundred thousand in nineteen twenty.

Faternally submitted,

CHARLES F. SHERMAN,

*Commander-in-Chief.*

Mount Vernon, N. Y., September 28, 1915.

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(Much applause.)

Motion that the report be referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports. Seconded.

Ralph M. Grant: There has been a resolution introduced by the Chief of Staff covering a matter which also has been made the subject of a recommendation by the Commander-in-Chief. I refer to Recommendation No. 4, upon the preparedness of our nation. It seems appropriate that inasmuch as the Commandery-in-Chief has referred to the Committee on Resolutions that subject matter, that so much of the Commander-in-Chief's report and that recommendation which bears upon the same subject shall take the same reference, and I do therefore amend the motion that the Recommendation No. 4 be referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

Amendment accepted. It is so referred.

H. V. Speelman moves that the remaining reports be read by title only and referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports and recorded as if read. Seconded. Carried.

#### REPORT OF THE SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

*To the Officers and Members of the Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. Greetings:*

*First:* My heartiest thanks are given to the Commandery-in-Chief of last year for conferring upon me the great honor of

election to the exalted position of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief of this great Order.

*Second:* My thanks are tendered to Commander-in-Chief Sherman, who, early in his administration, decided that there were no honorary positions under him, but that every one under his control, or associated with him, was expected to try to accomplish something for the advancement of the Sons of Veterans. He placed under my special supervision, the Division of Alabama and Tennessee; California; Colorado and Wyoming; Kansas; Kentucky; Missouri; Nebraska; Ohio, and Iowa. In that section there have been no Divisions formed, no Divisions discontinued, 46 Camps formed, 12 Camps discontinued with 171 members, 1617 new members. 1440 letters have been written by me and sent to different parts of these Divisions, and to other parts of the United States. I have received 510 letters and other mail matter relating to the Order. The stationery and postage was furnished and paid for by the Commandery-in-Chief. I have traveled twenty-nine hundred and fifty miles, visiting different camps and associations. The expense of stenographer, railroad fare and hotels was paid for by me.

*First Recommendation:* "That the Commander-in-Chief be allowed a sufficient fund to feel at liberty to pay the expense of any officer he may detail to perform duties." Our organization has reached a size that if we expect to attain the magnitude of numbers of 2,000,000, this being the number that was forecasted in the report of Commander-in-Chief Sautter, we must quit trying to run our organization on the smallest possible sum of money, but by proper liberal expenditures, push forward and upward. An illustration of what I refer to, is shown by Recommendation No. 8 of the Committee on Officers' Reports, page 197, last year's Detroit Encampment Report. "That a legislative committee of five, of which the National Counselor shall be the chairman, be appointed by the incoming Commander-in-Chief. This Committee to give attention to national legislation of interest to us, and, should action be taken on a recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief, requesting the influence of members of Congress for or against pending legislation, to them shall be referred all replies received by individuals or camps."

The committee concurs, *provided that the work of this committee shall be done without excuse to the Commandery-in-Chief.*

Think for a moment, an organization composed of fifty thousand members asking some of its members, not only to give their time and talents to guard the interest of this great body, which will necessitate the examination of various acts of Congress, which they gladly do, but in addition, ask them to pay all the expenses for this kindness on their part. It is not reasonable.

#### THE BANNER.

This is one of the very greatest elements of uniting our membership, but it also is starved. The idea seems to be, that as some other fellow will issue it for less, then that is what we want, instead of the argument of how can it be improved, and if more money is needed, make the necessary arrangement to procure it and develop this most important arm of our service, and not have in the future, as in the past, the membership say,



I have not read it, nothing in it but stale news, nothing that is attractive. No person or organization in my judgment can do better than Captain Dustin under the present conditions. Pay more and give a chance to use this as one of the great attractions to help us bring in new members; engage some bright active editor whose articles will be of a nature to call attention to our organization. During the past year I have watched "The Banner" and studied its possibilities, and with such a wonderful power properly pushed, it would not be what it is today, a mere messenger, giving in dry detail events of local importance, and I do not mean by this to indicate that matters of local importance are not of great power, for it is the various localities that go to make up the great number, but in addition to that, it should be used for missionary work, to let the outside people know of the vast number who are actively connected with our Order. With this powerful engine of the press pulsating with the vigor of real manhood, and the red blood of youth of both men and women, the entire nation would learn of us, and very many who are eligible would quickly and constantly, like a steady stream, join our camps. "The Banner" would be the ever Welling Spring feeding this stream. We must wake up, and use this mighty engine, the power of the press, than which there is no more potent influence, we all know "the pen is mightier than the sword."

*Recommendation Two:* That a Committee of three be appointed by the Commander-in-Chief, of which he shall be one with power to act, to confer with Messrs. Dustin and Holbrook as to the development of "The Banner."

#### PUBLICITY.

Last year Commander-in-Chief Sautter recommended the use of \$500 for the purpose of publicity, which recommendation was disagreed to. It should be taken up this year, and if some one were appointed to clip from the newspapers and magazines the various good things that occur in the Order, and have it sent throughout the country by means of various correspondence bureaus, we would reach thousands of eligibles who now really know nothing of our organization. If some one located at Washington, or other news center, would handle this, the expense for the first year at least, would not greatly exceed the sum named as a starter, then if we want to take up a nation wide effort on a large scale, the basis would have been arranged for and could be developed. The greater number of us do not realize that hundreds of thousands of those entitled to join, have never heard of our organization as something that they are entitled to have a part in.

*Recommendation Three:* That \$1000 be placed in the hands of some one appointed by the incoming Commander-in-Chief to use in starting a Publicity Campaign of the Sons of Veterans.

This last resolution means about eighteen dollars a week to pay for the purchase of all newspapers, magazines, postage, stenographic work and incidental expense.

#### SELFISH.

Let us be selfish for the benefit of all others, and for ourselves, show the usefulness of the Death Benefit Association

for one thing; also, that as our fathers were willing to help each other on the battlefield of the Civil War, so we are willing and ready to help each other on the battlefields of Civil Life.

Fraternally yours,

WILLIAM F. CHAMBERS,  
*Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.*

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### REPORT OF THE JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

*To the Officers and Members of the Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.*

#### *Greetings:*

Nearly a year ago at the last Annual Encampment of our Commandery, held at the city I am pleased to represent, Detroit, Michigan, it was your pleasure to hand to me the title for the ensuing year of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief of this Order.

In common with the other elective officers, I stood at the altar and with uplifted hand pledged my fealty anew to the Order in this new capacity, and with that pledge went my affirmative intent and sincere purpose to do to the best of my ability whatsoever of labor; of effort, of planning and execution fell to my station.

The time limit of my incumbency of this office is now at hand and in turning to you the report of my stewardship, I do so with the firm belief that whatever of failure it may contain is only from weakness of the flesh, not of the spirit limited so by time, space and opportunity only.

I fully realized as do we all that the Chief Executive of this as well as any other organization is considered largely responsible for the policy, the efforts and the success or otherwise of the current administration, yet it has been my aim to share in part this year with my chief, this burden, even if in a humble way, and lighten his load wherever able. If in even a meagre way I have been able to accomplish this, my full object and aim will have been achieved, for he of all can best judge and judging place credit where it is due.

Let me first say that it was at the united solicitation of my Division that a year ago I consented to allow my name to be presented along this line and for this office; my local Division of Michigan and its manifold duties of Secretary-Treasurer of the same for a term of five years had been making sad inroads upon my time, and general efforts, as we had been making a reclaiming struggle from almost nothingness to a Division of reasonable proportions, and I felt I could not abandon my first love at this precarious time when success was just in sight.

My loyal Michigan Brothers however urged my candidacy even in the face of what they knew meant additional labor; additional time and effort spent, and seeing their staunch comradeship; their appreciation of effort and personal regard and affection, my doubts were dispelled and the effort to maintain a duplex status of first a Commandery official, and second an active Division officer, began.

To say that this has been a strenuous year, is but putting it mildly, for so many opportunities presented themselves which promised fruit, along both of the named lines, I have been sorely



perplexed at times how to sufficiently divorce my two capacities almost to the sundering personal relations in some physical way, and operate at "Two places at once and the same time and in two widely divergent ways."

You will, I know, pardon these introductory remarks for the reason as stated of explaining the conditions under which I have labored. I shall also for the same reason divide my statistical report into the two phases of respectively Commandery work and Division work.

First, Commandery work has had in my mind primarily the first right this year. Early in the year, after the assignment by the Commander-in-Chief of certain Divisions as my particular territory, I cast about for some special effort or portion of the work to concentrate upon. After considerable thought it appeared to me that our greatest loophole was at present Suspensions. After full deliberation, I wrote an article upon this subject dealing with it at length, and appended some suggestions as to how to prevent them.

This article was submitted to Brother Sherman with the suggestion that if he thought well of the article and approved the proposition, I be supplied with these in quantity to properly circularize my territory. This was done; the article in question was further printed in "The Banner," and was probably seen by most of the Brothers of the Order.

I do believe that this article was productive of some good in the Divisions in which used direct to the various Camps, and suggested some new thoughts and ways and means to the Camp officials thereof, as in visits to different portions of the country the article has been thus commented upon and I have been the recipient of numerous requests for extra copies by incoming Camp Council members.

It has also been my pleasure after securing a list of the Camp Commanders from the Division Secretaries to take up personally by correspondence various topics and believe this has also been productive of some results. In other words I have tried to reach the rank and file of my assigned territory and in a way at least know it as well as I do my local Division wherein I personally know some one or more in every city; every hamlet and village from end to end of it.

In the performance of this Commandery work it has been my pleasure to send out 500 circular letters, 500 Christmas letters, 1325 additional special circular letters at various times, and 678 personal letters written special and generally by myself evenings or odd moments.

It was my pleasure to make visits to three different Divisions during the year. I may also say that it was with extreme regret that I was required to decline during the year a considerable number of invitations from the neighboring Divisions on account of the unusual amount of illness in my immediate family, and to express to the Brothers my appreciation of their kindly remembrance of me at such times.

Second, Division work. During the year, by personal effort of a loyal corps of voluntary workers under my personal supervision we have been enabled to very nearly double the membership of our Division; to place it back upon a sound financial basis, and with a policy which we believe can only bring success to it. The Boys early assured me if I would only plan, they

would carry out the plans. This has been done and I can but express my thanks and appreciation of the grand support my local Camp and the Division at large has rendered me. Let me also state that even the planning for execution has involved some considerable effort this year.

In the discharge of the duties of this capacity this year we have issued 3600 Division orders, running to each Post and Corps as well as every Camp in the State. The Commander and myself made personal visits to nearly every Camp in the State at least once and several visits to a number; we traveled nearly 6,000 miles each in the State at personal expense and time in revival of interest efforts to weak or struggling Camps; we organized a competent degree team and when new Camps were organized we frequently took this full team out to distances ranging over 100 miles from our home city and when the work was put on it was so thorough we left a new Camp inspired with the beauties of the ritualistic service and the possibilities of the work.

Under our aggressive campaign work, only one Camp in the entire Division has not sustained and reported substantial gains during the year. We have urged; we have written; we have telephoned; we have gone in person and numbers to investigate any passive symptom and arouse it into activity, and as a result Michigan is coming into her own. We are proud to present to this Encampment through the respective departments of the National Chaplain and the National Patriotic Instructor our Division reports of these departments coming from every Camp in our Division. You Division Commanders, Secretaries, Chaplains and Patriotic Instructors fully realize what persistent effort that entails.

We have encouraged correspondence from the Camps to Division Headquarters, which headquarters has been maintained at my personal business office now for five years, and every letter from us to them partakes of a personal nature in some way. We are only awaiting the starting of Fall for a campaign to be State-wide in organization and recruiting.

We have printed by the 5000 and are furnishing gratis to Camps, application blanks, instruction circulars, appeals to eligibles, and general Camp literature, besides providing free to them C. R. & Rs. and Charter applications, etc., and we find it a good paying proposition. Inter-Camp visits are being promoted and generally advised.

Arrangements have been made with the City Directory people taking the information of our city to also compile for us a working list of the 20,000 or more eligibles to the Sons of Veterans in Detroit, also their female relatives for our sister organizations.

We have in our possession, secured at the expenditure of considerable time and effort, a reliable list of over 5,000 eligibles scattered in sections in various portions of this State, and after sounding out some local man there as to the possibilities of organizing a Camp in his locality, and he comes back with the customary story, "I should be glad to try it but there are not more than a dozen or so of eligibles here;" we come back at him with the (to him) astonishing statement that we can personally immediately furnish him with an accurate list of possi-



bly 46 or more in his home town and possibly 20 more within reasonable distance in the adjoining country.

Arrangements have been made through competent Drill-masters, members of our Order and high in National Guard circles, to organize in the more than 100 City Schools of Detroit, Junior Corps consisting of grandsons; to thoroughly drill them beginning with the September return to school, and with the early training of the Spring to have them ready as a regiment of grandsons for next Memorial Day.

It was our sad privilege to attend and help officiate recently at the funeral of our beloved Department Commander Rankin of the G. A. R., only elected to this position in June at Kalamazoo. The funeral was conducted under the joint auspices of the G. A. R. and S. of V., the Sons perfecting all the arrangements. We are pleased to report the revival of at least one Post and the restoring to efficiency and very life of one Corps through the introduction of new members by our efforts.

The foregoing detail is not mentioned to elicit your approbation but only to give you some idea of the detail and the ramifications of the work, and to what extent it has led and is now leading. We feel we are simply on the threshold of opportunity for this Order and organization in Michigan, and we want to be clear minded enough to catch a vision of the possibilities and the larger things.

In passing I wish to call attention to one custom which I am advised by several authorities upon Bonds in my vicinity, to be erroneous and make a recommendation thereupon. As will be remembered all Bonds run to the sitting Commander-in-Chief from Division Commanders. The average Division elects a Commander-in-Chief *along towards* June; his bond runs to the current Commander-in-Chief *by name*, who usually is succeeded by another person in September soon following. I am advised these bonds as now furnished are not assignable to a successor, and this suggestion is made that these be drawn instead direct to the Commandery-in-Chief Sons of Veterans, and will hold good under any administration. I should like an opinion of the Counselor and in the event of his concurring, would recommend they be drawn hereafter as suggested direct to the Commandery.

And now, in closing, Brothers, let me say the year closing, though arduous, has been pleasant to me; the pleasure of accomplishment; of doing something has been with me through the long days and oftentimes tedious clerical labor, and if in the results of this year's work you can catch even a faint gleam of some little usefulness, something accomplished for the good of our Order, your appreciation of it will be my highest recompense.

To Commander-in-Chief Sherman and my fellow colleagues I have only the kindest of memories for favors and fellowship received, and to every lay-member I say, "God speed you every one, let us make this Order *the best organization under the sun.*"

Sincerely yours in F., C. & L.,

FRED J. McMURTRIE,  
*Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.*

## REPORT OF NATIONAL SECRETARY.

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,  
SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

Department of National Secretary,  
Reading, Pa., Sept. 21, 1915.

*To the Officers and Members of the Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.*

## Greetings:

I have the honor to present the following report of the transactions, statistics and business of this department; and through it the reports of the respective officers of the Commandery-in-Chief, and the members of your Staff for the period of your term and closing the fiscal year of the Order.

## FINANCES.

One of the most important subjects is the financial feature. This is shown in detail. Receipts for per capita tax notwithstanding last year's reduction, charter fees and supplies, exceed the previous term by approximately \$600. Expenditures also are in excess of last year, leaving a smaller balance than the present term started with. All obligations are paid.

It is gratifying to report that every Division has funds in its treasury. This was the exception for a long period. Few had a credit balance. It indicates a prosperous condition and proper management of finances.

A number of fraternal societies were obligated to increase their per capita tax for revenue required this year. It is pleasing to report here that we are not compelled to resort to similar action.

*Recommendation:* That the per capita tax for the year 1915-1916, be fixed at and remain twenty-four (24) cents per annum, due and payable at the Constitution periods.

## DR.

## TO RECEIPTS.

1914:  
Sept. 3 to balance.....\$4064.06  
To amount received for:  
Per Capita  
Tax .....\$13594.54  
Charter Fees 360.00  
Supplies ... 4856.13

To total receipts...\$18810.67

\$22874.73

## CR.

## BY EXPENDITURES

For General  
Expenses \$16763.17  
Office  
Expenses. 1341.51  
Com.-in-Chief's  
Expenses. 1368.76

Total expenses.....\$19473.44

By balance, Sept.

21, 1915 ..... 3401.29

\$22874.73

## ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

## GENERAL EXPENSES.

For stock and supplies.....\$1821.89  
The Banner, subscription, 1914-1915..... 9699.58  
Encampment ..... 690.28



Printing .....	205.47
Reserve (Military Department).....	439.74
Shipping Supplies (Express, \$77.54; Mail, \$75.12) .....	152.66
Salaries .....	2300.00
Bonds, National Officers .....	35.00
Miscellaneous (including Badge (Past) Com- mander-in-Chief .....	418.55
Appropriation of Commandery-in-Chief to Per- manent Reserve Fund .....	1000.00

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\$16763.17

## OFFICE EXPENSES.

For light .....	\$ 3.80
Wrapping paper and twine.....	2.85
Postage (including letters to G. A. R. Posts and G. A. R. Officials, etc.).....	400.82
Express .....	5.45
Telegrams .....	18.08
Stationery .....	256.47
Rent .....	276.00
Miscellaneous .....	48.92
Office Equipment, authorized by Commandery- in-Chief, Encampment, 1914 .....	287.91
Other than Commander-in-Chief, National Sec- retary, National Treasurer, and Chief-of- Staff, Postage .....	41.21

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\$ 1341.51

## COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S EXPENSES.

For postage .....	\$ 106.47
Telegrams .....	43.73
Traveling .....	1070.45
Office .....	21.11
Stenographer .....	121.50
Express .....	3.25
Miscellaneous .....	2.25

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\$ 1368.76

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Total expenditures .....\$19473.44

## ITEMIZED RECEIPTS FROM DIVISIONS.

Division:	P. C. Tax	Supplies	Charter	Fees	Total
Alabama & Tennessee..\$	56.57	\$ 31.52	\$ 5.00	\$	93.09
California & Pacific....	168.78	40.73	2.50		212.01
Colorado & Wyoming...	36.64	38.88	7.50		83.02
Connecticut .....	549.24	165.34	5.00		719.58
Idaho .....	46.87				46.87
Illinois .....	528.85	336.03	35.00		899.88
Indiana .....	268.32	39.90	12.50		320.72
Iowa .....	116.62	51.01	15.00		182.63
Kansas .....	310.07	128.36	27.50		465.93
Kentucky .....	38.30	10.10	2.50		50.90
Maine .....	499.78	299.56	20.00		819.34
Maryland .....	151.00	92.18	10.00		253.18
Massachusetts .....	1842.49	543.99	2.50		2388.98

Michigan .....	245.26	108.41	12.50	366.17
Minnesota .....	146.34	28.10	2.50	176.94
Missouri .....	215.75	114.15	5.00	334.90
Montana .....	27.21	7.24		34.45
Nebraska .....	17.79	67.22	12.50	97.51
New Hampshire .....	324.91	69.89		394.80
New Jersey .....	470.20	204.11	22.50	696.81
New York .....	1891.13	419.93	22.50	2333.56
Ohio .....	1161.58	572.41	55.00	1788.99
Pennsylvania .....	3684.99	988.95	40.00	4713.94
Rhode Island .....	113.67	54.30	2.50	170.47
Vermont .....	213.70	70.52	2.50	286.72
Washington .....	59.18	57.19	7.50	123.87
Wisconsin .....	409.30	296.01	30.00	735.37
S. V. Auxiliary.....		20.10		20.10
Total .....	\$13594.54	\$4856.13	\$360.00	\$18810.67

## STOCK AND SUPPLY ACCOUNT.

Attention is again directed through you, to the Commandery-in-Chief, to the complaints about and fault found with the quality of our supplies as applying to forms, blanks, etc. Reference heretofore has been made in the annual report of this Department to this matter. Prices on our requisition forms have not been changed for considerably more than ten years. The cost of material, labor for production and all connected therewith need not be emphasized except to impress upon all the fact that the quality of supplies must necessarily suffer if we are to continue to furnish them at the present prices listed on our requisition forms. Particular reference to increased cost applies to forms and books, for paper, ruling, binding, etc. These items have materially advanced since our last prices were adopted. It is impossible to supply better quality unless we pay more for our stock.

*Recommendation:* That the quality of supplies be improved by purchasing better material, even though the cost to Divisions and Camps be increased; that the profits be on the same basis as at present and a new requisition price list be authorized; that each Camp Packet include a set (3) of Camp Banners and one (1) Flag.

The failure of a number of Divisions to have any supplies on hand at their Headquarters, being thereby unable to fill requisitions from Camps continues. There seems to be no plan available to overcome this. All Divisions should carry sufficient stock to promptly fill requisitions from Camps. This has been impressed upon Division Officers at regular periods.

1914:

Aug. 31, To cost of stock and supplies on hand.....\$3585.41  
 Cost of supplies, purchased, Aug. 31, 1914-Sept. 21,  
 1915 .....

1821.89

Cost of supplies to account for.....\$5407.30

To cost of stock and supplies on hand, Sept. 21, 1915.. 2798.04

Cost of supplies sold during year 1914-1915.....\$2609.26



Amount received from Divisions for supplies.....	\$4856.13
To cost of supplies, sold.....	\$2609.26
Cost of supplies furnished Commander-in-Chief, and National Officers.....	18.18
Cost of obsolete Forms 43 and 44.....	10.10
Expended for wrapping paper and twine.....	2.85
Expended for express on supplies purchased.....	4.24
Expended for shipping supplies.....	152.66
Total cost of supplies sold.....	\$2797.29
Profit .....	\$2058.84

## MEMBERSHIP.

Our gains have been substantial. Owing to the business depression a loss was anticipated and expected to be reported to this Encampment. Your splendid efforts to avoid such a result and assure a gain cannot be realized by our members. You labored most zealously and untiring to accomplish the results you have the pleasure of presenting here. Correspondence on the subject was constant and continual—not only to Division Officers—but to the general membership—you were most persistent—with the object only to avoid a loss, advance the Order and its prestige and to place it upon a high plane of usefulness for its purposes.

This also involved ceaseless labor on your part in recruiting new Camps and new members everywhere and all the time throughout the country. It was an immense work which you undertook and succeeded in admirably. The correspondence extended to this Department also. A letter to every Post of the G. A. R. was sent out, as well as one to every Aide on the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief of the G. A. R. and other affiliated societies. It was an excellent preparation and made a deep impression on the G. A. R. from many members of which flattering and cordial replies were received, and resulted in numerous pledges of aid, support and endorsement of our Order; and in one instance invitations to attend a Department Encampment of the G. A. R. as a direct result of said communication. Accompanying the letter was our Official Circular on Organization. This experiment was an expense—well directed—of \$202.00. In addition Circulars on Organization were promulgated to all Divisions and many officers and members throughout the Order, for circulation. This with other letters was also otherwise resorted to as a publicity venture and the investment was well worth it and productive of much that was accomplished from this action and course.

Your enthusiastic work in this direction was most commendable and more extensively known of, will be certain to be appreciated as a great effort to increase the membership of our Order. It is gratifying after this especially great service you have rendered and the hard work you have done, to be able to give you such statistics as show the result of your zeal, interest and industrious application for the Order, in the gain and increase thereby made.

We are neglecting our opportunity for recruiting this Order to a greatly increased membership. We are passive and indifferent to one advantage that is ours. We should realize this at

once and take such action immediately as to place us in the proper position to meet this lost opportunity. Nearly all patriotic (and others) societies and orders are admitting members at sixteen (16) years of age. We should meet this competition of other organizations. Our eligibility clause should be changed at once to have our age limit for admission to our Order at sixteen (16) years. We have lost time and many, many members by continuing our age limit for eligibles at eighteen (18) years. Over 56,000 members were in good standing in the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., when the age for admission was sixteen (16) years. Our field for recruiting is limited by reason of the restriction for eligibility—the "lineal descendant of a Soldier, Sailor or Marine who was Honorably Discharged from the service of the United States during the Rebellion of 1861-'65." Desirable in every way, with means sufficient, endowed in every manner, able and qualified one may be—yet, unless he has the qualifications necessary and required for membership—no price, no act and no amount of wealth can permit of membership in our Order.

The limited source of securing members for our Order should be the one, if not the principal reason to induce us, or influence our Commandery-in-Chief to endeavor to secure an eligible or influence our Commandery-in-Chief to endeavor to make provision to secure an eligible before another Order obtains such a person. Many Camps would have better attended meetings, have an inducement for more interest at their sessions, arouse more patriotism and in many instances continue to exist instead of disbanding, if a younger element were admitted to membership. The sixteen (16) year old Son of a Veteran would be safely anchored in the order to which he first belongs, and would belong, if he could—and he would—and, we would meet the competition that confronts us and make effectual gains in every Camp and in every Division.

*Recommendation:* That Art. IV, ELIGIBILITY TO MEMBERSHIP—Chapter 1, CONSTITUTION, be amended on page 3, line 2, by striking out the word "eighteen" (18) and inserting in lieu thereof the word "sixteen" (16) so that the said second line shall read: "than sixteen (16) years of age, of Soldiers."

Such provision would undoubtedly result in vigorous recruiting by our Camps and in a comparatively few years many thousands of members would be added to our ranks. It is time that we have a larger membership so impressive and so important and substantial as to make us as an Organization a power and influence that will be felt and appreciated and respected. This is one of the ways to make it so.

#### DIVISION MEMBERSHIP—GAINS AND LOSSES.

Divisions:	June 30, 1914		June 30, 1915		Gain		Loss	
	Camps	Mem.	Camps	Mem.	Cps.	Mb.	Cps.	Mb.
Ala. & Tenn.....	10	222	11	204	1			18
Calif. & Pac.....	18	622	19	653	1	31		
Colo. & Wyo.....	4	86	7	204	3	118		
Connecticut ....	37	1953	39	2146	2	193		
Idaho .....	9	190	9	176				14
Illinois .....	52	1900	63	2412	11	512		
Indiana .....	28	1061	27	1022			1	19



Iowa .....	17	502	22	574	5	72		
Kansas .....	39	1084	42	1296	3	208		
Kentucky .....	8	161	7	154			1	7
Maine .....	41	1666	47	2072	6	406		
Maryland .....	14	552	15	617	1	65		
Massachusetts ..	152	6713	153	6973	1	260		
Michigan .....	20	630	27	1102	7	472		
Minnesota .....	15	607	15	555				52
Missouri .....	22	839	24	848	2	9		
Montana .....	4	89	5	90	1	1		
Nebraska .....	5	89	10	315	5	226		
New Hampshire ..	36	1215	36	1214				1
New Jersey ....	30	1708	38	1887	8	179		
New York .....	177	7162	182	7069	5			93
Ohio .....	101	3944	113	4806	12	862		
Oregon .....	3	67	(Transferred to Washington)					
Pennsylvania ..	210	14047	210	14197		150		
Rhode Island ..	14	414	15	438	1	24		
Vermont .....	24	762	25	785	1	23		
Washington .....	6	121	8	209	2	88		
Wisconsin .....	51	1581	56	1589	5	8		
Total .....	1147	49987	1225	53607				
Gain over June 30, 1914 .....	78	3620						
Instituted since June 30 .....			23	761				
In good standing, this encampment .....			1248	54378				
In good standing, last encampment .....			1154	50264				
Gain over last encampment.			94	4114				





## RECAPITULATION OF CONSOLIDATED RETURNS.

GAINS:		By Initiation		Transfer	Reinstated		Total Gain		Aggregate	
Quarter		Camps	Members	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members
Sept. 1914	.....	14	1297	43	1	191	15	1531		
Dec. 1914	.....	23	1962	76	25	725	48	2763		
Mar. 1915	.....	42	3094	73	8	336	50	3503		
June 1915	.....	54	3741	44	13	524	67	4309		
Total	.....	133	10094	236	47	1776	180	12106	180	12106

Loss:		By Disbanded		By Death	Hon. Dis.	Transfer	Suspension		Dis.	Total Loss	
Quarter		Camps	Members				Camps	Members		Camps	Members
Sept. 1914	....	6	100	67	35	22	49	2337		55	2561
Dec. 1914	....	1	8	99	52	40	19	1894		20	2093
Mar. 1915	....	12	182	74	86	49	5	1640		17	2031
June 1915	....	2	66	87	47	45	8	1555	1	10	1801
Total	....	21	356	327	220	156	81	7426	1	102	8486

	Camps		Members
Number in good standing June 30, 1914.....	1147		49987
Gained—	Camps Members		
By Initiation .....	133	10094	
Transfer .....		236	
Reinstatement .....	47	1776	
Total gain .....		180	12106
Aggregate .....		1327	62093
Loss—			
By Camps disbanded.....	21	356	
Death .....		327	
Honorable discharge .....		220	
Transfer .....		156	
Suspension .....	81	7426	
Dishonorable discharge ...		1	
Total loss .....		102	8486
Number in good standing June 30, 1915....	1225		53607

Comparatively few Divisions report the amount expended for Relief, number of Members or their families or Veterans or their families relieved. The few that reported show that \$38,673.36 was expended for Relief. Number of Members or their families relieved, 118; Veterans or their families relieved, 25.

The amount in the treasuries of Camps is \$58,846.19.

Amount on hand in Division treasuries, \$6,323.73.

#### NEW CAMPS AND CHARTER MEMBERS.

Divisions	Camp Applications	Applicants	New Camps	Charter Members
Alabama & Tennessee	2	41	3	53
California & Pacific..	1	68	1	51
Colorado & Wyoming	3	76	3	77
Connecticut .....	2	101	2	94
Idaho .....				
Illinois .....	15	541	14	485
Indiana .....	5	207	5	161
Iowa .....	6	169	6	216
Kansas .....	11	321	10	294
Kentucky .....	1	18	1	21
Maine .....	9	238	8	194
Maryland .....	4	144	5	105
Massachusetts .....	2	36	2	35
Michigan .....	5	195	5	234
Minnesota .....	1	25	1	16
Montana .....				
Missouri .....	2	103	2	81
Nebraska .....	6	171	6	252
New Hampshire.....				
New Jersey .....	9	207	8	138
New York .....	9	241	10	280
Ohio .....	22	997	22	832
Pennsylvania .....	17	609	17	734
Rhode Island .....	1	17	1	17



Vermont .....	1	19	1	15
Washington .....	3	157	2	121
Wisconsin .....	12	267	12	244
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
	149	4968	147	4750

## DIVISIONS DISBANDED.

The Division of Oregon was disbanded early in the year. Camps therein were transferred to the Division of Washington. Few of the former Division were saved. The Division Commander of the Division of Washington is active and reliable and is working to recover the Oregon Camps, which it is believed he will succeed in doing. If the Division (Oregon) had been properly officered and the Camps had received the attention deserved there would have been no loss of this Division. It was lost through indifference and neglect on the part of the Division Officers.

The Division of Idaho was also disbanded and the Camps transferred to the Division of Montana. The loss of Idaho was for the same reason and through the same cause applying to Oregon. No Division Encampments were held, nothing done or attempted to be accomplished, the Division Commanders in those Divisions having little if any interest in their Camps. The Division Commander of Montana is an energetic and competent officer and realizes his responsibilities and if Idaho Camps can be held he will have them in his Division and in good standing in short order.

## JUNIOR CAMPS.

The organization of Junior Camps has been deferred in a number of instances until adequate, or so considered, provision is made for system, necessary equipment, forms, books and details. This is familiar to you. A number of Divisions have taken up the matter of forming such organizations and are awaiting further action by the Commandery-in-Chief before proceeding.

## DIGEST OF OPINIONS AND DECISIONS.

A Digest of Opinions and Decisions would fill a long needed want. Requisitions for same have been frequently received. If supplied to the Order considerable correspondence relating to rulings, regulations and procedure in discipline would be avoided and uniformity established in the routine of the Order affecting subjects of great importance.

## RECOGNITION BUTTON OR LAPEL DECORATION.

This subject has received general attention by Divisions and in Camps. By the action of the Division Encampments to be considered here sentiment will be expressed so that in all probability provision will be made for a decoration that will be official and be authorized for supply to the membership as are our present badges and in accordance with our system. This matter should be definitely and finally settled and disposed of so that we may have a decoration for recognition purposes. The members of the Order desire it and their wishes should be gratified. We should have such a mark and supply it promptly.

## THE BANNER.

The Banner—our official organ—has been and continues to be a most important channel for checking our losses. While they have been too large they would have been greater if it had not been for the influence and the uses to which The Banner was put to avoid suspensions. It held many who otherwise would have been reported a loss in some form. The official organ of our Order interests the general membership and is a valuable aid to the working force of the Commander-in-Chief in many ways.

## SONS OF VETERANS RESERVE.

The Military Department—The Sons of Veterans Reserve—continues an important factor in the work and interest of many Camps in various localities. At several of the Division Encampments the Reserve is a most successful and inspiring feature. The officers and members comprising this branch of the Order cannot be too highly commended. A proper appreciation of their services would be for our membership to be more active in behalf of and interested in this fine organization, thereby making it a more valuable adjunct to the Order.

## DEATH BENEFIT ASSOCIATION.

The Death Benefit Association comprised of the membership of the Sons of Veterans and the Auxiliary, has proven a substantial means of holding a large proportion of our members that otherwise would not be on our rolls; having associated with the D. B. A. for the benefits that accrue therefrom, it is realized that severance from the Order will result in loss of securing the object of membership in that organization. It is a worthy cause and should meet the approval and have the moral support of all our members. The association is well officered and financed and is prosperous and successful. Many of our leading members are active in it, that of itself should be sufficient guarantee and motive for all to connect with the Association.

## SONS OF VETERANS AUXILIARY.

Reminding the members of our Order that we were and are solicitous as to our recognition by the G. A. R.,—the same consideration is suggestion for our Sons of Veterans Auxiliary by our Order. Years ago the Commandery-in-Chief officially and cordially recognized this society as our Official Assistant and as the "Sons of Veterans Auxiliary." This splendid organization is performing excellent service in behalf of and for many of our Camps. If there are any similar societies to be formed and recognized our members and Camps should realize that it is their duty to be loyal and give recognition to the officially designated organization—"The Sons of Veterans Auxiliary"—in preference to others of a similar character. The Auxiliary is a most valuable asset to our Camps.

## THE ORDER.

Throughout the Order the spirit of fraternity, cordiality and good fellowship prevails. Conditions generally are prosperous and our Camps with comparatively few exceptions have been and are successful. The predominating sentiment and desire is for increased membership, active interest in the principles and ob-



jects and the upbuilding of the Order. Patriotism is not lacking in the Camps. The duties imposed by membership in the organization are performed loyally and faithfully. Memorial Day is observed and the duties sacredly performed. The observance of Union Defenders' Day is everywhere a successful and most pleasant event, developing renewed interest in and loyalty to the principles of our Order. From all sections most gratifying reports were received of the observance of these occasions by our Camps, all of which reflects most creditably. Your interest in these features and the urgent orders to Camps for their action and attention to their observance is commendable and the successful accomplishments must be a great satisfaction to you.

We seem to be coming to "our own." Many men in public life are at our service and render valuable service to Camps, Divisions and the Order. Our importance as an organization is realized and we are gradually assuming our proper position for influence in the Country.

Our relations with the G. A. R. and kindred organizations are most pleasant and cordial. Fraternal communications are exchanged with many Department as well as National Headquarters and all is harmonious. We have their good wishes and valuable aid is extended us through such assistance in many sections.

#### CONCLUSION.

Official relations with you as Commander-in-Chief now of necessity end. Association with you as the Commanding Officer has been most pleasant. Appreciating the labor, personal application and great service you have performed for the Order, it is by this personal reference that attention is thereto directed for the benefit of the general membership. No sufficient tribute can be paid you for what you have done and accomplished "For the Good of the Order," the efforts you made and the great interest you have taken in behalf of and for the Order. You inspired your same zeal and activity in the rank and file. Everywhere you are honored and esteemed. You created increased enthusiasm and renewed interest. You most ably represented the Sons of Veterans at many functions, gatherings and on all occasions—before officials of high standing and of all kinds—cities, States and the Nation—and you have by your acquittal and impressions created at such affairs accomplished much to place us in the forefront of the Nation—so that, retiring and at ease after all your arduous labors, you can feel assured that you have the loyalty, devotion, esteem and affection of every Son of a Veteran.

Pardoned for another personal reference—to the National Treasurer—it is only to impress the fact that we have been associated with each other for so many years that it would be an incomplete report to omit mention of his splendid qualifications, sound judgment and excellent advice in matters relating to the conduct of affairs at Headquarters and the Order generally.

The same in a large degree applies to the Chief-of-Staff, with whom an intimate relationship in the service of the Order has extended over a long period of years. His interest and service are always at our command and have been most valuable.

Throughout the Order there are many highly esteemed and splendid members who are so often in mind and remembered

that to enumerate them would require a "roll-call" of more than one Division Encampment. The assurance is here given that their acquaintanceship, friendship and association is valued beyond expression and greatly appreciated.

To the National Officers and Staff congratulations are extended for the harmony that prevailed, the success of the administration, the assistance they rendered, the desire for success that dominated all and the fact that we were all associated together under the able, faithful leader and successful Commander-in-Chief—Charles F. Sherman.

Respectfully submitted, in F. C. & L.,  
H. H. HAMMER,  
*National Secretary.*

#### SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT.

Of the National Secretary, Thirty-fourth Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, Washington, D. C., September 30, 1915.

##### RECEIPTS.

September 21, to balance.....	\$3401.29
Received for:	
Per capita tax, Division of Nebraska .....	\$ 18.90
Charter fees, Division of Illinois (2), Maine, Nebraska, Pennsylvania (one each).....	12.50
Supplies, Division of Nebraska .....	.20
Interest from National Treasurer on deposits of funds .....	73.74
Total receipts .....	\$ 105.34
	<u>\$3506.63</u>

##### EXPENDITURES.

General expenses .....	\$1506.84
Office expenses .....	51.18
Office expenses other than Commander-in- Chief, National Secretary, Treasurer, Chief of Staff .....	31.26
Commander-in-Chief's expenses .....	56.35
Total expenditures .....	\$1645.63
Balance September 30, 1915 .....	<u>\$1861.00</u>
	<u>\$3506.63</u>

##### ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

###### GENERAL EXPENSES.

For Encampment .....	\$1290.09
Reserves .....	38.16
Miscellaneous .....	178.59
	<u>\$1506.84</u>

###### OFFICE EXPENSES.

For postage, National Secretary, National Treasurer, telegrams, stationery, express, light .....	\$ 51.18
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For postage, etc., other than Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary, National Treasurer and Chief of Staff ..... 31.26

\$ 82.44

## COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S EXPENSES.

For postage, traveling, telegrams, office stenographer ..... \$ 56.35

\$ 56.35

Total expenditures ..... \$1645.63

Respectfully submitted in F., C. and L.,  
H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

## REPORT OF NATIONAL TREASURER.

Reading, Pa., September 21, 1915.

*To the Officers and Members of the Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. Greetings:*

I have the honor to submit the following as my report of the financial transactions of the Commandery-in-Chief for the fiscal year.

A statement is appended showing the balance merging from the preceding administration, with the receipts from all sources through the National Secretary, chargeable to this department:

## 1914—

September 3, balance .....	\$ 4,064.06
September 16, deposits.....	151.52
September 30, deposits.....	96.16
October 20, deposits.....	136.09
October 31, deposits.....	167.98
November 9, deposits.....	144.93
November 14, deposits.....	1,136.64
November 20, deposits.....	602.77
November 24, deposits.....	1,085.75
November 30, deposits.....	523.13
December 8, deposits.....	138.09
December 31, deposits.....	311.28

## 1915—

January 15, deposits.....	153.34
January 30, deposits.....	235.39
February 2, deposits.....	310.05
February 8, deposits.....	173.16
February 10, deposits.....	210.57
February 20, deposits.....	1,049.30
February 27, deposits.....	994.88
March 3, deposits.....	958.83
March 13, deposits.....	188.07
March 20, deposits.....	106.83

March 26, deposits.....	145.09
March 31, deposits.....	206.61
April 14, deposits.....	331.62
April 21, deposits.....	227.73
April 30, deposits.....	264.30
May 5, deposits.....	113.20
May 10, deposits.....	194.23
May 12, deposits.....	566.05
May 15, deposits.....	567.62
May 18, deposits.....	196.34
May 21, deposits.....	841.31
May 29, deposits.....	1,310.87
June 3, deposits.....	158.34
June 10, deposits.....	116.65
June 30, deposits.....	319.79
July 13, deposits.....	262.95
July 31, deposits.....	132.34
August 7, deposits.....	208.03
August 19, deposits.....	1,479.88
August 20, deposits.....	904.65
August 27, deposits.....	1,346.39
August 31, deposits.....	41.82

Total receipts .....\$22,874.73

The disbursements upon vouchers certified by the National Secretary and approved by the Commander-in-Chief were as follows:

Voucher No. 1031.....	\$ 732.79
Voucher No. 1032.....	2.88
Voucher No. 1033.....	27.35
Voucher No. 1034.....	35.00
Voucher No. 1035.....	1,000.00
Voucher No. 1036.....	37.59
Voucher No. 1037.....	3.50
Voucher No. 1038.....	34.46
Voucher No. 1039.....	38.45
Voucher No. 1040.....	21.00
Voucher No. 1041.....	741.94
Voucher No. 1042.....	57.60
Voucher No. 1043.....	23.36
Voucher No. 1044.....	62.17
Voucher No. 1045.....	128.00
Voucher No. 1046.....	1,154.21
Voucher No. 1047.....	50.00
Voucher No. 1048.....	17.65
Voucher No. 1049.....	3.00
Voucher No. 1050.....	63.02
Voucher No. 1051.....	22.39
Voucher No. 1052.....	7.10
Voucher No. 1053.....	37.04
Voucher No. 1054.....	23.25
Voucher No. 1055.....	81.56
Voucher No. 1056.....	29.27
Voucher No. 1057.....	152.70
Voucher No. 1058.....	140.60
Voucher No. 1059.....	791.57



Voucher No. 1060	23.26
Voucher No. 1061	5.20
Voucher No. 1062	533.96
Voucher No. 1063	75.00
Voucher No. 1064	155.85
Voucher No. 1065	2.50
Voucher No. 1066	3.75
Voucher No. 1067	69.00
Voucher No. 1068	26.91
Voucher No. 1069	126.92
Voucher No. 1070	11.12
Voucher No. 1071	30.00
Voucher No. 1072	24.00
Voucher No. 1073	750.55
Voucher No. 1074	94.00
Voucher No. 1075	38.59
Voucher No. 1076	2.16
Voucher No. 1077	3.83
Voucher No. 1078	69.67
Voucher No. 1079	66.74
Voucher No. 1080	3.00
Voucher No. 1081	733.39
Voucher No. 1082	89.99
Voucher No. 1083	6.87
Voucher No. 1084	28.47
Voucher No. 1085	39.88
Voucher No. 1086	10.50
Voucher No. 1087	6.00
Voucher No. 1088	2.00
Voucher No. 1089	131.58
Voucher No. 1090	125.00
Voucher No. 1091	125.00
Voucher No. 1092	736.96
Voucher No. 1093	46.75
Voucher No. 1094	676.41
Voucher No. 1095	18.70
Voucher No. 1096	8.07
Voucher No. 1097	75.00
Voucher No. 1098	3.00
Voucher No. 1099	2.25
Voucher No. 1100	69.00
Voucher No. 1101	9.74
Voucher No. 1102	100.77
Voucher No. 1103	16.00
Voucher No. 1104	372.00
Voucher No. 1105	778.57
Voucher No. 1106	3.25
Voucher No. 1107	19.41
Voucher No. 1108	9.12
Voucher No. 1109	60.75
Voucher No. 1110	12.70
Voucher No. 1111	50.50
Voucher No. 1112	176.24
Voucher No. 1113	152.00
Voucher No. 1114	125.00
Voucher No. 1115	963.05
Voucher No. 1116	3.50

Voucher No. 1117.....	49.60
Voucher No. 1118.....	8.26
Voucher No. 1119.....	42.59
Voucher No. 1120.....	2.50
Voucher No. 1121.....	225.98
Voucher No. 1122.....	12.00
Voucher No. 1123.....	12.45
Voucher No. 1124.....	26.00
Voucher No. 1125.....	753.01
Voucher No. 1126.....	64.03
Voucher No. 1127.....	10.05
Voucher No. 1128.....	583.30
Voucher No. 1129.....	75.00
Voucher No. 1130.....	69.00
Voucher No. 1131.....	307.02
Voucher No. 1132.....	36.75
Voucher No. 1133.....	753.30
Voucher No. 1134.....	99.74
Voucher No. 1135.....	50.78
Voucher No. 1136.....	19.64
Voucher No. 1137.....	3.04
Voucher No. 1138.....	5.70
Voucher No. 1139.....	2.56
Voucher No. 1140.....	78.57
Voucher No. 1141.....	67.48
Voucher No. 1142.....	24.50
Voucher No. 1143.....	12.00
Voucher No. 1144.....	753.22
Voucher No. 1145.....	68.48
Voucher No. 1146.....	70.89
Voucher No. 1147.....	7.68
Voucher No. 1148.....	300.00
Voucher No. 1149.....	7.70
Voucher No. 1150.....	803.74
Voucher No. 1151.....	75.00
Voucher No. 1152.....	500.00
Voucher No. 1153.....	69.00

Total .....\$19,473.44

#### BALANCE ACCOUNT.

Total receipts .....\$22,874.73  
 Total disbursements .....19,473.44

Balance, cash on hand this date.....\$ 3,401.29

#### PERMANENT RESERVE FUND.

There has been placed to the credit of this Fund appropriations by the Commandery-in-Chief from time to time aggregating Four Thousand Dollars, which with the earnings from interest has increased the Fund until it now has to its credit the sum of \$4,586.29, invested as follows: \$2,000 in Collateral Mortgage Notes of the International & Great Western Railway Co., \$1,500 in Saving Fund and \$1,086.29 on deposit in the Reading Trust Company.

I recommend that no further appropriations be made to this Fund, but that the interest earned be credited to the Fund until



it shall reach the sum of Five Thousand Dollars, after which any earnings from the Fund shall be credited to the General Account.

It has been my pleasure and good fortune to serve the Order in this position uninterruptedly for ten years during which time I have seen the organization advance to a position where its permanency is assured. This tenure of service has been marked by a continuance of the most harmonious relations with the official family in its annual changing to which the present year has been no exception.

Respectfully submitted,  
J. L. RAKE,  
*National Treasurer.*

#### SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

Of the National Treasurer, Encampment of 1915:	
September 21, 1915, cash balance .....	\$3401.29
Receipts from all sources from the National Secretary .....	105.34
	<hr/>
	\$3506.63

Against which is charged disbursements as follows, in accordance with the action of the Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment, Washington, D. C.:

Voucher No. 1154 .....	\$ 52.20
Voucher No. 1155 .....	143.65
Voucher No. 1156 .....	72.26
Voucher No. 1157 .....	97.55
Voucher No. 1158 .....	115.05
Voucher No. 1159 .....	34.60
Voucher No. 1160 .....	170.40
Voucher No. 1161 .....	121.00
Voucher No. 1162 .....	181.25
Voucher No. 1163 .....	143.40
Voucher No. 1164 .....	53.70
Voucher No. 1165 .....	360.57
Voucher No. 1166 .....	100.00
	<hr/>
Total disbursements .....	\$1645.63
September 30, 1915, final cash balance .....	\$1861.00
Respectfully submitted, J. L. RAKE, <i>National Treasurer.</i>	

#### REPORT OF NATIONAL COUNSELOR.

*To the Officers and Members of the Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.*  
Greetings:

It is a privilege, highly esteemed, which permits me again to appear before this body with an annual report of the work performed in the office of National Counselor.

## OPINIONS.

During the past administrative year I have rendered to the Commander-in-Chief, at his request, fourteen opinions which are attached to this report and made a part hereof. The first seven of these were originally prepared in the form in which they here appear. Those numbered VIII to XIV, inclusive, were included in correspondence with the Commander-in-Chief; but since they concern matters of vital importance to the Order at large, they have been prepared and are here presented in formal shape with non-essentials eliminated.

## DIVISION BY-LAWS.

New sets of By-Laws adopted at recent encampments of the Divisions of New Jersey, New York and Wisconsin were submitted to this office for examination. Two of these were approved in their entirety. In the case of the third a minor conflict was noted, but with this exception these By-Laws also were approved.

## LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE.

Pursuant to the action of the Thirty-third National Encampment, a Legislative Committee, consisting of five members with the National Counselor as chairman, was appointed by the Commander-in-Chief on October 6, 1914. It is unnecessary to repeat here the duties assigned to this committee.

During the year only one matter was brought to its attention; namely, a Joint Resolution introduced in the House of Representatives by Mr. Gillett and in the Senate by Senator Lodge, in December, 1914, the purpose of which was to provide for a suitable commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the second inaugural of Abraham Lincoln, at Washington City on March 4, 1915. The committee did its utmost to secure concentrated effort on the part of the several Camps and Divisions looking toward the passage of this resolution, and received a number of favorable responses from Senators and Representatives. However, the proposal was introduced rather tardily, and action in support of it came too late to save it, for it was side-tracked in the rush and confusion of business attendant upon a final session of Congress.

The recommendation which led to the formation of this new committee was a good one. The committee has a potentiality for great accomplishment. I recommend its continuance.

## THE WORLD COURT CONGRESS.

Having been delegated by the Commander-in-Chief to represent the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., at the World Court Congress which was held at Cleveland, Ohio, May 12-14, 1915, I was in attendance at all sessions of the Congress on May 12th and 13th. Representatives of nearly every organization of national extent were present at this convention. The purposes and objects of the congress, and a recommendation in approval of its work, are set forth in my report to the Commander-in-Chief, dated May 28, 1915, which was published in the June issue of The Banner, and a copy of which is hereto attached.

## VISITATIONS AND OTHER SERVICES.

By appointment of the Commander of the Maryland Division and at the direction of the Commander-in-Chief, I instituted a



new camp at Huntington, West Virginia, on January 15, 1915. This camp is known as Huntington No. 3; it is situated in a thriving, progressive little city of 42,000 inhabitants; it numbers upon its rolls some of the most substantial citizens of the town; its members were enthusiastic and it should "make good."

In company with the Commander-in-Chief I have made the following visitations:

On December 5, 1914, at Chicago, Ill., as a guest of Illinois State Camp No. 100, at its annual banquet.

On February 13th and 14, 1915, at Philadelphia, Pa., in attendance at the annual banquet and celebration conducted by the Sons of Veterans of Philadelphia and vicinity, in honor of Abraham Lincoln and the Union Defenders.

On March 16, 1915, at Columbus, Ohio, as a guest at the reception tendered by the local camp to its honored member, Frank B. Willis, Governor of Ohio.

In conclusion, I gratefully acknowledge the many courtesies bestowed upon me by the brothers at large. Words are too feeble to express my profound sense of appreciation of the signal honor conferred by my re-appointment as National Counselor. My one regret is that circumstances have prevented the accomplishment of more and greater things in the service of the Order. My cordial thanks and good wishes I extend to all.

Fraternally,

W. M. COFFIN,

National Counselor, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.  
September, 1915.

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#### OPINION I.

##### *On Eligibility to Membership.*

An honorably discharged Union soldier was conscripted into the Confederate Army. This bearing of arms against the Union, being *not voluntary*, the sons of this soldier are eligible to membership.

The following question is submitted by a brother from Oklahoma:

During the early days of the Civil War a man enlisted and served in the Union Army. He was honorably discharged on account of sickness; and this honorable discharge he now holds. About a year thereafter, his health having improved, the soldier was drafted into the Confederate army and forced to serve therein for a short time. Is the son of this soldier eligible to membership, the father having borne arms against the United States:

In 1890, conflicting opinions on this subject were rendered by Judge Advocate General O. B. Brown and by Commander-in-Chief C. F. Griffin. (Blue Book p. 17). The Judge Advocate General was of the opinion that the provision in the eligibility clause of the constitution, which at that time excluded from membership any person "whose father has ever borne arms against the United States of America," should be construed to refer only to those who *wilfully and maliciously*, with such intent bore arms against the United States government.

In 1895 Commander-in-Chief Bundy adopted the opinion of Judge Advocate General Brown and decided in favor of the

eligibility of the sons of a soldier whose military record was as follows:

"At the beginning of the war of '61-'65 a man living in a southern state was conscripted into the Confederate army; his sympathies being entirely with the union, he deserted at the first opportunity and joined the Union Army, served out his term of service, and was honorably discharged; and his widow now receives a pension."

This decision received the approval of the Commandery-in-Chief. (See Dec. XII; 14th Enc. Pro., pp. 28, 219).

When the constitution was revised in 1904, the eligibility clause was amended so as to admit into membership only those, "Whose ancestors through whom membership is claimed have never *voluntarily* borne arms against the government of the United States of America," thus incorporating into the written fundamental law of the Order the principle of the prior decisions; and this provision, so phrased, has continued to be the law of the Order to the present day.

In view of the foregoing I must hold that the applicant in this case is eligible to membership, provided it is shown that the service of his father in the Confederate army was *not voluntary*, but was due solely to conscription. The facts, however, should be carefully investigated before the applicant is admitted; and in this connection I suggest the advisability of ascertaining whether or not the soldier's service in the Union Army was ever recognized by the United States government by the granting of a pension, or otherwise.

Respectfully submitted,

W. M. COFFIN,

National Counselor, Sons of Veterans. U. S. A.  
December 22, 1914.

#### OPINION II.

- (A)—On Election of Absent Member to Camp Office.
- (B)—On Election of Camp Secretary and Camp Treasurer.
- (C)—On Combining Offices of Camp Secretary and Camp Treasurer.

Three questions, submitted by a brother of the New York Division, together with the opinions thereon, respectively, are as follows:

(A)—*Question*: Referring to Sec. 5, Art. VI, Chap. II, C. R. & R.—"Can a Camp, at its discretion, determine whether or not a nominee may stand for election when absent at election of officers, when it is not *positively known* that such nominee for office be sick or unavoidably detained (absent); or that he is desirous of the office?"

The rule referred to is new as applied to Camps, but the reason for it, as for the similar rule of long standing with reference to the election of Division and National officers, is to avoid the embarrassment and confusion resultant upon a member's refusing to accept an office where his election thereto has been had in his absence, and when the electoral body has not



been advised that he would accept the office. Indeed, long before the enactment above mentioned and when the camps were absolutely free with respect to their choice of officers so far as such a constitutional restriction as this was concerned, Commander-in-Chief Sheldon read into the law of the Order the very essence of this rule when he decided that "a member of the Order can be elected an officer of his Camp, *having signified his willingness to accept same*, without being present at meeting on which election takes place." (Dec. II, 27th Enc. Pro. p. 20).

Under the new rule, the question whether or not a nominee for camp office, being absent at the time, may stand for election, is left entirely to the discretion of the camp. There is no rule of law whereby any particular degree of proof of the fact of nominee's sickness or excuse for absence is required as a condition precedent to the exercise of the discretion so lodged with the camp. And the camp having once resolved that an absent nominee may or may not stand for election, the determination of this question being solely within the discretion of the camp, its decision thereon is final and cannot be questioned on appeal or otherwise. However, the camp should not act arbitrarily in the matter, but should proceed with reasonable caution; and at least *should be assured that the nominee will accept the office if elected to it*, before it determines that he may stand for election. With this qualification, the first question is answered in the affirmative.

(B)—*Question*: Referring to Sec. 2, Art. VI, Chap. II—"Can Camp, in absence of such provision in its By-Laws, by mere resolution at the time of election, elect Secretary and Treasurer for one year only at a time?"

The section referred to is a constitutional provision permitting the camp to *elect* its secretary and its treasurer and to fix their terms of office. If this subject-matter is in no way touched upon in the camp by-laws, and if there is no subsisting Division By-Law prohibiting such action, the camp may declare, by resolution at any meeting, that the offices of secretary and treasurer shall thereafter be elective, and that the terms of such offices shall be one year; and at the time of the regular elections the camp may proceed to elect suitable persons to fill these offices. The persons so elected will take their seats at the expiration of the terms of office of their predecessors. (See Dec. VIII, 23rd Enc. Pro., pp. 208, 209). I strongly recommend, however, that a rule governing this subject-matter should be incorporated into the camp by-laws, if it is not already there.

It follows that the second question must be answered in the affirmative.

(C)—*Question*: "Can a camp, in absence of any authority in the laws, combine offices of secretary and treasurer as secretary-treasurer; or at least elect the one man separately to both offices?"

The constitution contains no provision authorizing the joining of the offices of camp secretary and camp treasurer, and in the absence of such authority it is to be presumed that the intent of the law is to prohibit such a practice; and this presumption is strengthened by the fact that the constitution specifically permits the combination of the offices of Division Secretary and Division Treasurer, while at the same time it omits authority to combine the camp offices. Moreover, the whole scheme of

our organization, as indicated in the reports required to be made by the camp secretary and by the camp treasurer, and in other ways, seems to contemplate the severalty of these offices.

It is therefore held that the offices of camp secretary and camp treasurer cannot be combined. The election of one man separately to both offices is in effect the combining of the offices and hence is not permitted.

Respectfully submitted,

W. M. COFFIN,

*National Counselor, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.*

December 23, 1914.

#### OPINION III.

##### *On Service as Teller in a Camp by a Junior Vice Division Commander.*

Any member in good standing is eligible to act as teller at any election, irrespective of whether or not he holds any other office in the order.

The Commander of the Maryland Division has requested a decision as to whether or not a Junior Vice Division Commander can serve as a teller in a camp.

There is nothing in the laws nor in the decisions which would prohibit any brother in good standing from acting as teller if he is properly delegated to perform this service. The rule prohibiting the holding of two offices at the same time does not include the present case. Service as a teller at a camp election is in no way incompatible with a simultaneous holding of the office of Junior Vice Division Commander.

It follows that the question submitted must be answered in the affirmative.

Respectfully,

W. M. COFFIN,

*National Counselor, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.*

January 2, 1915.

#### OPINION IV.

##### *On Eligibility to Membership.*

Service in Revenue Department, not service in U. S. Army or Navy.

Is the son of a man who served in the Revenue Service of the United States during the Civil War eligible to membership in the Sons of Veterans?

The Revenue Service has always been considered a civil rather than a military department of the government. Although, at times during the Civil War, revenue cutters may have assisted the United States Navy or Marine, yet it has been held that service upon these vessels was not service in the Navy or Marine within the meaning of the eligibility clause of our constitution.

Therefore, it is held that an applicant for membership, who bases his claim solely upon the service of his father in the United States Revenue Department, is *not eligible* to membership.



Com-in-Chief Jones' Dec. XIII (J. A. Gen'l Johnson's Op. XI), 19th Enc. Pro., pp. 32, 33—followed.

W. M. COFFIN,  
National Counselor, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A  
May 8, 1915.

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OPINION V.

*On Method of Balloting upon admission of Member by Transfer-card.*

The application of a member for affiliation with a camp by transfer-card should be received and balloted upon in the same manner as an original application for membership.

The By-laws of a certain camp contain a clause providing that members on transfer-card, applying for admission to the camp, may be voted for by a show of hands, as upon a simple motion. Is this contrary to the constitution?

The present constitution contains no definite provision governing this particular matter.

In 1891, it was held that an applicant for admission on transfer-card should make his application on the regular form, which should accompany the card (Dec. XLV, 10th Enc. Pro., p. 40). This ruling was based upon the constitution then in force, which provided that a member might be admitted on transfer-card, "by a three-fourths vote after his name has been proposed, referred, and reported upon, as in the case of an applicant for membership." However, this particular clause appears not to have been carried forward into any subsequent revision of the constitution.

At the Twenty-second National Encampment, in 1903, a motion, providing that a member on transfer may be received into a camp by a three-fourths vote of the members present and voting, was offered from the floor of the encampment and was put and carried. This provision, however, was not carried into the revision of 1905.

The last decision on the subject was rendered in 1906, when it was held that, "The application of a member on transfer-card is referred to an investigating committee and is balloted upon the same as the application of a new recruit." This decision received the approval of the Commandery-in-Chief. (Dec. 17, 25th Enc. Pro., pp. 25; 158-9).

Sound reason would seem to dictate that the safe-guards provided for the use of camps in connection with the admission of members into their fellowship should apply equally and uniformly in all elections of members, whether upon an original application, or upon an application supported by a transfer-card.

Therefore, re-affirming the decision last above-quoted, it is held that the application of a member for admission by transfer-card shall be received and balloted upon in the same manner as an original application for membership. It follows that the clause in the by-laws above referred to is improper and should be eliminated.

W. M. COFFIN,  
National Counselor, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.  
May 8, 1915.

## OPINION VI.

*On the Status of a Member on Transfer.*

An application for membership on regular form should accompany the transfer card of a member seeking affiliation with a camp by transfer; and it should take the same course as an original application for membership.

The transfer card of a rejected applicant should be returned to him in its original form.

Transfer card may be deposited with *any* camp at *any* time within one year from date of its issue.

Member on transfer cannot attend meetings of the order unless and until accepted into membership by some camp.

A number of questions have been submitted to these headquarters, concerning the status of a holder of a transfer card and the method of his re-admission into a camp. These questions, together with the opinions thereon categorically arranged, are as follows:

(1). The by-laws of a certain camp provide that, "A member joining by transfer shall be elected by a ye and nay vote, three-quarters of the members present voting in the affirmative." Is this section in conflict with any requirements of the Constitution and Laws?

This question is answered by the discussion and ruling in Opinion V, current series.

(2). "Can an applicant holding a transfer be admitted to another camp except by ballot as prescribed for a new member?"

No. See Opinion V, current series. However, the holder of a transfer, when duly elected to membership in a given camp, is a member of that camp as soon as elected and without re-obligation or further ceremony. Dec. XVII, of Com.-in-Chief Bundy, 14th Enc., 31.

(3). "Can a camp admit to membership an applicant holding a transfer without first having received an application on the regular form and the same having been referred to a committee for investigation as in the case of an original applicant?"

No. See Opinion V, current series.

(4). "An applicant by transfer, having been rejected by vote of a camp,—should the secretary of the camp rejecting indorse the action of the camp on the transfer card, fill out and return the stub to the camp granting the transfer, or should the transfer card with the stub attached be returned to the rejected applicant in its original form without indorsement of any kind?"

The transfer card should be returned to a rejected applicant in its original form. According to Ch. II, Art. III, Sec. 1, C. & L., the holder of a transfer card "shall be considered honorably discharged if the card is not deposited with and accepted by some camp within a year." Thus, the holder of a transfer card is entitled to the possession thereof, as and for an honorable discharge, if it has not been *accepted by some camp* within a year from the date of its issue. Again, if the holder of a



transfer is rejected by one camp, it is his privilege, under the law, to deposit his card with another camp; for the card is good as a transfer at any time within a year if accepted as such by *some* camp. This ruling is in exact accord with the spirit of Dec. LXIII, of Com.-in-Chief Webb, 10 Enc., p. 46.

(5). "Can a member on transfer deposit the same transfer card or another transfer card with the same camp or with any other camp within six months following said rejection?"

Yes. See ruling on Question No. 4, above. The six months qualification applies to applicants for original membership; it has nothing to do with members on transfer.

(6). "Can a camp, rejecting the application of the holder of a transfer card, reconsider or rescind its action at a subsequent meeting during the six months following the rejection?"

There is no constitutional restriction prohibiting such action on the part of a camp *at any time*, provided it still has before it the transfer card and application blank of the member seeking admission; but if the transfer card has been returned to the applicant, according to ruling No. 4, above, then the camp could take no further action unless and until a new application, supported by a transfer card, has been filed with it.

(7). "After a member on transfer has been rejected, can he attend or take part in any camp meeting?"

No. A member on transfer cannot visit, or take part in the meetings of any camp, until he has been accepted into membership by some camp. On authority of Dec. XI, of Com.-in-Chief Bundy, 14 Enc., p. 27.

(8). "Can a rejected member on transfer attend any meeting of an allied order to which the Sons of Veterans are permitted?"

No opinion can be given. Officers of this Order are powerless to make any ruling which will in any way affect the admission, or right thereto, either of members or of non-members, into the meetings of any other Order.

The status of a member of the order holding a transfer card is similar to the status of a member under suspension. He is neither in the order, nor out of it; and he cannot be considered as in "good standing." The choice lies with him. He may come into the privileges of full membership, and hence into "good standing," by depositing his card with, and having it accepted by, some camp; or he may entirely extinguish his dormant right to membership by inaction on his part for a period of one year.

Respectfully submitted,

W. M. COFFIN,

National Counselor, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.  
August 11, 1915.

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#### OPINION VII.

##### *On Eligibility of Member to Office.*

The question: "Is a member, in good standing in our Order,

who has never been and is not now an officer in the Order, eligible for an elective office in the Commandery-in-Chief?"

*The Ruling:* Yes; provided the member is present at the encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief. Any member of the Order in good standing, being present at the encampment, is eligible to election to any office.

Com.-in-Chief Maccabe, Dec. XXV, 13th Enc., p. 25.

Com.-in-Chief Allan, Dec. I, 28th Enc., p. 16.

W. M. COFFIN,

*National Counselor, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.*  
August 25, 1915.

#### OPINION VIII.

##### *Charges against Commander of Missouri Division.*

Charges against the Commander of the Missouri Division, alleging malfeasance in office, conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and several other items, having been filed with the Commander-in-Chief, the latter requested an opinion as to the proper legal procedure to be pursued in bringing said charges to hearing and determination. On September 25, 1914, the following opinion was rendered:

There are two modes of procedure which may be followed in this case: *First*—If the complainant, by these charges, seeks to institute discipline proceedings against the accused as a member of the Order, the charges should be filed with the Secretary of the camp of which the accused is a member, after which appropriate proceedings will be taken by that camp in strict accordance with Chap. 6, Art. XXIV, C. R. & R. There is no alternative. This is the only method of trying such charges. *Second*—If on the other hand the complainant, by these charges and for the causes therein specified, seeks the removal from office of the Division Commander, the charges should be filed with the Division Council in accordance with the constitutional amendment which was adopted at the Detroit encampment and is now in effect. This constitutional provision is as follows:

"Sec. 6. The Division Commander shall have power to remove all appointive Division officers; and the Division Encampment, or when it is not in session the Division Council acting under such rules as may be prescribed by the Division By-laws, may, by two-thirds vote, declare vacant the position of any elective officer for cause."

After carefully considering these charges, I have arrived at the conclusion that they constitute simply an impeachment of the Division Commander in his official capacity. If this conclusion is correct, I suggest that the charges should be returned to the complainant with the instruction that, if he desires to pursue them further, they be submitted to the Division Council in accordance with the above quoted constitutional provision.

Inasmuch as it is impossible that the Missouri Division has as yet adopted by-laws in conformity with the above provision, I suggest further that, in the event the charges are filed with the Division Council, that body should be instructed to



proceed to hear the same in accordance, as near as may be, with the spirit of the provisions governing the usual discipline proceedings; that is to say, by serving the accused with a copy of the charges, and with notice of the time and place set for the hearing of the same, and by giving him an opportunity to file an answer to said charges and to be heard in his own defense; also by notifying the complainant of the time and place set for the hearing, and by requiring him to produce evidence in support of the charges.

The charges in question were filed with the Division Council of Missouri, and that body gave notice that it would hear them on February 3, 1915. Having received notice of these facts, the Commander-in-Chief, being desirous that the trial should be conducted strictly in accordance with regulations so that no failure should attach to it because of irregularity, requested such further suggestions as might tend to minimize the possibilities of error on the part of either party to the contest. Complying with this request, on January 23, 1915, the following opinion was given:

There are no suggestions that I can offer further than those included in the last paragraph of my opinion of September 25, 1914, bearing upon this subject-matter. The national constitution simply authorizes the Division Council to hear such charges, and leaves it to the Division to fix the particular rules under which the Council shall proceed. I assume that no such by-laws have yet been adopted by the Missouri Division; and in the absence of any specific rules governing the method of its procedure, the Division Council should act simply in accordance with the principles of natural justice, and when it has so acted no exception could be taken to the regularity of the method in which it has conducted the hearing.

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#### OPINION IX.

In the absence of new, material evidence, a case decided by a former administration will not be re-opened.

This concerns the case of *George A. Ray*, a member of the Massachusetts Division, whose eligibility was questioned during the term of Past Commander-in-Chief McGuire, because of the fact that there were charges of desertion standing against the record of Ray's father, George R. Ray.

Papers in the case were forwarded to the Commander-in-Chief for a re-determination of the question at issue; and on his request the following opinion was given:

National Counselor Harvey, whose opinion in the premises is found at pages 148-151 of the Proceedings of the Thirty-first National Encampment, held that Ray was eligible to membership, thus reversing the decision of F. G. Bauer, then Division Counselor of Massachusetts; and this opinion of the National Counselor was approved by Commander-in-Chief McGuire.

All of the facts which are pertinent to the issue, disclosed by the papers now at hand, were before National Counselor Harvey at the time he rendered his opinion in the matter; in other words, there is no new, important evidence disclosed in the papers now submitted with the request for a re-opening of

the case. I therefore concur in your view already expressed that courtesy to a former Commander-in-Chief precludes this administration opening the question anew.

If the Massachusetts brothers desire the decision in this case re-opened, their only proper course at this time, in my opinion, is to take an appeal to the Commandery-in-Chief, and this they may do at the next annual encampment of that body, since there does not appear to be recorded any action by the Commandery-in-Chief upon the decisions of Commander-in-Chief McGuire or upon the opinions of National Counselor Harvey.

Inasmuch as there was a conflict in this case between the opinion of the Division Counselor and the opinion of the National Counselor, I have attached hereto a copy of the Division Counselor's opinion, so that it might be readily accessible to the Commandery-in-Chief, in the event that body should be called upon to re-examine the case.

November 12, 1914.

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OPINION OF F. G. BAUER, DIVISION COUNSELOR OF MASSACHUSETTS,  
IN THE CASE OF GEORGE A. RAY.

A soldier enlisted April 6, 1862, for three years. On January 25, 1864, he was discharged in the field for the purpose of re-enlistment and was re-enlisted on the same day. September 27, 1864, he deserted. On January 28, 1865, he was returned to duty by sentence of a general court-martial and again deserted on July 9, 1865. On the question whether his descendant was eligible to membership in our Order, the following opinion was rendered:

The Constitution of the order limits the eligibility to male descendants of soldiers who either (a) served honorably in, or (b) were honorably discharged from the United States forces during the War of Rebellion. As the soldier's muster-out on January 25, 1864, was only for the purpose of allowing him to re-enlist under the provisions of the 50th Article of War, it is not a *discharge* within the meaning of our Constitution which clearly refers solely to the final separation of the soldier from the military service. He never became a civilian, as his re-muster was for the purpose of having his service continuous.

It is a well-known military usage, frequently practised during the War of the Rebellion, for the authority competent to order a soldier's trial for desertion to order him restored to duty without trial, and such restoration to duty operates as a constructive pardon. Other military offences may be pardoned in the same manner (Dig. Op. J. A. G., U. S. A., Section 1060). So also by proclamation and by Act of Congress deserters were pardoned on certain conditions during the War of the Rebellion and a deserter who brought himself within the provisions of these conditions received honorable discharge from the United States service (Dig. Op. J. A. G., U. S. A., Sections 1103, 1108, 1111). The meaning of our Constitution is, therefore, clear that a person is eligible to membership if his ancestor served faithfully in the United States forces, or, if the ancestor's service cannot be said to have been altogether honorable, yet he is eligible if his ancestor received an honorable discharge.



From what has been said above it is clear that this soldier was not honorably discharged from the United States service, inasmuch as his connection with the service was terminated by desertion on July 9, 1865, and he has never brought himself within any of the provisions of law which at the time might have removed the charge of desertion and given him an honorable discharge.

The sole question, therefore, is whether the soldier's service can be said to have been "honorable." The record before me shows that he twice deserted the service of the United States and for the first desertion he was duly convicted and sentenced by a general court-martial.

Desertion is one of the most serious offences against military law and in time of war may be punished capitally (47th Article of War.) Under the act of March 3, 1865, it entails a forfeiture of the rights of citizenship and incapacity to hold office under the United States.

The words "served honorably" in our Constitution must be held to have the same meaning as "served faithfully," which is the term used in Army Regulations and General Orders. The Judge Advocate General has repeatedly ruled that "ordinarily desertion would be sufficient evidence that service during the term in which it occurred was not honest and faithful." (Dig. Op. J. A. G., U. S. A., Section 1119). The Secretary of War might determine that in an exceptional case a soldier's service was honest and faithful, notwithstanding the desertion, (Dig. Op. J. A. G., U. S. A., Section 1119), but the record shows that he did not do so in this case. In view of the fact that the soldier deserted twice, the record in the present case would seem conclusive that the soldier's service can not be regarded as either "honest and faithful" or "honorable."

A person, therefore, who bases his claim on the service of this soldier is not eligible to membership in our Order.

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#### OPINION X.

*Discipline proceedings* instituted in Gen. George H. Thomas Camp No. 19, Pennsylvania Division, Lancaster, Pa., against *Harrison Lawrence*, resulted in the camp's voting the expulsion of the accused, and the papers in the case were forwarded to the Commander-in-Chief for his approval.

The record of the proceedings failed to show that a copy of the report of the trial board was served upon the accused at least three days, or at all, before its presentation to the camp, as required by the law of the Order. See Opinions III and IV, 32 Enc. Pro., pp. 117-120, 121-122; also Opinion III and note, 33 Enc. Pro., pp. 107-108. Therefore, the papers in the case were returned unapproved, with the following instruction:

"After a copy of the report of the trial board has been served upon the accused and due proceedings thereon have been taken by the camp according to law, the camp commander will issue an appropriate order putting into effect the sentence of the camp; and this order together with all records in the pro-

ceeding will be forwarded through the proper channels, in accordance with instruction No. 5, of Opinion III, 32 Enc. Pro. 121."

W. M. COFFIN,

*National Counselor, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.*  
February 20, 1915.

#### OPINION XI.

##### *Eligibility to Membership.*

*The Question:* Is an illegitimate son of a soldier eligible to membership in the Sons of Veterans?

*The Ruling:* Illegitimacy of birth does not, in and of itself, bar eligibility. An illegitimate son is eligible to membership, if in all other respects he is worthy, and it is clearly established by *satisfactory evidence* that he is *actually* the son of a soldier who served in the Union Army during the Civil War, within the contemplation of the eligibility clause of our constitution. In giving this advice, Decision LIX of Com-in-Chief Webb (10 Enc. Pro., p. 44), is followed.

W. M. COFFIN,

*National Counselor, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.*  
February 22, 1915.

#### OPINION XII.

##### *On Power of Commander-in-Chief to Suspend or Remove a Division Commander.*

The Commander of the Washington Division having failed to perform the duties appertaining to his office, having failed to comply with instructions of the Commander-in-Chief, and having failed to call a Division Encampment according to law, the Commander-in-Chief determined that he should be removed from office and requested an opinion as to his power in the premises and the necessary procedure to effect such a result. The following opinion was given:

The first and fundamental question to determine, is your power as Commander-in-Chief to suspend or remove a Division Commander. The present constitution contains no provision granting you specifically, and in terms, such a power. However, Section 3 of Art. XXI of the former constitution (C. R. & R. of 1905) provided that the Commander-in-Chief might suspend, pending investigation, any officer of any Division, for failure to perform any duties required by the constitution and laws, or for any violation of the same.

As Commander-in-Chief you are charged with the duty of maintaining the welfare of the Order, and enforcing its laws, in all the Divisions. A law or rule which imposes a duty, without at the same time conferring, either expressly or impliedly, all power and authority necessary to the performance of that duty, is frivolous. Power to enforce its edicts is inherent in sovereignty; likewise, power to perform its duties and authority to execute the laws entrusted to its stewardship are necessary concomitants of the office of a chief executive. I therefore have



determined that the Commander-in-Chief, by virtue of his very office, is clothed with all needful powers in maintaining the supremacy of the law of the order, as well as its dignity and general welfare; and that, to this end, he has the power, in proper cases, to suspend a Division Commander, placing in temporary command the next ranking officer and making such other orders as may be lawful and necessary to establish law and order and bring about an equilibrium of affairs in the Division.

I suggest that your communication should be prepared formally as a *special order* rather than as a letter addressed to the sitting Commander; one copy of this order to be sent to the officer suspended, a second copy to the temporary appointee and a third to the Division Secretary.

The first paragraph of the order should state that ..... is *suspended* from office and relieved of the command of the Division, and should specify particularly and fully the charges against him and the reasons for the order of suspension.

The second paragraph should place in temporary command of the Division the next ranking officer, the Senior Vice Commander, or if he is under disability, then the Junior Vice Commander.

A third paragraph may require the suspended Commander to turn over all property in his possession to the Division Secretary, if it is your desire that this be done.

Another paragraph should require the person placed in command of the Division to convene the Division Council at once, for the purpose of having that body, after hearing, ratify and make absolute the removal of the Division Commander (this to conform to the new removal clause of the C. R. and R.) and for the further purpose of selecting a brother to fill permanently the vacancy in office caused by the removal. Of course, if there are some other strong reasons (unknown to me) which move you to the belief that an encampment of the Division should be called, then this paragraph may, instead, require the temporary Commander to call such a meeting. In this connection I would note subdivision (a) of Section 1 of Article III of Chapter II, C. R. and R.; however, if the time for the regular Annual Encampment of the Division is due and past and no provision for its convention has been made, I think you could properly order *such* an encampment to be called without reference to the consent of the Division Council.

W. M. COFFIN,

National Counselor, Sons of Veterans. U. S. A.

May 22, 1915.

NOTE.—The situation which developed in this case led to the proposal of the constitutional amendment, published in Par. XII, General Orders No. 8, August, 1915.

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#### OPINION XIII.

*Discipline Proceedings* had in S. F. Dupont Camp No. 168, Brooklyn, N. Y., against one *Adolf Hocfting*, a member of that camp, resulted on April 28, 1915, in the camp passing sentence

of expulsion; hence, the papers in the case were forwarded to the Commander-in-Chief for approval.

The proceedings appeared to have been regular. A letter sent by the accused to the trial board amounted virtually to a plea of guilty. The proceedings were therefore approved, the sentence confirmed, and an order of expulsion issued. See Par. IV, General Orders No. 6, June, 1915.

W. M. COFFIN,

*National Counselor, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.*  
May 31, 1915.

#### OPINION XIV.

##### *Eligibility to Membership.*

*The Question:* Is the descendant of a "Contract Surgeon" eligible to membership in this Order?

*Ruling:* In Decision XI of Com.-in-Chief Hall (12th Enc. Pro., p. 26), the holding seems to be to the effect that a son of a contract surgeon is *not* eligible to membership. But, even if that decision is to be so construed, the basis of its judgment lies in the fact that the contract surgeon was never mustered into or honorably discharged from the service of the United States Army. See, also, Opinion G, (15th Enc., p. 106). The real test in every case is whether or not the soldier-ancestor was ever mustered into the service of the United States during the Civil War, or was ever considered as having been in such service under conditions specified in Opinion V (23 Enc., 111), or is the possessor of an honorable discharge from that service within the meaning of the eligibility clause of the C. & L.

W. M. COFFIN,

*National Counselor, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.*  
August 11, 1915.

#### REPORT OF NATIONAL CHAPLAIN.

*To the Officers and Members of the Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.*

##### *Greetings:*

Since my appointment I have tried to discharge my duties to the best of my ability. I have enjoyed knowing the men. And I have found a fine spirit from east to west. I wish to thank those who have helped make this work a pleasure.

In these months I have tried to magnify my office. A number of times I have used space in The Banner to call attention to matters relating to my office. Twice I have written each Division Chaplain. I have had occasion to give some addresses and to share some efforts to advance our work.

Herewith I present a summary of the reports of the Division Chaplains. By reference to the tables (Table III) it will be seen that our totals are better than last year. Partly that is accounted for by a larger number of camps reporting.



	How many addresses delivered by S. of V.?	Brothers attending Memorial Day services.	Camps observing Defenders' Day.	Camps furnishing firing squad.	Number of Camps reporting.	Camps not reporting.	per cent of Camps reporting.
0	13	185	9	6	11	0	100
9	9	326	5	2	21	3	87 1-2
1	5	206	5	7	11	4	74
4	34	513	15	14	25	14	70
9	247	3839	65	103	131	74	64
1	1	35	1	1	2	8	20
5	25	475	10	7	32	24	55 5-7
6	142	2533	61	53	120	57	68
4	83	989	22	16	39	62	38 3-5
6	2	90	0	0	7	0	100
6	23	853	17	9	42	5	89
8	5	125	3	6	9	...	...
9	0	94	1	1	5	1	83
2	27	324	3	6	18	26	41
7	144	2310	66	37	148	7	95 1-2
0	18	325	5	5	21	6	80
5	40	461	27	10	27	0	100
6	4	25	...	1	...	...	...
0	68	518	11	13	39	12	76
5	51	611	20	5	35	3	92
6	10	128	2	8	7	12	31
6	12	125	6	5	11	13	46
7	8	152	3	4	9	4	69
1	971	15232	357	319	772	333	

Table No. 1.

Name of Division.	Name of Chaplain sending the report.	Address of Chaplain.	Date the report was received.	Number of Brothers belonging to Camp.	Number of Brothers in line Memorial Day.	Number of Brothers Armed and in line.	Number of Brothers Unformed in line.	How many addresses delivered by S. of V.?	Brothers attending Memorial Day services.	Camps observing Defenders' Day.	Camps furnishing firing squad.	Number of Camps reporting.	Camps not reporting.	Per cent of Camps reporting.
Alabama and Tennessee.	John M. Anderson.....	St. Cloud, Florida.....	June 21	222	173	12	0	13	185	9	6	11	0	100
Vermont .....	N. W. Lyon.....	Rochester, Vermont .....	July 5	662	408	27	99	9	326	5	2	21	3	87 1-2
Rhode Island .....	G. W. Manning.....	Phoenix, Rhode Island.....	July 9	359	264	94	191	5	206	5	7	11	4	74
New Jersey .....	Geo. W. Dickel.....	Pennsgrove, New Jersey.....	July 17	1896	748	345	334	31	513	15	14	25	14	70
Pennsylvania .....	Roy F. Witman.....	Minersville, Pennsylvania...	July 20	10659	6628	2640	3219	247	3839	65	103	131	74	64
Nebraska .....	John McAfee .....	Fullerton, Nebraska .....	July 21	51	28	6	1	1	35	1	1	2	8	20
Wisconsin .....	F. L. Roberts .....	Eau Claire, Wisconsin .....	July 27	1106	1014	140	175	25	475	10	7	32	24	55 5-7
New York .....	T. I. B. Walker.....	Jacksonville, New York.....	July 28	5564	3148	633	1226	142	2533	61	53	120	57	68
Ohio .....	Paul W. Koller.....	Mansfield, Ohio .....	July 28	2302	1458	344	384	83	989	22	16	39	62	38 3-5
Kentucky .....	F. M. Wood.....	Paris, Kentucky .....	July 29	154	115	4	26	2	90	0	0	7	0	100
Maine .....	T. W. Prince.....	Mechanic Falls, Maine.....	July 30	1842	1155	170	556	23	853	17	9	42	5	89
Iowa .....	J. H. Fenton.....	Cedar Rapids, Iowa.....	July 30	253	187	33	18	5	125	3	6	9	1	83
Colorado and Wyoming.	Frank Coats .....	La Junta, Colorado.....	July 31	158	82	9	9	0	94	1	1	5	1	83
Kansas .....	Jas. P. Blackledge.....	Garnett, Kansas .....	Aug. 2	702	464	43	32	27	324	3	6	18	26	41
Massachusetts .....	Benjamin W. Rust.....	Newburyport, Massachusetts	Aug. 3	6921	4642	775	3527	144	2310	66	37	143	7	95 1-2
Indiana .....	E. S. Shumaker.....	Indianapolis, Indiana .....	Aug. 4	855	491	42	49	18	325	5	5	21	6	80
Michigan .....	W. B. Hartzog.....	Tecumseh, Michigan .....	Aug. 5	1017	591	28	45	40	461	27	10	27	0	100
Washington .....	Clark A. Thomas.....	Spokane, Washington .....	Aug. 10	256	43	16	16	4	25	1	1	1	1	100
Illinois .....	Wm. J. Eyles.....	Tampico, Illinois .....	Aug. 11	2152	880	101	160	68	518	11	13	39	12	76
Connecticut .....	George W. C. Hill.....	New Britain, Connecticut...	Aug. 12	2071	1087	63	265	51	611	20	5	35	3	92
California and Pacific...	George E. Atkinson.....	Campbell, California .....	Aug. 19	374	166	76	76	10	128	2	8	7	12	31
Missouri .....	C. W. A. Spies.....	St. Louis, Missouri.....	Aug. 22	478	216	27	76	12	125	6	5	11	13	46
Minnesota .....	J. L. Ketter.....	Detroit, Minnesota .....	Aug. 22	380	237	103	87	8	152	3	4	9	4	69
				40534	24232	5731	10561	971	15232	357	319	772	333	



Some things have impressed me very much as I have studied these reports. The first one is the opportunity offered in the Memorial Day addresses. There were 971 addresses given. I believe this could be doubled. I wish to repeat the suggestion of Past Commander Cooper that our organization take some steps to furnish speakers for all patriotic occasions. I find that in many cases the men go into the schools with the G. A. R. and speak to the children of patriotism. We have a message. We ought to see that every opportunity to tell it is used.

I am greatly impressed with the figures that tell the care given to soldier graves. Almost 120,000 graves were so cared for. From 117,000 of them waved the union flag. It impresses me as a great thing to cover the nation on this Memorial Day with the flag. I congratulate our order on its fine showing.

Some of the states have deserved commendation for promptness and completeness in their reports. Alabama heads the list. The report reached me June 21st. It showed 100% of the camps reporting. Kentucky and Michigan also have a 100% report. I desire to commend Michigan and the Vice Commander because this was gotten by working for it. This is a demonstration as to what can be done when men go after it hard enough. Vermont, Maine, Colorado-Wyoming, Massachusetts, Indiana and Connecticut have a large percentage of camps reporting.

Something should be done with the unbusiness-like way in which many camps attend to the reports. About one-third do not report at all. Many of the reports are delayed. Minnesota comes just an hour before this is mailed. Repeated letters to the Chaplains and final appeals to the Commanders have been necessary. And even then Montana, New Hampshire, Maryland and Idaho are not yet reported. Besides this the letters from Division Chaplains reveal a situation that makes a man feel something should be done to get business-like attention to an important matter. If a camp has not enough life to do this like a "live" camp let us decently bury it at once.

Several times I have had men ask that our work be made more definite. I suppose it is easier to talk theory than to practice it. But some facts indicate we are moving in that direction. To care for graves, place flags, give patriotic addresses, observe Defender's Day, visit schools are very definite ways for advancing the cause we champion. It would be desirable if we could exchange through The Banner our methods of getting practical results.

I desire also to commend the work of the Ladies Auxiliary. Several times this year I have come into touch with it and always with pleasure.

The year has been one of pleasant work and delightful fellowship. I thank you, gentlemen, for the privilege that has given it to me.

Table No. 2.

Division.	Deaths in 12 months.		Number of funerals attended by Camp in a body.		Number of burials conducted by Camps.		Number of Camps using Memorial service.		Number cemeteries covered.	Number flags placed on graves of veterans.	Number graves of veterans given attention.
			G. A. R.	S. V.	G. A. R.	S. V.	"A"	"B"			
	G. A. R.	S. V.	G. A. R.	S. V.	"A"	"B"					
Ala. and Tenn.....	2	63	2	17	1	2	1	19	3513	3362	
Vermont .....	6	11	5	2	1	5	3	128	2790	2256	
Rhode Island .....	9	12	7	5	2	2	0	55	3694	3319	
New Jersey .....	10	60	10	6	2	5	6	.....	.....	.....	
Pennsylvania .....	138	308	99	124	72	59	34	764	36736	42626	
Nebraska .....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Wisconsin .....	6	39	5	6	3	1	7	86	5547	5530	
New York .....	54	217	43	24	24	29	14	522	24262	25102	
Ohio .....	13	57	9	5	4	4	6	147	13799	12963	
Kentucky .....	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	8	77	135	
Maine .....	17	38	12	8	3	5	6	.....	.....	.....	
Iowa .....	1	18	1	.....	.....	.....	1	3	410	410	
Col. and Wyo.....	0	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	
Kansas .....	0	10	0	1	0	7	3	.....	.....	.....	
Massachusetts ..	48	144	33	11	19	25	12	.....	.....	.....	
Indiana .....	8	20	6	1	5	6	3	91	6249	3742	
Michigan .....	5	18	3	4	3	2	6	90	8957	8957	
Washington .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	
Illinois .....	10	47	6	4	1	5	5	156	5313	5576	
Connecticut .....	13	32	3	.....	2	2	2	.....	.....	.....	
Cal. and Pac.....	4	16	4	0	4	0	6	.....	.....	.....	
Missouri .....	5	29	4	6	3	.....	.....	43	5390	4800	
Minnesota .....	3	27	3	6	1	1	1	14	257	152	
	353	1130	245	230	158	161	117	2127	117091	118930	



## COMPARISON OF YEAR'S REPORTS.

	1915	1914
Number belonging to camps.....	40,534	36,727
Number observing Memorial Day.....	24,232	21,147
Number armed and in line.....	5,731	5,616
Number uniformed and in line.....	10,561	10,462
Addresses delivered .....	971	963
Attending Memorial Services.....	15,232	15,049
Camps observing Defenders' Day.....	366	354
Firing squads .....	319	314
Camps reporting .....	772	761
Camps not reporting.....	333	331
Deaths .....	353	350
G. A. R. Funerals .....	1,130	1,103
S. of V. Funerals.....	245	242
Cemeteries covered .....	2,127	
Flags on graves .....	117,094	
Graves given attention.....	118,930	

(Note the gain in every item).

ERNEST L. BENSON,  
*National Chaplain.*

## REPORT OF NATIONAL PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR.

*To the Officers and Members of the Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.*

*Greetings:*

With deep gratitude, we lift our hearts in praise and love, to our Heavenly Father, for the manifold blessings with which He has crowned our lives,—individual and National,—during the year that has been buried in the grave of time since our last annual encampment.

We have been wonderfully led as a people and as a Nation. We are at peace with the world,—though there may be a little ripple on the surface of amity, in our relations with one or two members of the family of nations.

We believe our Nation represents a force through which God,—Omnipotent and Omniscient,—will work out His wise plans for the world.

Tribute to-day,—and from the heart,—is ours, to the clear-headed, large-hearted, wise-visioned publicist, our President, Woodrow Wilson, whose courage in the face of sophistry, and such criticism as few men have ever received, is a splendid example of exalted American patriotism, which not only has an unlimited faith in God as the arbiter of nations, but has faith in the unity of the people to support a policy in the affairs that are really world problems, with calmness of judgment precedent to final decision.

As we review, in the thought of patriotic inspiration and instruction, the commanding events in our national history and experience during the year, we are grateful to God for His leadings.

"When gratitude o'erflows the swelling heart,  
And breathes with free and uncorrupted praise  
For benefits received, propitious Heaven  
Takes such acknowledgment as fragrant incense,  
And doubles all his blessings."

The completion of a year of service as National Patriotic Instructor, also marks the beginning for myself of thirty-two years as a member of our organization.

Before reviewing the very small service I have rendered the cause during the year, I wish to express my appreciation of the privilege of membership in the official family of that splendid type of manly, American citizenship, our loved Commander-in-Chief, Charles F. Sherman, whose one-hearted devotion to the interests of the Order has been a source of constant inspiration—an influence that will abide long, long after he has entered, for rest

"The low green tent,  
Whose curtains never outward swing."

I have not been able, especially in the last two months, to do the things that might have been done,—that ought to have been done, for the promotion of this, a most important department of our endeavor. The imperative demands of new business relations,—that could not be set aside with justice to my family or myself, contributed to a lessening of my service in this direction, though there has not been a lessening of my interest, or of my belief that more attention ought to be given by the organization to the department of Patriotic Instruction than ever before in the more than three decades of our history.

There never has been a time, since the close of the Civil War, when the need of proper patriotic instruction has been more urgent than this present hour.

We need a clearer vision of privilege as well as duty. We have a magnificent heritage. Our Nation occupies a strategic position in the world of civilization and because of this position obligations are imposed that we cannot lightly disregard.

It is conceded that in the very front line of the patriotic forces of our nation is that organization, whose ranks are rapidly thinning—the Grand Army of the Republic, our Fathers. For nearly half a century the "men of the little bronze button," makers (with their departed comrades) of the Heroic Age of American History, have moved with stately tread, in loving comradeship and fraternity, a blessing and an inspiration to the nation.

The sands in the glass of time are nearly run, and soon "taps" will be sounded for "the last survivor." These men will ever be a precious memory and a source of constant inspiration to us.

Who will take up their work of education in patriotism? This is a question of grave moment and presents a vital problem. Who better to take up this work, than we, their sons,—

"Clear through from sea to sea,  
Who believe and understand  
The worth of being free."



Inferentially, then, a tremendous responsibility rests upon the Sons.

When I assumed the responsibilities of the position of National Patriotic Instructor, I was told that one of the chief duties of service would be to send a message "to the boys," each month, through the columns of *The Banner*. I have endeavored to comply with this requirement, and each number of *The Banner*, with one exception, since the Detroit Encampment has had a contribution from my pen. One "message" reached Dwight late, and was used the following month.

In these contributions I have urged from time to time the necessity of clear-visioned instructors and instruction, and have made some suggestions that to my mind were worth while. Just how far these suggestions have met with approval and adoption, I will never know, nor is it at all necessary that I should. If they have helped one instructor, one camp, or even one member to do better constructive work for American patriotism I am satisfied. The endeavors are ours,—the results are from other sources of power.

Perhaps the most distinctive feature of the year's work was the meeting in Lackawanna, N. Y., a suburb of Buffalo, early in February, 1915, of the National Patriotic Instructors of the great organizations officially related to the Grand Army of the Republic.

Five of the six organizations were represented—The Grand Army of the Republic, the Woman's Relief Corps, the Ladies of the G. A. R., the Sons of Veterans, and the Daughters of Veterans. It was a great disappointment to us that our own Auxiliary was not represented, though we had a fine letter of approval and promise of co-operation from Miss Mayme Dwyer, the efficient National Patriotic Instructor of this helpful society.

National Patriotic Instructor Brooks of the G. A. R. was unable, on account of illness in his family, to be present, but the National Commander sent the Q. M. of the National organization, Comrade Stowitts, as his personal representative and with sentiments of his cordial approval of the objects of the gathering.

Your representative was chosen president of the Conference, and Mrs. Sarah J. Ehrman, of Lackawanna, the host of the Conference (and, by the way the wife of an active Son) representing the Ladies of the G. A. R., was secretary. Mayor Widmer welcomed us to the city, and we were the favored recipients of numerous social courtesies during our three days' stay. A full report, which has found its way into many papers, was given in *The Banner* for March, and need not be repeated here. I believe it was an epochal conference, and that the suggestions of a common work that were made will prove to be of value in the patriotic endeavors of the future.

It is a pleasure to note that Commander-in-Chief Sherman was earnestly in favor of such a conference, and made it possible for the writer of this report to attend.

We adopted recommendations along four lines of effort—others to follow: A common salute to the flag, to be used by all organizations. Some are using it to-day, others will come into line. The words are the familiar "I pledge allegiance to my

New York had a celebration of "Star Spangled Banner Day," with 5000 persons present; the Camps presented 332 flags during the year, and the Division Patriotic Instructor gave much of his time to the work. He recommended that "The Commander-in-Chief be empowered to devise and furnish to Camps, at cost, a standard record card to be used in connection with a card index of the location of soldiers graves and the military record of each soldier in the locality."

This resourceful Instructor, Brother Cazeau, also suggests that the blanks embody the following:

1. Number of graves decorated.
2. Number of cemeteries visited.
3. Number of neglected cemeteries in the vicinity.
4. Number of school boys assisting.
5. How the graves decorated—Growing flowers, cut flowers, wreaths.
6. An exact record kept of all soldiers graves.

Believing that these recommendations of the Division Patriotic Instructor of New York are not only wise but feasible, and that the replies, if we get them, will be of value, I recommend their adoption.

I cannot add to the suggestions I have made through the columns of The Banner from time to time. The "open doors" are many. May we enter in and do something worth while.

Interest in supplying flags to needy schools in the South, is not particularly manifest. In an article in The Banner, I asked all Camps interested to make a contribution for a flag to be sent to some school in the South where the need is great, and from which there would be fine appreciation. As I recalled the splendid work of other organizations, notably the W. R. C., in this direction, I anticipated a cordial response. I received just one letter from the membership of our Order, and that was from Ray W. Chatterton, Patriotic Instructor of Edward Schofield Camp, of Basco, Wisconsin, sending a check on behalf of the Camp.

I did receive a good letter from Miss Mayme Dwyer, National Patriotic Instructor of the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, from which I quote: "Was reading in The Banner your appeal for flags for Southern school houses. Can I help you, in that work? I have been very successful with my flag fund, and would be pleased if I could send five or ten flags or the price of same to you." Comment seems unnecessary.

It is a pleasure, and I deem it a duty, to commend the National Association of Patriotic Instructors,—a veritable clearing-house for patriotic instruction and education. The President, Hon. John B. Lewis, is an enthusiastic and aggressive exemplar of exalted patriotism, and gives of his time and large means freely, even unstintedly—to the cause of American patriotism. The Association is nation-wide in its membership, as it is in the scope of its endeavors; its literature is timely in subject matter and exceedingly well written, and the suggestions that from time to time come from the office of the Association in Boston, and from the active Secretary, Mrs. E. R. Berry, are of a helpful character.



Annual Consolidated Report of National Patriotic Instructor for the year ending December 31, 1914.		Date report received.	Number of Camps.	1. Schools have flags.	2. Flag Salute — Daily or Occasionally.	3. Observe Patriotic Days — Birthdays Washington, Lincoln, Grant, McKinley.	4. School teachers instructed.
Divisions Making this Report.							
Alabama and Tennessee...	June 20		no—but doubled	yes—O	yes	yes	yes
California and Pacific....	Aug. 16		yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Colorado and Wyoming....							
Connecticut .....	April 16		yes	50 p. c.	yes	yes	yes
Idaho .....	Jan. 16		yes	part—D	yes W. L.	som exti	som
Illinois .....	June 7		yes	yes—O	yes W. L.	yes	som
Indiana .....	Sept. 22		yes	both	yes	yes	fal
Iowa .....	Aug. 23		nearly all state law	some—O	yes W. L.	yes	ye:
Kansas .....	Aug. 23		70 p. c.	yes	yes W. L.	gener	
Kentucky .....	July 30		yes	yes	yes W. L.	yes	ye:
Maine .....	June 6		yes	25 p. c.—D 75 p. c.—O	yes W. L.	yes	ye:
Maryland .....	Aug. 15		60 p. c.	45 p. c.—O	yes—all	yes	ye:
Massachusetts .....	July 17		yes	yes	yes	yes	ye:
Michigan .....	Aug. 4		nearly all	50 p. c.	yes	yes	ye:
Minnesota .....							
Missouri .....	May 10		all except 2	in some	yes W. L. G.	som	
Montana .....							
Nebraska .....							
New Hampshire .....	April 1		all	nearly all	yes	yes	ye
New Jersey .....	Mar. 12		yes	yes mostly	yes	yes	ye
New York .....	July		state law	yes state law	yes W. L.	yes	ye
Ohio .....	Aug. 7		yes	yes divided	yes W. L. M.	yes	ye
Oregon .....							
Pennsylvania .....	Aug.		yes	yes 51-D 21-O 13no	yes	yes	ye
Rhode Island .....	Mar. 10		yes	yes—D	yes	yes	ye
Vermont .....			yes	yes—D	yes W. L.	ye majo	ye
Washington .....	Aug. 10		yes most	yes state law	yes W. L.	yes	ye
Wisconsin .....	Sept. 14		all	D & O	yes	yes	ye



Divisions Making this Report.

[illegible]



If every Patriotic Instructor in our Order, whether Division or Camp Instructor, would join the Association, and seek its co-operation in the work, great good would result.

This Association will meet in Washington during Encampment week, and will welcome all members of our order and all friends of patriotic educational work. President Lewis is a Past National Patriotic Instructor of the G. A. R., and Mrs. Berry, the Secretary, is a prominent member of the W. R. C.

I trust that my successor will accomplish more than I have accomplished, in a work that is second to no other that is the privilege of Sons of Noble Men,—the men who saved our Nation.

The consolidated report is herewith submitted.

Fraternally,

GEORGE W. PENNIMAN,

National Patriotic Instructor.

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#### REPORT OF CHIEF-OF-STAFF.

Altoona, Pa., September, 1915.

*To the Officers and Members of the Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.*

*Greetings:*

I herewith submit my report as Chief-of-Staff in conformity with the laws and usages of the Association. As was intimated to you in my report of last year the Annual Report of the Chief-of-Staff is merely a repetition of the former reports made. No new substance can be introduced for the reason that routine matters have engaged the attention of this office. The statistics herewith attached, which is the report of the Assistant Adjutant General and which is made a part hereof tells the story of the history and growth of this Department. Without making any extended comment upon the Department of the Reserve as was heretofore done I shall take up the various Departments in their order according to size and number.

The Pennsylvania Brigade for the first time in its history has shown a slight loss, which while we regret it exceedingly, we do not believe is significant. The Division Encampment was this year unfortunately situated at one of the extreme ends of the State, and four of the Regimental Associations were unable to participate. The organization was consequently without the stimulus of the Spring recruiting for the Encampment, and this we believe was the principal reason for failure to show gain.

In the Department of Ohio, Lieutenant Colonel Park S. Yengling has continued his good work and shows a substantial gain numerically, and a considerably more material gain in efficiency, coming up to second place of rating. Too much cannot be said for his untiring efforts for the extension and betterment of the service.

The Department of New York shows a slight gain notwithstanding the handicap of the change of administration during the year. In Lieutenant Colonel Murray's resignation we lost

an able officer, who promised much. Fortunately he is not lost to the service for he resigned the command of the Department to take command of his local Company, which seemed to him to need his service most; and his action being the desire of his father we had no alternative to accepting his resignation, regretting his loss but thinking none the less of him. In Lieutenant Colonel Marshall we were doubly fortunate to find a worthy successor, and we look for continued progress in that state with confidence.

The Department of New Jersey shows the effects of the unremitting work of its able Commanding Officer, Captain John L. Reeger, in the largest percentage gain numerically and in again taking first place in the efficiency ratings notwithstanding the fact that the independent commands still flourish unchecked.

In the Departments of Rhode Island and the Pacific we are sadly disappointed, and our optimistic opinion of last year failed to justify itself.

The Department of Rhode Island added one new command during the year, and therefore shows a gain, but the glowing promises of Captain Parker have evaporated to such an extent that we failed to get any reports from his Department for May 1st.

In the Department of the Pacific things have gone from bad to worse, if possible, and we only await the outcome of our endeavors to find some officer who will accept the command to replace Colonel Scott, who has resigned, and ascertain if there be any real reason for the existence of the Department on our records for the character of the work that has come to us is such as to raise very grave doubts on this question.

To the list of States in which we have separate companies we have added Connecticut.

It will be noticed that we have referred above to the matter of independent companies still flourishing unchecked. Referring to our statement on this question in the last Annual Report we desire to reiterate everything there said most emphatically, and to include the question of the unchecked wearing of nondescript uniforms of all kinds by camps, even to the wearing of Major General's shoulder straps by a Camp Commander. Said performances can but bring the whole organization into disrepute in the eyes of the public, and those for whose good opinion we care most.

We recommend that Section 1, Chapter 5 of the Constitution be amended to read: The Sons of Veterans shall constitute the Military Department of the Order and shall include all military bodies of the Order with the exception that Camps may maintain a firing squad of not exceeding twelve men and one sergeant, uniformed in accordance with Article 16, Chapter 6, provided they do not parade on any other occasion than the funeral of a veteran, or on Memorial Day.

And Further, since a law without penalty, or one the enforcement of which is not the specific duty of some individual, has proved ineffective we recommend the addition of a new section to read:

It shall be the duty of Division Commanders to enforce observance of the provisions of Section 1, and upon presentation



of proper proof of violations thereof to recommend the revocation of the charter of the offending Camp.

And, since the matter of uniforms worn by camps is hardly second in importance to proper protection and engagements of the Reserve organization we recommend the addition and a similar penalty to Article 16, Chapter 6.

On the whole the year has been disappointing in its results, a by no means negligible factor being our inability to procure ordnance stores from the War Department owing to the prohibition of the sale of any arms during the continuance of the European war. It is beyond our ability to comprehend in what way the sale of the large calibre, black powder rifle of pattern thirty years old, obsolete for twenty years, could effect the results of that great war, or our national neutrality, and we think that there should be within our organization men big enough to command the attention of the administration and secure the restoration of purchasing privileges to an organization such as ours, but we have not found them. To this fact I would recommend your attention.

One other similar correlative subject, I would raise the question, without making any recommendation: In view of our general recognition of our national unpreparedness and general lack of Military instruction is not the time ripe for an attempt by the big men of our Order and others to secure some little official recognition of the Reserve.

In my report last year I submitted but one recommendation; which referred to independent companies of Reserve or Firing Squads which recommendation suggested that the same be referred to the Committee on Constitution and Law or the Committee on Military Affairs for action and report to this body. This recommendation was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and the Chief-of-Staff and their report will be made to the sitting encampment and your most profound consideration and thought is earnestly solicited.

#### FINANCES.

At its last session the Council-in-Chief made an appropriation of Three hundred and fifty (\$350) dollars to this Department, plus an additional one of One hundred and eighty (\$180) dollars, to be used by the Acting Adjutant General for clerical purposes, making a total appropriation for this Department of the sum of Five hundred and thirty (\$530) dollars. Of this amount the sum of Four hundred and fifty-five and 80/100 (\$455.80) dollars has been used and as has been our fortunate experience heretofore all of said appropriation was not consumed. I must, of course, remind you again that as the Department grows so will the expense grow and this figure is one which in time will merit your attention.

I must again call the attention of the Commandery-in-Chief to the report of the Adjutant General which is attached and made part hereof. I desire not only to call your attention to this report but to commend him for his most efficient service. I know of no one individually in the Order who is so thoroughly impressed with the importance of his position and so imbued with the thought that with the Reserve a successful body the Order at large cannot help but grow enormously. I

have endeavored to bring the attention of his work heretofore to this body, but his work has been so consistent and good that I cannot help but reiterate all that I have heretofore said.

Again do I desire to return my thanks to all of the officers of the Commandery-in-Chief, as well as to the membership at large. At all times have I had the most courteous treatment and consideration and with the few little things to which I have heretofore called your attention eliminated, this Department would be most harmonious.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

EDWIN M. AMIES,

*Chief-of-Staff.*

### ACTING ADJUTANT GENERAL'S REPORT.

SONS OF VETERANS RESERVE

Adjutant-General's Office

Gettysburg, Pa., September 1, 1915.

*The Chief-of-Staff,*

*Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.*

*Altoona, Pa.*

Sir:—

I have the honor to submit the following report of the Reserve, as of August 1st and the transactions of this office to date.

Very respectfully,

HENRY STEWART,

*Colonel, S. V. R., The Acting Adjutant General.*

#### PENNSYLVANIA BRIGADE.

Colonel Henry Stewart, Commanding, Gettysburg, Pa.

	Officers Men
Brigade Staff .....	6
Hospital Corps, Philadelphia.....	11

#### FOURTH REGIMENT.

Colonel F. A. McKelvey, 137 Zara St., S. S. Pittsburg.

Surgeon, Major G. W. Miller, 222 W. Newton Ave., Greensburg.

Adjutant, Captain J. H. Wentzel, 657 6th St., Pitcairn.

Field and Staff.....	10.	6
Hospital Corps, Greensburg.....		16

First Battalion. Major Gustav Schaaf, 645 Thompson Ave., Donora.

D Co., Donora, Lieut. A. H. Kelley, 970 McKean Ave....	2	24
G Co., Sharpsburg, Capt. H. C. Lea, Aspinwall.....	3	61
H Co., Carnegie, Capt. E. J. Sexton, P. O. Box 284.....	3	41
K Co., New Castle, Capt. R. M. Campbell, Court House.	3	45
M Co., Belle-Vernon, Lieut. C. M. Harvey, Box 43.....	1	28

Second Battalion. Major S. E. Ferry, 710 Linden Ave., E. Pittsburg.

A Co., Greensburg, Capt. L. P. Wentzel, 139 Alexander Ave.....	3	50
B Co., Braddock, Lieut. L. H. Gibson, 432 Correy Ave..	2	27
C Co., Turtle Creek, Capt. G. W. Boord, (Unity Station)	2	80



## ENCAMPMENT

77

F Co., Irwin, Capt. E. I. Davis, Front St.....	3	42
I Co., McKeesport, Capt. E. K. Collingwood, 554 5th Ave. 3		43
L Co., Freeport, Capt. C. H. McKee.....	3	34
Total .....	38	497

## THIRD REGIMENT.

Colonel Thos. M. Morgan, 3rd and Court St., Williamsport.

Adjutant, Capt. W. L. Bird, 1545 Scott St., Williamsport.

Field and Staff.....	4	4
Hospital Corps, Williamsport.....		11
Band, Shamokin Dam.....		22
A Co., Shamokin, Capt. Oswald Kramer, 926 Walnut St. 3		39
B Co., Renovo, Capt. F. E. Brown, 2151 Delaware St... 2		40
D Co., Shamokin, Capt. C. H. Linderman, 319 S. Market Street .....	3	41
E Co., Williamsport, Capt. G. W. Strauss, 1544 Scott St. 3		40
F Co., Minersville, Capt. W. E. Levan, (Shamokin)... 3		37
G Co., Milton, Capt. E. I. Crawford, 255 Filbert St.... 2		34
H Co., Watsonstown, Capt. Aaron Batdorf.....	3	43
I Co., Mahony City, Capt. Geo. Yarnall, 708 E. Mahanoy Avenue .....	2	30
M Co., Sunbury, Capt. C. W. Bobb, 448 Race St.....	3	40
N Co., Montgomery, Capt. J. P. Jamison.....	3	43
Total .....	31	424

## SECOND REGIMENT.

Colonel S. S. Horn, Box 51, Easton.

Surgeon, Major E. W. Richards, Berwick and Center Sts., Easton.

Adjutant, Capt. C. L. Buck, 612 Mauch Chunk St., Easton.

Field and Staff .....	6	5
Hospital Corps, Easton.....		16
Band, Allentown, Lieut. C. W. Kehm, R. D. No. 2.... 1		49
A Co., Easton, Capt. W. P. Horn, 804 Northampton St. 3		54
B Co., S. Bethlehem, Capt. H. E. R. Bohler, Norway Place .....	3	44
C Co., Mauch Chunk, Capt. H. S. Witemeyer, 117 Center Street .....	3	43
D Co., Bangor, Capt. A. McFall, N. 5th St.....	3	37
E Co., Allentown, Capt. Wm. Carl, 515½ N. 8th St.... 3		57
F Co., Wilkes-Barre, Capt. L. R. Holcomb, 9 Knox St.. 3		56
H Co., Stroudsburg, Lieut. A. Werkheiser, 424 N. 5th St. 1		32
I Co., Scranton, Capt. Jno. L. Vliet, 426 Larch St.... 3		47
K Co., Bethlehem, Capt. E. U. Daily, 206 N. High St.. 3		38
L Co., Montrose, Lieut. Van Scoten, 6 High St.....	2	33
M Co., Siegfrieds, Capt. W. C. Myers, 1313 Newport Ave. 3		44
Total .....	37	555

## EIGHTH REGIMENT.

Lieut. Col. Geo. G. Palmer, Rear 722 Sherman St., Johnstown.

Adjutant, Lieut. Thos. R. Parfitt, Pular St., Johnstown.

Field and Staff.....	2	3
Field Music, Altoona.....		11

A Co., Stoyestown, Lieut. Chas. Shank.....	2	30
C Co., South Fork, Capt. W. A. Chappell.....	2	29
D Co., Somerset, Capt. D. W. Saylor (Hooversville)....	3	52
E Co., Bellwood, Lieut. W. E. Shaner, Box 136.....	1	32
F Co., Punxsutawney, Capt. E. M. Neill.....	2	28
H Co., Altoona, Capt. W. H. Stambaugh, 1521 4th Ave..	2	44
I Co., Johnstown, Capt. Jno. P. Adams, 629 Sherman St.	3	50
Total .....	17	279

## PHILADELPHIA BATTALION.

Major G. W. Klosterman, 122 N. 10th St., Philadelphia.

Adjutant, Lieut. Geo. Seipp, 124 E. London St.

Field and Staff.....	2	2
Hospital Corps, Philadelphia.....		10
A Co., Philadelphia, Capt. W. H. Dougherty, 2300 N. 11th Street .....	3	39
C Co., Philadelphia, Capt. Wm. Magrady, 915 Indiana Avenue .....	3	42
D Co., Philadelphia, Capt. C. L. Bucknum, 4254 West- minister St. ....	2	40
E Co., Philadelphia, Capt. G. H. Gretz, 1224 W. Cambria Street .....	3	45
F Co., Philadelphia, Capt. E. Goodwin, 5900 N. Camac St.	3	50
Total .....	16	228

## SIXTH BATTALION.

Major Paul Smyser, York.

Adjutant, Lieut. J. C. Hoffman, 1383 W. Poplar St., York.

Field and Staff.....	2	
Band, Reading .....		24
A Co., York, Capt. H. F. Nickel, 1151 N. George St....	2	37
B Co., Gettysburg, Lieut. R. Coulson, 123 Buford Ave..	1	23
C Co., Middletown.....		51
D Co., Reading, Capt. Wm. Jones, Jr., 1500 N 10th St..	3	38
E Co., Hanover, Capt. C. Forney, 307 Centennial Ave...	3	43
F Co., New Oxford, Lieut. M. L. Staub.....	1	15
Total .....	12	231

## FIFTH BATTALION.

Major J. H. Hilton, 2329 N. Fawn St., Philadelphia.

Field and Staff.....	1	2
D Co., Philadelphia, Capt. J. W. Grinage, 23 Holland St.	2	41
E Co., West Chester, Lieut. Edw. Irons, 11 S. Franklin Street .....	1	20
F Co., Philadelphia, Capt. A. L. Boykin, 59 N. Ruby St.	3	54
G Co., Allegheny, Capt. Edw. Gross, 1220 Wylie Ave., Pittsburg .....	3	48
Total .....	10	174

## FIRST BATTALION.

F Co., Wayne, Capt. Chas. P. Baldwin.....	2	34
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## ENCAMPMENT

79

G Co., Philadelphia, Capt. Jacob Myers, 2741 Garfield Ave., Camden .....	3	40
K Co., Manayunk, Lieut. A. W. Scott, Ripka Ave. and Smick St. ....	2	28
L Co., Philadelphia, Lieut. A. M. Henry, 2114 E. Stella Avenue .....	1	33
M Co., Lansdale.....	—	31
Total .....	8	166

## CHIEF OF CAVALRY AND ARTILLERY.

Major Henry Beyrle, 2153 E. York St., Philadelphia.

## ARTILLERY.

A Bat., Philadelphia, Capt. G. M. Dawson, Taylor and Somerset .....	3	27
B Bat., Philadelphia, Lieut. Edw. Young, 5624 Osage Avenue .....	1	14
C Bat., Greensburg, Lieut. D. F. Smith, 621 Sidney St..	1	26
Total .....	5	67

## CAVALRY.

A Troop, Philadelphia, Capt. R. M. Wright, 2537 N. 5th St. ....	3	41
B Troop, Philadelphia, Capt. J. Meconnahey, 2512 N. Stanley St. ....	3	38
C Troop, Wilkes-Barre, Capt. F. F. Moon, 73 Davis Place	3	59
D Troop, Carbondale, Capt. L. H. Becker, 7 Porter Ave.	2	42
E Troop, Philadelphia, Capt. W. O. Marrin, 825 Livingston St. ....	1	31
F Troop, Orson, Lieut. H. J. Campbell.....	1	31
G Troop, Berwick, Lieut. D. E. Edwards.....	1	19
Total .....	14	261

## SUMMARY—PENNSYLVANIA BRIGADE.

	Officers	Men	Enlisted Men Gain	Men Loss
Brigade Headquarters .....	6	19		3
Fourth Regiment .....	38	497		52
Third Regiment .....	31	424		1
Second Regiment .....	37	555	18	
Eighth Regiment .....	17	279		16
Philadelphia Battalion .....	16	228		23
Sixth Battalion .....	12	231		56
Fifth Battalion .....	10	174	23	
First Battalion .....	8	166	2	
Artillery .....	5	67	26	
Cavalry .....	14	261	23	
	194	2901	92	151

A net loss of 59 men.

## DEPARTMENT OF OHIO.

Lieut. Col. Park F. Yengling, 1581 Dexter Place, Cleveland.

Field and Staff.....	3	
Signal Corps, Akron, Lieut. T. D. Weaver, 56 Aqueduct Street .....	1	17
A Troop, Clarkson, Lieut. C. W. Fraser.....	1	17
Total .....	5	34

## FIRST REGIMENT.

Lieut. Col. Chas. A. Lentz, East Palestine.

Field and Staff.....	8	9
Hospital Corps, Youngstown.....		24
First Battalion. Major S. J. Witherow, 113 Thompson St., E. Liverpool.		
A Co., E. Palestine, Capt. Wm. A. Ward.....	3	40
B Co., Salem, Capt. J. F. Votaw, (Atwater).....	3	40
D Co., Lisbon, Capt. H. S. Roller.....	2	32
F Co., E. Liverpool, Capt. W. A. Green, Station A.....	2	37
K Co., Steubenville, Capt. R. E. Blodgett, 1325 Bellevue Place .....	2	33
M Co., Alliance, Lieut. R. S. Harsh, 1st Nat. Bank.....	2	29
Second Battalion.		
C Co., Coshockton, Lieut. H. C. Bible, 3rd St.....	1	52
E Co., Strasburg, Lieut. R. C. Spidell.....	1	17
G Co., Mogadore, Capt. C. G. Wise.....	3	42
H Co., Urichsville, Lieut. J. S. Wardell.....	1	21
I Co., Newcomerstown, Lieut. R. H. Stitt.....	1	17
L Co., New Philadelphia, Capt. C. W. Espich, 234 S. Broadway .....	2	36
Total .....	31	422

## SECOND REGIMENT.

Lieut. Col. Alva W. Myers, R. D. No. 6, Shelby.

Field and Staff.....	7	3
First Battalion. Major M. H. Bennett, 237 Lemon St., Dayton.		
A Co., Lima, Lieut. Geo. W. Shockey.....	1	25
B Co., Centerburg, Capt. S. R. Best.....	3	38
E Co., Mechanicsburg, Capt. F. W. Hendrix.....	2	31
H Co., Dayton, Capt. H. W. Frederick, 122 S. Euclid Ave. 3	3	36
K Co., Toledo, Lieut. A. K. Myers, 808 Chestnut St.....	1	18
Second Battalion		
C Co., Elyria, Lieut. J. H. Howlett.....	1	31
D Co., Wooster .....		18
F Co., Mansfield, Lieut. F. C. Pfeifer, 25 E. Arch St....	1	18
G Co., New London, Capt. F. W. Swanger.....	2	37
I Co., Shelby, Lieut. W. J. Freese, 46 Raymond St.....	1	32
L Co., Lorain, Lieut. J. J. McGrady, 100 Calif. Ave....	1	16
Total .....	23	303
Department total .....	59	759



## DEPARTMENT OF THE PACIFIC.

Lieut. Col. C. S. Scott, 204 P. O. Building, San Francisco.  
Field and Staff..... 7 6

## CALIFORNIA.

## FIRST BATTALION.

Major B. P. Oakford, 1st Nat. Bank Building, San Francisco.

Field and Staff..... 2  
A Co., San Francisco, Lieut. J. A. Foster, 264 Fair  
Oaks St. .... 1 33  
B Co., San Francisco, Capt. C. W. Tozer, 228 Grant Ave. 3 39  
E Co., San Jose..... 30  
G Co., Oakland, Capt. H. A. Longfellow, 730 20th St... 3 40  
C Co., Stockton, Lieut. D. G. Smith, 934 San Joaquin St. 2 40  
D Co., Hansford..... 25  
F Co., Tulare..... 33  
H Co., Los Angeles, Capt. G. O. Lockwood (Alca)..... 3 37  
I Co., Monrovia, Lieut. S. Gillogly, 129 W. Palm Ave... 2 32  
K Co., Tropico, Lieut. E. D. Johnson, Glendale..... 1 16  
Total ..... 24 325

## DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK.

Lieut. Col. F. J. Marshall, East Aurora.

Field and Staff..... 5 1

## FIRST REGIMENT.

Lieut. Col. H. B. Jones, Horseheads.

Field and Staff..... 5  
First Battalion. Major Wm. L. Webster, 729 E.  
Main St., E. Aurora.  
A Co., Rochester, Capt. A. J. McIntyre, 49 Griffith St... 1 32  
C Co., Watertown, Capt. Geo. C. Smith, 145 Court St... 3 39  
D Co., Batavia, Lieut. W. W. Duncan, 23 East Ave.... 1 20  
H Co., Rochester, Lieut. Z. A. Williams, 44 Main St., E. 1 18  
L Co., Franklinville..... 59  
M Co., Livonia, Lieut. C. G. McMahon, Commercial St. 1 16  
Second Battalion. Major Chas. H. Hopkins, 102  
Sprague St., Rochester.  
B Co., Springville, Lieut. R. J. Cook, 7 Newman St.... 1 17  
E Co., Pine Valley, Lieut. F. L. Murphy, (Elmira).... 3 39  
F Co., Pike, Lieut. F. A. Stone, (R. D., Gainesville).... 1 27  
I Co., Adams, Capt. F. A. Tice..... 3 40  
K Co., Pulteney, Lieut. L. A. Gladue..... 1 21  
N Co., East Aurora, Lieut. L. J. Marshall..... 2 44  
Total ..... 23 372

## SECOND BATTALION.

Major B. H. Bentley, Ilion.

Field and Staff..... 3 2  
A Co., Brooklyn, Lieut. J. J. Knappman, 1047 Jefferson  
Avenue ..... 1 16

B Co., Poughkeepsie, Capt. A. S. Murray, 14 Ham- mersley Place .....	3	47
C Co., Glens Falls, Capt. F. B. Brown, 22 Birch St....	3	39
E Co., Stoatsburg, Lieut. Chas. T. Allen.....	1	15
F Co., Hudson Falls, Capt. E. M. Wilson.....	3	43
Total .....	14	156

## COAST ARTILLERY.

1st Co., New York, Capt. H. W. McNally, 2153 Clinton Avenue .....	3	37
Department total .....	45	566

## DEPARTMENT OF RHODE ISLAND.

Captain G. Clinton Parker, 38½ Arch St., Providence.

Field and Staff.....	3	1
A Co., Woonsocket, Capt. A. E. Young, 371 Front St....	3	29
B Co., Providence, Capt. C. E. Gleason, 32 Sprague St..	2	23
C Co., E. Providence, Lieut. E. W. Congdon, 153 2nd St.	1	23
D Co., Pascoag, Lieut. Fremont Rivers.....	1	16
E Co., Phoenix, Lieut. W. Lawrence, Box 286.....	1	11
F Co., Providence, Lieut. J. B. Taylor, 38 Salem St....	1	17
Total .....	12	130

## DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY.

Capt. J. L. Reeger, 1437 S. Broad St., Trenton.

A Co., Hoboken, Capt. F. H. Reilly, 626 Park Ave.....	2	38
B Co., Trenton, Capt. Ezra T. Beers, 128 Locust St....	3	39
C Co., Camden, Capt. Geo. B. Myers, 1048 S. 1th St....	3	44
D Co., Gloucester, Lieut. W. A. Miller, 316 Essex St....	1	20
A Batt'y, Trenton, Lieut. H. D. Williams, 414 Market St.	3	46
Total .....	12	187

## CONNECTICUT.

A Co., Hartford, Lieut. R. M. Yergason, 902 Main St... 1	17
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## DELAWARE.

C Co., Wilmington, Capt. J. L. Hubert, 1208 Lombard St. 3	50
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## ILLINOIS.

A Co., Chicago, Capt. B. L. Turner, 6050 St. Lawrence Avenue .....	2	35
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## MASSACHUSETTS.

A Co., Quincy, Capt. F. M. Chubbuck, Elm Place.....	2	29
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## MINNESOTA.

A Co., St. Paul, Capt. G. T. Drake, 634 Bates Ave.....	2	37
B Co., Minneapolis, Capt. G. W. Turner, 449 McKnight Building .....	1	14
Total .....	3	51



## RECAPITULATION.

	Officers	Men	Enlisted Men Gain	Loss
Pennsylvania Brigade .....	194	2901		59
Department of Ohio .....	59	759	45	
Department of Pacific .....	24	325		
Department of New York .....	45	566	13	
Department of Rhode Island .....	12	130	16	
Department of New Jersey .....	12	187	37	
Connecticut .....	1	17	17	
Delaware .....	3	50	1	
Illinois .....	2	35		1
Massachusetts .....	2	29	1	
Minnesota .....	3	51		17
	357	5050	130	77

Officers ..... 357

Men ..... 5050

Total ..... 5407

A net gain of 53 enlisted men (referred to '14 report).

Gain in per cent of enlisted men, 1.06.

Proportion of officers to men, 1 to 14.14.

## REGISTER—SONS OF VETERANS RESERVE.

Brigadier General Edwin M. Amies, Commanding.

August 1, 1915.

No. Commissioned

Staff, Dep't or Reg't.

## COLONELS.

1 Apr. 1, '09	Henry Stewart .....	Pa.
2 Mar. 26, '04	Frank A. McKelvey .....	4th Pa.
3 Sept. 18, '11	Thos. M. Morgan .....	3rd Pa.
4 July 4, '14	Sam'l S. Horn .....	2nd Pa.

## LIEUT. COLONELS.

1 Mar. 26, '04	W. S. Harvey .....	4th Pa.
2 Jan. 8, '09	Park F. Yengling .....	Ohio
3 Sept. 21, '09	George J. Palmer .....	8th Pa.
4 Dec. 24, '10	Chas. A. Lentz .....	1st Ohio
5 Sept. 1, '12	C. S. Scott .....	Pacific
6 Apr. 1, '14	F. J. Marshall .....	New York
7 Aug. 4, '14	A. W. Myers .....	2nd Ohio
8 Feb. 10, '15	H. B. Jones .....	1st N. Y.

## MAJORS.

1 Jan. 2, '05	E. W. Richards .....	Surgeon, 2nd Pa.
2 Jan. 26, '06	Geo. W. Klosterman .....	Phila. Bat'n, Pa.
3 Oct. 10, '08	G. W. Miller .....	Surgeon, 4th Pa.
4 Oct. 28, '09	Frank P. Stone .....	Surgeon, Pa.
5 Feb. 27, '10	John Miller .....	A. Q. M. Gen., Pa.
6 July 18, '10	S. E. Ferry .....	4th Pa.
7 Feb. 3, '11	Sam'l J. Witherow .....	1st Ohio
8 July 10, '11	Eugene G. Ritter .....	Asst. Adjt. Gen., Pa.
9 July 18, '11	Paul Smyser .....	6th Pa.

10	June 7, '12	Gustav Schaaf.....	4th Pa.
11	June 20, '12	M. H. Bennett.....	2nd Ohio
12	June 16, '13	Benj. P. Oakford.....	1st Cal.
13	Oct. 5, '13	John H. Hilton.....	5th Pa.
14	May 15, '14	Bert. H. Bentley.....	2nd N. Y.
15	Aug. 15, '14	Wm. L. Webster.....	1st N. Y.
16	Oct. 10, '14	Henry Beyerle.....	Chief of Cavalry, Pa.
17	June 9, '15	Chas. H. Hopkins.....	1st N. Y.

## CAPTAINS.

Co. or Staff Dep't, Regt.

1	Apr. 2, '03	Richard M. Wright.....	A Troop, Pa.
2	May 17, '04	George W. Strauss.....	E, 3rd Pa.
3	Oct. 3, '04	G. H. Gretz.....	E, Phila. Bat., Pa.
4	Mar. 19, '05	Willard E. Le Van.....	F, 3rd Pa.
5	Mar. 20, '05	E. M. Neill.....	F, 8th Pa.
6	June 1, '05	William Carl.....	E, 2nd Pa.
7	June 15, '05	Thaddeus Weaver.....	Quarterm'r, 2nd Pa.
8	Nov. 15, '05	Jacob Myers.....	G, 1st Pa.
9	Apr. 12, '06	Clarence H. Linderman.....	D, 3rd Pa.
10	Jan. 3, '07	W. L. Bird.....	Adj't., 3rd Pa.
11	Apr. 9, '07	John L. Reeger.....	A Batt'y, N. J.
12	June 8, '07	Chas. W. Bobb.....	M, 3rd Pa.
13	June 14, '07	W. H. Stambaugh.....	H, 8th Pa.
14	Jan. 1, '08	Wm. E. Rooker.....	Inspector, 2nd Pa.
15	Oct. 10, '08	L. P. Wentzel.....	A, 4th Pa.
16	Feb. 25, '09	John L. Hubert.....	C, Delaware
17	June 17, '09	Phaon H. Snyder.....	Q. M., 3rd Pa.
18	July 15, '09	H. W. Frederick.....	H, 2nd Ohio
19	Nov. 19, '09	Wm. A. Ward.....	A, 1st Ohio
20	Feb. 2, '10	D. W. Saylor.....	D, 8th Pa.
21	May 5, '10	Ezra T. Beers.....	B, N. J.
22	May 21, '10	John P. Jamison.....	N, 3rd Pa.
23	Sept. 3, '10	L. H. Becker.....	D Troop, Pa.
24	Sept. 13, '10	Chas. P. Baldwin.....	F, 1st Pa.
25	Sept. 16, '10	Edwin Goodwin.....	F, P. B., Pa.
26	Oct. 4, '10	Fred A. Tice.....	I, 1st N. Y.
27	Oct. 24, '10	Oswald Kramer.....	A, 3rd Pa.
28	Dec. 5, '10	Wm. Jones, Jr.....	D, 6th Pa.
29	Feb. 4, '11	W. C. Myers.....	M, 2nd Pa.
30	Mar. 15, '11	Wm. O. Marriu.....	E Troop, Pa.
31	Mar. 23, '11	Geo. H. Yarnall.....	I, 3rd Pa.
32	Mar. 31, '11	Harry W. McNally.....	1st Co. Coast Art, N. Y.
33	May 22, '11	F. M. Chubbuck.....	A, Mass.
34	June 23, '11	Theodore Rose.....	Com'sy, 4th Pa.
35	Oct. 21, '11	William H. Daugherty.....	A, Phila. Bat., Pa.
36	Oct. 26, '11	Roy F. Witman.....	Inspector, 3rd Pa.
37	Jan. 2, '12	Edward Gross.....	G, 5th Pa.
38	May 14, '12	John L. Vliet.....	I, 2nd Pa.
39	May 27, '12	E. K. Collingwood.....	I, 4th Pa.
40	June 30, '12	Harry C. Lea.....	G, 4th Pa.
41	July 17, '12	Frank H. Reilly.....	A, N. J.
42	Aug. 6, '12	H. A. Longfellow.....	G, Cal.
43	Sept. 3, '12	D. B. Plymire.....	Surgeon, Pacific
44	Sept. 27, '12	Geo. B. Myers.....	C, N. J.
45	Oct. 10, '12	Fred F. Moon.....	C Troop, Pa.
46	Nov. 5, '12	Geo. C. Smith.....	C, 1st N. Y.
47	Dec. 7, '12	Geo. O. Lockwood.....	H, Cal.



48	Dec. 24, '12	A. J. McIntyre.....	A, 1st N. Y.
49	Jan. 4, '13	H. M. Zundel.....	Q. M., 4th Pa.
50	Jan. 7, '13	Hiram F. Nickel.....	A, 6th Pa.
51	Jan. 28, '13	W. A. Chappell.....	C, 8th Pa.
52	Apr. 9, '13	S. Rob't Best.....	B, Ohio
53	Apr. 15, '13	Geo. W. Turner.....	B, Minn.
54	Apr. 22, '13	Edw. H. Wilson.....	F, 2nd N. Y.
55	May 3, '13	Jos. Meconnahey.....	B Troop, Pa.
56	Aug. 26, '13	G. W. Board.....	C, 4th Pa.
57	Oct. 16, '13	Chas. L. Bucknum.....	D. P. B., Pa.
58	Jan. 5, '14	C. W. Tozer.....	B, 1st Cal.
59	Jan. 20, '14	A. L. Boykin.....	F, 5th Pa.
60	Mar. 18, '14	Chas. L. Buck.....	Adj't, 2nd Pa.
61	Mar. 23, '14	Edwin U. Daily.....	K, 2nd Pa.
62	Apr. 5, '14	G. C. Parker.....	R. I.
63	Apr. 6, '14	F. M. Swanger.....	G, 2nd Ohio
64	Apr. 19, '14	E. J. Crawford.....	G, 3rd Pa.
65	Apr. 20, '14	Harrie J. Guy.....	Surgeon, 1st Ohio
66	Apr. 28, '14	F. E. Brown.....	B, 3rd Pa.
67	May 1, '14	J. F. Votaw.....	B, 1st Ohio
68	May 5, '14	Claude Forney.....	E, 6th Pa.
69	May 6, '14	Harry S. Roller.....	D, 1st Ohio
70	May 13, '14	Elmer I. Davis.....	F, 4th Pa.
71	May 19, '14	Chester G. Wise.....	G, 1st Ohio
72	June 11, '14	Albert McFall.....	D, 2nd Pa.
73	June 16, '14	A. E. Gleason.....	B, R. I.
74	July 4, '14	H. E. R. Bohler.....	B, 2nd Pa.
75	July 9, '14	W. P. Horn.....	A, 2nd Pa.
76	July 1, '14	C. W. Espich.....	L, 1st Ohio
77	Aug. 1, '14	E. J. Sexton.....	H, 4th Pa.
78	Aug. 7, '14	B. L. Turner.....	A, Ill.
79	Sept. 11, '14	Geo. T. Drake.....	A, Minn.
80	Oct. 23, '14	W. A. Green.....	F, 1st Ohio
81	Oct. 26, '14	C. H. McKee.....	L, 4th Pa.
82	Nov. 13, '14	John P. Adams.....	I, 8th Pa.
83	Nov. 23, '14	R. R. Barrett.....	Surgeon, 2nd Ohio
84	Nov. 30, '14	Aaron Batdorf.....	H, 3rd Pa.
85	Nov. 30, '14	F. B. Brown.....	C, 2nd N. Y.
86	Jan. 24, '15	Fred. L. Murphy.....	E, 1st N. Y.
87	Feb. 5, '15	Arthur S. Murray.....	B, 2nd N. Y.
88	Feb. 20, '15	J. H. Wentzel.....	Adj't, 4th Pa.
89	Mar. 15, '15	W. H. K. Magrady.....	C, Phil. Bat'n, Pa.
90	Mar. 29, '15	H. S. Witemeyer.....	C, 2nd Pa.
91	Mar. 30, '15	Alba E. Young.....	A, R. I.
92	Apr. 2, '15	R. M. Campbell.....	K, 4th Pa.
93	Apr. 17, '15	Oliver F. Evans.....	Commis'y, 2nd Pa.
94	Apr. 22, '15	R. E. Blodgett.....	K, 1st Ohio
95	Apr. 25, '15	L. R. Holcomb.....	F, 2nd Pa.
96	May 30, '15	Geo. M. Dawson.....	A Battery, Pa.
97	July 13, '15	F. W. Hendrix.....	E, 2nd Ohio
98	July 14, '15	Jno. W. Grinago.....	D, 5th Pa.

## FIRST LIEUTENANTS.

1	Apr. 2, '03	J. E. Fisher.....	A Troop, Pa.
2	Mar. 15, '04	W. E. Shaner.....	E, 8th Pa.
3	Mar. 19, '05	Allen F. Kellar.....	F, 3rd Pa.
4	June 1, '05	Charles S. Adams.....	E, 2nd Pa.
5	Apr. 1, '06	Joel Reber.....	E, Phila. Bat., Pa.

6	June 8, '07	Jesse E. Wray.....	M, 3rd Pa.
7	Mar. 20, '08	L. G. Murray.....	F, 8th Pa.
8	Oct. 10, '08	John M. Baker.....	A, 4th Pa.
9	Feb. 25, '09	Charles Hollis.....	C, Delaware
10	Sept. 3, '09	Wilbur F. Sine.....	Q. M., 2nd Ohio
11	Apr. 30, '10	Edw. W. Young.....	B Battery, Pa.
12	May 24, '10	Lodge Riddle.....	Bat. Adj't., 1st Ohio
13	May 27, '10	Jno. A. Henry.....	F, 5th Pa.
14	Aug. 14, '10	John Vertz.....	N, 3rd Pa.
15	Aug. 26, '10	F. V. Fowler.....	H, 8th Pa.
16	Sept. 3, '10	R. S. Mills.....	D Troop, Pa.
17	Sept. 16, '10	Wm. Goodwin.....	F, P. B., Pa.
18	Oct. 4, '10	W. J. Service.....	I, 1st N. Y.
19	Oct. 11, '10	M. Wm. Bradley.....	F, 1st Pa.
20	June 20, '11	Wm. H. Jackson.....	G, 5th Pa.
21	July 24, '11	J. Clifford Hoffman.....	Adj't., 6th Pa.
22	Oct. 2, '11	Chas. W. Kehm.....	Band, 2nd Pa.
23	Oct. 21, '11	Sam'l F. Tomikins.....	A Phila. Bat., Pa.
24	Apr. 16, '12	Ross M. Ashcom.....	I, 8th Pa.
25	May 27, '12	J. P. Heckman.....	I, 4th Pa.
26	June 30, '12	A. H. Slater, Jr.....	G, 4th Pa.
27	July 16, '12	J. A. Foster.....	A, Cal.
28	July 25, '12	Dill G. Smith.....	C, Cal.
29	Aug. 6, '12	E. H. Cherry.....	G, Cal.
30	Sept. 1, '12	O. L. Sues.....	Adjutant, Pacific
31	Sept. 15, '12	H. A. McMurray.....	Asst. Surg., 4th Pa.
32	Oct. 21, '12	S. J. McConnell.....	Chaplain, Pacific
33	Nov. 1, '12	Chas. Shank.....	A, 8th Pa.
34	Nov. 4, '12	C. R. Bennett.....	Bat. Adj't., 2nd Ohio
35	Nov. 9, '12	T. J. Fisher.....	K, 4th Pa.
36	Dec. 4, '12	Beecher C. Allen.....	C, 2nd N. Y.
37	Dec. 6, '12	Joe Hick.....	A, 1st Ohio
38	Jan. 7, '13	Geo. F. Leapple.....	A, 6th Pa.
39	Jan. 30, '13	Wm. Crumbly.....	B, N. J.
40	Feb. 6, '13	W. H. Byerly.....	F, 4th Pa.
41	Apr. 18, '13	Rollo G. Burl.....	Quartermaster, Ohio
42	Apr. 22, '13	Geo. E. Doty.....	F, 2nd N. Y.
43	May 3, '13	Jas. P. Smith.....	B Troop, Pa.
44	May 19, '13	R. R. McMurray.....	E, 3rd Pa.
45	May 23, '13	Chas. L. Van Scoten.....	I, 2nd Pa.
46	June 6, '13	Wm. Thomas.....	A, 3rd Pa.
47	June 16, '13	W. E. Lawrence.....	Quartermaster, Pacific
48	June 16, '13	A. J. Cloud.....	Commissary, Pacific
49	June 23, '13	Sherman Gillogly.....	I, Cal.
50	Nov. 1, '13	G. A. Heffelfinger.....	B, 2nd Ohio
51	Nov. 13, '13	W. C. Hackmeier.....	Bat. Adj't., 1st Cal.
52	Dec. 14, '13	J. W. Reiff.....	D, 6th Pa.
53	Dec. 30, '13	D. Max Salomon.....	Asst. Surg., Pacific
54	Jan. 1, '14	Jno. B. McCreery.....	Chaplain, N. Y.
55	Jan. 5, '14	Glen J. Sipes.....	B, 1st Cal.
56	Feb. 3, '14	C. J. Harrison.....	D, 8th Pa.
57	Feb. 4, '14	C. P. Wuchter.....	M, 2nd Pa.
58	Feb. 18, '14	L. H. Gibson.....	B, 4th Pa.
59	Mar. 9, '14	F. C. Anderson.....	Chaplain, 1st Ohio
60	Mar. 23, '14	A. W. Mack.....	K, 2nd Pa.
61	Mar. 28, '14	C. A. Whittlsey.....	Q. M., 1st Ohio
62	Apr. 1, '14	Fremont Rivers.....	D, R. I.
63	Apr. 8, '14	Ben G. Binns.....	Bat. Adj't., 4th Pa.



64	Apr. 12, '14	A. H. Kelley.....	D, 4th Pa.
65	Apr. 17, '14	J. W. Thayer.....	Inspector, 2nd Ohio
66	Apr. 23, '14	R. F. Prosser.....	I, 3rd Pa.
67	Apr. 28, '14	C. C. Haass.....	B, 3rd Pa.
68	Apr. 28, '14	F. W. Heidel.....	H, 1st Cal.
69	May 1, '14	F. J. Probert.....	B, 1st Ohio
70	May 5, '14	J. H. Alwood.....	E, 6th Pa.
71	May 19, '14	W. E. Carpenter.....	C Troop, Pa.
72	May 19, '14	Rob't L. Atchison.....	G, 1st Ohio
73	June 11, '14	Rue J. Arnsts.....	D, 2nd Pa.
74	July 22, '14	H. J. Campbell.....	F Troop, Pa.
75	Aug. 1, '14	Wm. H. Craig.....	H, 4th Pa.
76	Aug. 8, '14	N. McL. Schmidt.....	1st Co. C. Art., N. Y.
77	Aug. 19, '14	W. B. White.....	Bat. Adj't., 2nd Ohio
78	Aug. 26, '14	J. J. Mosher.....	Adj't., 2nd N. Y.
79	Aug. 26, '14	A. F. Mosher.....	Surgeon, 2nd N. Y.
80	Aug. 27, '14	Herbert D. Williams.....	A Batt'y, N. J.
81	Aug. 27, '14	John G. Sacks.....	Aide-de-Camp, Pa.
82	Sept. 11, '14	E. H. Corniea.....	A, Minn.
83	Oct. 2, '14	Jas. H. Bambler.....	H, 2nd Ohio
84	Oct. 6, '14	F. A. Peck.....	Commissary, N. Y.
85	Oct. 10, '14	Chas. M. Harvey.....	M, 4th Pa.
86	Oct. 13, '14	Wm. J. Freeze.....	I, 2nd Ohio
87	Oct. 26, '14	W. F. Kerr.....	L, 4th Pa.
88	Nov. 6, '14	Ronald G. Hall.....	C, 1st N. Y.
89	Nov. 12, '14	Frank F. Gillen.....	A, 2nd Pa.
90	Nov. 30, '14	Harry Fordesman.....	H, 3rd Pa.
91	Dec. 10, '14	W. E. Mounts.....	Commissary, 1st Ohio
92	Dec. 14, '14	B. W. Williams.....	Adj't., 2nd Ohio
93	Dec. 24, '15	Geo. Roberts.....	B, 2nd N. Y.
94	Jan. 9, '15	Geo. V. Nichols.....	Adj't., R. I.
95	Feb. 2, '15	Allen M. Henry.....	I, 1st Pa.
96	Feb. 8, '15	A. W. Scott.....	K, 1st Pa.
97	Feb. 8, '15	L. J. Marshall.....	N, 1st N. Y.
98	Mar. 8, '15	Ernest W. Jeffrey.....	C, R. I.
99	Mar. 12, '15	Wm. H. Diehl.....	B, 2nd Pa.
100	Mar. 15, '15	Julius J. Peters.....	C, Phila. Bat., Pa.
101	Mar. 26, '15	C. A. McDermott.....	F, 1st N. Y.
102	Apr. 4, '15	George Seipp.....	Adj't., P. B., Pa.
103	Apr. 12, '15	W. G. Fudge.....	Adj't., 1st N. Y.
104	Apr. 12, '15	J. Percy Allen.....	Quartermaster, N. Y.
105	Apr. 25, '15	Robt. Peterman.....	F, 2nd Pa.
106	May 4, '15	F. Y. McCullough.....	C, N. J.
107	May 7, '15	H. W. Holbrook.....	A, R. I.
108	May 12, '15	Fred H. Roll.....	C, 1st Pa.
109	May 14, '15	Wm. J. Langdon.....	I, 2nd Pa.
110	May 29, '15	Thos. R. Parfitt.....	Adj't., 8th Pa.
111	May 30, '15	Chas. Thompson.....	A Battery, Pa.
112	June 3, '15	Robt. S. Harsh.....	M, 1st Ohio
113	June 16, '15	James Kissner.....	C, 2nd Pa.
114	June 21, '15	R. H. McClain.....	D, 3rd Pa.
115	June 23, '15	John L. Means.....	Adj't., Ohio
116	June 26, '15	Lyman Chandler.....	Adj't., N. Y.
117	June 30, '15	Fred A. Soper.....	Inspector, N. Y.

## SECOND LIEUTENANTS.

1 Apr. 2, '03  
2 Aug. 13, '04

T. O. Dost..... A Troop, Pa.  
William Swartz..... C, Phila. Bat., Pa.

3	Jan. 1, '09	O. W. Stackhouse.....	D, 2nd Pa.
4	May 23, '10	Jacob V. Knause.....	B Troop, Pa.
5	Oct. 4, '10	Wm. C. Blackstone.....	I, 1st N. Y.
6	Apr. 25, '11	Chas. A. Davenport.....	Q. M., R. I.
7	May 22, '11	L. A. Porter.....	A, Mass.
8	Aug. 8, '11	W. H. Sherman.....	C, 4th Pa.
9	Oct. 21, '11	Henry S. Weaver.....	A Phila. Bat'n, Pa.
10	Oct. 28, '11	Chas. T. Allen.....	E, 2nd N. Y.
11	Nov. 3, '11	H. C. Errett.....	A, 4th Pa.
12	Jan. 26, '12	D. F. Smith.....	C Battery, Pa.
13	Apr. 19, '12	D. N. Rumsey.....	N, 1st N. Y.
14	May 27, '12	W. V. Speakman.....	I, 4th Pa.
15	May 28, '12	Jas. H. Adkins.....	C, Delaware
16	June 30, '12	R. S. Beatty.....	G, 4th Pa.
17	July 25, '12	Walter F. Payne.....	C, Cal.
18	Aug. 6, '12	B. P. Littlefield.....	G, Cal.
19	Aug. 17, '12	Arlington Werkheiser.....	H, 2nd Pa.
20	Oct. 10, '12	Auguste K. Hendley.....	A Batt'y, N. J.
21	Oct. 10, '12	T. A. Callahan.....	C Troop, Pa.
22	Nov. 1, '12	Geo. F. Johnson.....	A, 8th Pa.
23	Dec. 6, '12	Wm. C. Owen.....	A, 1st Ohio
24	Dec. 27, '12	Frank A. Stone.....	F, 1st N. Y.
25	Jan. 14, '13	Edward Irons.....	E, 5th Pa.
26	Jan. 24, '13	John Offen.....	A, N. J.
27	Jan. 28, '13	J. G. Chappell.....	C, 8th Pa.
28	Jan. 30, '13	J. B. Anderson.....	B, N. J.
29	Feb. 6, '13	J. H. Frick.....	F, 4th Pa.
30	Feb. 6, '13	Water Lawrence.....	E, R. I.
31	May 19, '13	George Zimmer.....	E, 3rd Pa.
32	May 23, '13	Wm. W. Nash.....	L, 2nd Pa.
33	May 28, '13	Eugene M. Hill.....	A, R. I.
34	May 29, '13	Reese Harris.....	G, 3rd Pa.
35	June 6, '13	Chas. W. Knorr.....	A, 3rd Pa.
36	June 9, '13	Thos. H. Hutchins.....	F, 5th Pa.
37	June 16, '13	C. W. Simpson.....	M, 3rd Pa.
38	June 23, '13	F. G. Hutchins.....	G, Cal.
39	July 2, '13	Henry A. Gladue.....	K, 1st N. Y.
40	Aug. 28, '13	Jno. B. Knappman.....	A, 2nd N. Y.
41	Sept. 24, '13	R. C. Spidell.....	E, 1st Ohio
42	Nov. 1, '13	R. M. Hasson.....	B, 2nd Ohio
43	Nov. 14, '13	Oliver A. Kinney.....	F, 2nd N. Y.
44	Nov. 28, '13	G. W. Pfeifer.....	F, 2nd Ohio
45	Dec. 14, '13	Chas. W. Titlow.....	D, 6th Pa.
46	Jan. 5, '14	M. P. Seely.....	B, 1st Cal.
47	Feb. 3, '14	G. A. Yinkey.....	D, 8th Pa.
48	Feb. 4, '14	Wm. Farber, Jr.....	M, 2nd Pa.
49	Mar. 19, '14	H. F. Farne.....	F, 3rd Pa.
50	Mar. 23, '14	H. E. Snyder.....	K, 2nd Pa.
51	Mar. 27, '14	J. L. Bolyer.....	G, 5th Pa.
52	Apr. 6, '14	H. H. Smith.....	G, 2nd Ohio
53	Apr. 17, '14	J. H. Howlett.....	C, 2nd Ohio
54	Apr. 28, '14	Bertram S. Davis.....	H, 1st Cal.
55	May 1, '14	Ira C. Hoopes.....	B, 1st Ohio
56	May 5, '14	Paul Koehler.....	E, 6th Pa.
57	May 5, '14	Alfred E. Jacoby.....	E, 2nd Pa.
58	May 6, '14	Mark C. Wilson.....	D, 1st Ohio
59	June 16, '14	Louis R. Cobb.....	B, R. I.
60	July 1, '14	Frank Sweany.....	L, 1st Ohio



61	July 17, '14	Chas. N. Miller.....	B, 2nd Pa.
62	July 28, '14	Geo. W. Shockey.....	A, 2nd Ohio
63	July 28, '14	E. W. Weckerly.....	G, 1st Ohio
64	Aug. 1, '14	Chas. H. Sage.....	H, 4th Pa.
65	Aug. 7, '14	O. E. Taylor.....	A, Ill.
66	Aug. 8, '14	D. Longstreet.....	1st Co. C. Art., N. Y.
67	Aug. 10, '14	Thos. D. Weaver.....	Signal Corps, Ohio
68	Aug. 12, '14	W. W. Duncan.....	D, 1st N. Y.
69	Sept. 28, '14	Wm. V. R. Coon, Jr.....	H, 2nd Ohio
70	Oct. 14, '14	Sam'l Umpstead.....	N, 3rd Pa.
71	Oct. 23, '14	J. E. McCracken.....	F, 1st Ohio
72	Oct. 25, '14	Russel Coulson.....	B, 6th Pa.
73	Oct. 26, '14	Blair VanDyke.....	L, 4th Pa.
74	Oct. 28, '14	Howard C. Bible.....	C, 1st Ohio
75	Oct. 29, '14	Mark L. Staub.....	F, 6th Pa.
76	Nov. 6, '14	Ernest H. Felt.....	C, 1st N. Y.
77	Nov. 12, '14	L. M. Rohn.....	A, 2nd Pa.
78	Nov. 13, '14	C. E. Warfel.....	I, 8th Pa.
79	Nov. 30, '14	W. N. Albright.....	H, 3rd Pa.
80	Nov. 30, '14	H. E. Ingraham.....	C, 2nd N. Y.
81	Dec. 7, '14	Chas. L. Foreman.....	D, 4th Pa.
82	Dec. 8, '14	J. S. Wardell.....	H, 1st Ohio
83	Dec. 10, '14	Ray H. Stitt.....	I, 1st Ohio
84	Dec. 24, '14	B. G. Palmateer.....	B, 2nd N. Y.
85	Jan. 2, '15	E. E. Cowdrick.....	D, P. B., Pa.
86	Jan. 2, '15	C. W. Lightcap.....	F, P. B., Pa.
87	Jan. 24, '15	Ulyses Schoonover.....	E, 1st N. Y.
88	Feb. 4, '15	D. E. Edwards.....	G Troop, Pa.
89	Feb. 8, '15	C. F. Aldinger.....	K, 1st Pa.
90	Feb. 15, '15	A. K. Myers.....	K, 2nd Ohio
91	Mar. 11, '15	R. M. Yergason.....	A, Conn.
92	Apr. 2, '15	Chas. G. McMahon.....	M, 1st N. Y.
93	Apr. 2, '15	W. W. Stevenson.....	K, 4th Pa.
94	Apr. 4, '15	Wm. Henneka.....	E, Phila. Bat., Pa.
95	Apr. 5, '15	Edw. D. Johnson.....	K, Cal.
96	Apr. 21, '15	R. J. Cook.....	B, 1st N. Y.
97	Apr. 22, '15	G. J. Barthold.....	C, 1st Ohio
98	Apr. 25, '15	L. M. Rhiel.....	F, 2nd Pa.
99	Apr. 26, '15	Russel Beatty.....	D, 3rd Pa.
100	Apr. 26, '15	T. H. Snowwhite.....	B, 4th Pa.
101	May 4, '15	E. T. Davis.....	C, N. J.
102	May 5, '15	Jno. B. Taylor.....	F, R. I.
103	May 12, '15	Wm. A. Miller.....	D, N. J.
104	May 12, '15	Jno. W. Riehl.....	G, 1st Pa.
105	May 13, '15	Jno. J. McGrady.....	L, 2nd Ohio
106	May 14, '15	W. J. Lewis.....	I, 2nd Pa.
107	May 24, '15	Zoa A. Williams.....	H, 1st N. Y.
108	May 30, '15	Percival Simmons.....	A Battery, Pa.
109	June 3, '15	Bert E. Leonard.....	M 1st Ohio
110	June 16, '15	Victor H. Deppe.....	C, 2nd Pa.
111	July 3, '15	Chas. W. Fraser.....	A Troop, Ohio
112	July 13, '15	R. A. Venrick.....	E, 2nd Ohio
113	July 13, '15	Edw. Gibson.....	D, 5th Pa.

## RECAPITULATION.

Colonels .....	4
Lieut. Colonels .....	8
Majors .....	17
Captains .....	98
First Lieutenants .....	117
Second Lieutenants .....	113

Total .....357

## RATINGS OF COMMANDS.

Ratings on Semi-annual Reports are based upon neatness, accuracy and promptness of receipt.

Ratings on Equipment Reports are based upon the same considerations, together with the manner in which the idea of giving a correct record of the equipment of the command is carried out. This report does not relate in any way to property rights, but serves only as a basis for rating the command.

Rating on equipment is apportioned as follows:—Ordnance, 50 points; Canvas, 25 points; Uniform according to Regulations, 15 points; additional Quartermasters stores, (blankets, ponchos, haversacks and overcoats), 10 points. To secure the full rating in any of these counts, the number must equal the number of enlisted men shown on the May report.

The mean of the Regimental Ratings constitutes 80 per cent of the Brigade or Department Rating—the remaining 20 per cent being allotted to the percentage of the command turned out in regular annual tour of field service—one point for each five per cent of the command so mobilized.

## DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY.

	May	Nov.	Equip.	Equip.	Rating
Headquarters .....	100	100	0	0	50
A Co. ....	97	99	100	35	82.7
B Co. ....	95	98	100	74	91.7
C Co. ....	90	100	100	78	92
D Co. ....				75	75
A Battery .....	100	100	100	85	96.2
Mean. Department Rating.....					64.9

## DEPARTMENT OF OHIO.

Headquarters .....	99	84	0	75	64.2
A Troop .....	100	100	100	75	93.7
Signal Corps .....	100	100	90	10	75
Mean Rating .....					80.9

## FIRST REGIMENT.

Headquarters .....	95	75	0	75	61.2
Hospital Corps .....	90	80	80	40	72.5
A Co. ....	95	95	100	80	92.5
B Co. ....	80	95	80	82	84.2
C Co. ....	100	25	100	29	63.5
D Co. ....	85	90	90	32	74.2
E Co. ....	95	90	100	62	86.7
F Co. ....	95	80	100	48	80.8
G Co. ....	100	100	100	85	96.2
H Co. ....	90	100	90	50	82.2



## ENCAMPMENT

91

I Co. ....	85	90	100	65	85
K Co. ....	0	90	100	45	58.8
L Co. ....	98	90	90	35	78.2
M Co. ....				0	0
Mean Regimental Rating.....					73.5

## SECOND REGIMENT.

Headquarters .....	100	90	0	0	47.5
A Co. ....	90	50	100	49	72.2
B Co. ....	95	95	100	34	81
C Co. ....	95	95	100	14	76
D Co. ....	100	100	100	0	75
E Co. ....	100	95	100	67	90.5
F Co. ....	85	90	100	81	74
G Co. ....	95	98	100	32	81.2
H Co. ....	100	98	100	65	68.2
I Co. ....	98	95	100	80	93.2
K Co. ....	95		100	0	65
L Co. ....				0	0
Mean Regimental Rating.....					68.6
Mean Department Rating.....					62.5

## PENNSYLVANIA BRIGADE.

Headquarters .....	100	100	100	98	99.5
Hospital Corps .....	90	100	80	90	90
Mean Rating .....					94.7

## SECOND REGIMENT.

Headquarters .....	100	50	100	95	86.2
Hospital Corps .....	100	90	100	81	92.8
Band .....	100	95	0	50	61.2
A Co. ....	95	95	100	98	97
B Co. ....	95	97	100	91	95.8
C Co. ....	98	95	90	73	89
D Co. ....	97	50	95	93	83.8
E Co. ....	100	100	100	79	94.8
F Co. ....	100	40	90	65	73.8
H Co. ....	70	98	70	53	72.8
I Co. ....	90	100	100	54	86
K Co. ....	100	90	100	81	92.8
L Co. ....	95	99	100	49	85.8
M Co. ....	100	80	95	75	87.5
Mean Regimental Rating.....					90.5

## SIXTH BATTALION.

Headquarters .....	100	100	90	60	87.5
Band .....	50	95	100	50	73.8
A Co. ....	95	85	99	70	87.2
B Co. ....	90	85	100	65	85
C Co. ....	95	100	100	65	90
D Co. ....	90	95	95	68	87
E Co. ....	90	90	100	65	86.2
F Co. ....	98	98	100	65	90.2
Mean Battalion Rating.....					85.8

## ARTILLERY.

A Battery	.....				75	75
B Battery	.....	98	99	98	69	91
C Battery	.....	98	98	100	38	83.5
Mean Rating	.....					82.1

## CAVALRY.

A Troop	.....	100	100	100	73	93.2
B Troop	.....	95	100	100	55	87.5
C Troop	.....	100	98	100	65	90.8
D Troop	.....	60	98	60	90	77
E Troop	.....	97	95	100	53	86.2
F Troop	.....	90	95	90	43	79.5
G Troop	.....	100		100	0	66.6
Mean Rating	.....					82.9

## THIRD REGIMENT.

Headquarters	.....	100	100	100	40	85
Hospital Corps	.....	100	100	100	50	87.5
Band	.....	100	100	100	25	81.2
A Co.	.....	75	85	100	79	84.7
B Co.	.....	30	60	90	49	57.2
D Co.	.....	85	95	100	88	92
E Co.	.....	100	100	100	93	98.2
F Co.	.....	100	90	100	90	95
G Co.	.....	60	70	60	76	66.5
H Co.	.....	50	98	100	53	75.2
I Co.	.....	50	90	100	68	77
M Co.	.....	100	100	100	82	95.5
N Co.	.....	30	58	100	53	60.2
Mean Regimental Rating	.....					81.1

## FOURTH REGIMENT.

Headquarters	.....	100	99	100	75	93.5
Hospital Corps	.....	98	97	95	75	91.2
A Co.	.....	99	80	100	68	86.8
B Co.	.....	65	70	0	85	55
C Co.	.....	80	5	100	68	63.2
D Co.	.....	100	100	100	90	97.5
F Co.	.....	90	75	0	90	63.8
G Co.	.....	80	100	0	62	60.5
H Co.	.....	90	60	100	85	82.8
I Co.	.....	98	100	100	61	89.8
K Co.	.....	40	98	30	46	66
L Co.	.....	90	90	100	43	80.8
M Co.	.....	100	90	100	75	91.2
Mean Regimental Rating	.....					78.6

## EIGHTH REGIMENT.

Headquarters	.....	90	100	0	53	60.8
Field Music	.....	90	98	0	30	54.5
A Co.	.....	85	90	90	50	78.8
C Co.	.....	100	95	100	65	90
D Co.	.....	20	50	80	54	51



## ENCAMPMENT

93

E Co. ....	70	10	70	62	53
F Co. ....	87	75	90	65	79.2
H Co. ....	98	90	100	65	88.2
I Co. ....	90	99	98	97	96
Mean Regimental Rating.....					72.3

## PHILADELPHIA BATTALION.

Headquarters .....	75	95	0	50	55
Hospital Corps .....	80		0	65	48.3
A Co. ....	93	97	100	70	90
C Co. ....	85	98	100	66	87.2
D Co. ....	80	80	100	68	82
E Co. ....	20	45	90	37	48
F Co. ....	75	25	100	91	72.8
Mean Battalion Rating.....					69

## FIRST BATTALION.

F Co. ....	95	100	100	70	91.2
G Co. ....	85	10	95	70	65
K Co. ....	98	0	100	54	63
L Co. ....	95	0	100	32	56.8
M Co. ....	95	95	100	70	90
Mean Battalion Rating.....					61.2

## FIFTH BATTALION.

Headquarters .....	100	90	0	0	47.5
D Co. ....	10	40	100	49	49.8
E Co. ....	96	90	100	45	82.8
F Co. ....	10	55	100	45	52.5
G Co. ....	5	80	95	52	58
Mean Battalion Rating.....					58.1
Mean Brigade Rating.....					57.2

## DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK.

Headquarters .....	96	72	0	0	42
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## COAST ARTILLERY.

1st Co. ....	95	97	100	95	96.7
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## SECOND BATTALION.

Headquarters .....	80	100	0	0	45
A Co. ....	85	98	90	50	80.7
B Co. ....	90	95	100	64	87.2
C Co. ....	60	100	100	65	81.2
E Co. ....	90	75	90	50	76.2
F Co. ....	90	95	100	62	86.7
Mean Battalion Rating.....					76.2

## FIRST REGIMENT.

Headquarters .....	100	90	0	0	47.5
A Co. ....	80	90	95	65	82.5
B Co. ....				0	0
C Co. ....	100	95	100	75	92.5
D Co. ....	80	75	100	63	79.5

E Co. ....	80	90	90	31	72.7
F Co. ....	85	98	100	29	78
H Co. ....			100	65	82.5
I Co. ....	90	85	0	50	56.2
K Co. ....	75	80	90	32	69.2
L Co. ....	60	75	0	16	37.7
M Co. ....				0	0
N Co. ....	98	90	0	71	64.7
Mean Regimental Rating.....					58.6
Mean Department Rating.....					53.6

## DEPARTMENT OF THE PACIFIC.

Headquarters .....	30	63	0	30	30.8
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## CALIFORNIA.

## FIRST BATTALION.

Headquarters .....	0	0	80	50	32.5
A Co. ....	0	75	80	61	54
B Co. ....	0	75	0	56	42.8
E Co. ....	0	80	80	29	47.2
G Co. ....	0	75	80	56	52.8
C Co. ....	0	75	80	21	44
D Co. ....	30	65	80	38	53.2
F Co. ....	0	0	0	12	3
H Co. ....	0	80	0	83	40.8
I Co. ....	0	60	0	36	24
K Co. ....				0	0

Mean Department Rating.....					35.4
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## DEPARTMENT OF RHODE ISLAND.

Headquarters .....	0	38	0	0	9.5
A Co. ....	0	40	0	62	25.5
B Co. ....	0	40	0	62	25.4
C Co. ....	0	35	0	64	24.8
D Co. ....	0	40	0	64	26
E Co. ....	0	40	0	65	26.2
F Co. ....			100	65	62.5

Mean Department Rating.....					28.5
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## CONNECTICUT.

A Co. ....	100		100	1	67
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## DELAWARE.

C Co. ....	90	100	100	76	91.5
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## ILLINOIS.

A Co. ....	75	25	90	28	54.5
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## MASSACHUSETTS.

A Co. ....	100	70	90	50	77.5
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## MINNESOTA.

A Co. ....	65	78	100	66	77.2
B Co. ....	100	60	95	21	69



## SUMMARY.

	Per cent
Department of New Jersey.....	64.9
Department of Ohio .....	62.5
Pennsylvania Brigade .....	57.2
Department of New York.....	53.6
Department of the Pacific.....	35.4
Department of Rhode Island....	28.5

## EQUIPMENT.

## RIFLES.

Pennsylvania Brigade:		
.45-70 Springfield .....	2182	
.50 Springfield .....	167	
.30 Krag-Jorgenson .....	40	
.38 (?) Springfield .....	30	
.45-70 Springfield Carbines .....	25	
.50 Sharps Carbines .....	193	
		2637
Department of Ohio:		
.45-70 Springfield .....	452	
.50 Springfield .....	48	
.45-70 Springfield Carbines.....	20	
		520
Department of the Pacific:		
.45-70 Springfield .....	195	
.50 Springfield .....	29	
		224
Department of New York:		
.45-70 Springfield .....	298	
.45 Beaumont .....	20	
.50 Springfield .....	104	
		411
Department of Rhode Island:		
.45-70 Springfield .....		250
Department of New Jersey:		
.45-70 Springfield .....	123	
.45-70 Springfield Carbines .....	35	
		157
Delaware:		
.45-70 Springfield .....		51
Illinois:		
.45-70 Springfield .....		20
Massachusetts:		
.45-70 Springfield .....		30
Minnesota:		
.45-70 Springfield .....	30	
.50 Springfield .....	22	
.38 (?) Springfield .....	51	
		103
Total .....		4403

## RECAPITULATION.

.45-70 Springfield .....	3619
.50 Springfield .....	370
.38 (?) Springfield .....	81
.30 Krag-Jorgenson .....	40
.45 Beaumont .....	20
.45-70 Springfield Carbines.....	80
.50 Sharps Carbines .....	193

Total ..... 4403

## ARTILLERY.

## Pennsylvania Brigade:

One 1½ inch muzzle loading piece.

Two 1½ inch breech loading pieces.

Two 3 inch muzzle loading pieces.

## Department of New Jersey:

Two 3 inch breech loading pieces.

## CANVASS.

	H. Tents	O. Tents	Men	Mess
Pennsylvania Brigade:				
Headquarters .....		5	5	1
Hospital Corps .....	1		3	1
Second Regiment				
Headquarters .....		6	5	
Hospital Corps .....	1	1	5	
A Co., Easton .....		4	20	1
B Co., South Bethlehem.....		2	16	
C Co., Mauch Chunk.....		3	10	1
D Co., Bangor .....		1	10	
E Co., Allentown.....		2		1
K Co., Bethlehem.....		2	11	
M Co., Siegfried .....				1
Third Regiment				
Headquarters .....		1		
Hospital Corps .....	1		4	
A Co., Shamokin.....		3	10	1
D Co., Shamokin .....		2	10	1
E Co., Williamsport .....		2	12	1
F Co., Minersville .....			10	
G Co., Milton .....		2	10	
M Co., Sunbury.....		1	10	1
Fourth Regiment .....	2	13	61	1
Sixth Battalion				
A Co., York .....				1
C Co., Middletown .....			3	
D Co., Reading.....			12	1
Eighth Regiment				
Headquarters .....		1		
C Co., South Fork.....				1
F Co., Punxsutawney.....			10	
I Co., Johnstown.....		2	16	
Philadelphia Battalion				
Hospital Corps, Philadelphia..	2		1	
F Co., Philadelphia.....		4	10	1
D Troop, Carbondale.....		2	10	
Pennsylvania Brigade Totals.....	7	56	274	15



Department of New York:				
C Co., 1st Reg't, Watertown..	5	15	1	
N Co., East Aurora.....		9		
1st Co. Coast Artillery.....		12		
Department of Ohio .....	3	30		
Department of the Pacific:				
H Co., Los Angeles.....	2	6		
Totals .....	7	66	336	16

A Battery, Department of New Jersey, Trenton, has a full complement of canvas available from the State.

## FIELD SERVICE.

Pennsylvania Brigade, at Gloucester, N. J., June 20-26, 355 officers and men.

Department of Ohio, at Mansfield, June 22-27, 127 officers and men

## BRIGADE AND DEPARTMENT QUARTERMASTER'S REPORTS.

Year ending June 1, 1915.

Receipts:	Pa.	N. Y.	Ohio	R. I.	N. J.
Balance, Dr. ....	\$ 27.59	3.05		4.21	.85
Commissions and warrants...	95.00	23.00	31.25	5.00	2.50
Supplies .....	20.75		1.25		
Collar insignia (net) .....	41.50				
Contributions .....			7.56		
Totals .....	\$184.84	26.05	40.06	9.21	3.35
Expenditures:					
Balance, Cr. ....			11.00		
Postage and express.....	24.69	9.16	18.72		1.45
Supplies .....	17.25	5.64	19.00		1.00
Printing .....	47.50	4.50			
Stenographer .....	48.00	2.00			
Premium on Bond .....	3.20				
Camp expenses .....	21.92				
Traveling expenses .....		3.00			
Error in former report.....		.75			
Totals .....	\$162.86	25.05	48.72		2.45
Balance, Dr. ....	\$ 21.98	1.00		9.21	.95
Balance, Cr. ....			8.66		

## RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES—ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE.

August 1, 1914—August 31, 1915.

Dr.	
Received for commissions and warrants.....	\$ 11.85
Received for supplies.....	15.19
Received from the Chief-of-Staff.....	293.69
	<u>\$320.73</u>
Cr.	
Postage and express.....	\$ 21.11
Correspondence and supplies.....	11.12
Commissions .....	
Printing:	<u>\$ 32.23</u>

Press Work .....	\$ 22.16
Hand Composition .....	18.75
Linotype composition and metal.....	5.97
Binding .....	5.05
Paper stock .....	10.40
	<hr/>
	\$ 62.34
Stenographer .....	\$195.00
Traveling expenses .....	\$ 21.86
Sundries:	
Twine .....	\$ .10
Engrossing Pens .....	.40
Filing cabinet section.....	7.50
Seals .....	.70
Ink .....	.50
Pencils .....	.10
	<hr/>
	\$ 9.30
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	\$320.73

## DETAILED RECEIPTS.

## Received for commissions and warrants:

Capt. Turner, Illinois .....	\$ 2.00
Lieut. Taylor, Illinois .....	1.00
Capt. Drake, Minnesota .....	1.75
Lieut. Corneia, Minnesota .....	1.00
Lieut. Col. Marshall, New York.....	1.00
Capt. Hubert, Delaware .....	1.00
Lieut. Hollis, Delaware .....	1.00
Lieut. Yergason, Connecticut .....	1.00
Lieut. Johnson, California .....	1.10
Lieut. Adkins, Delaware .....	1.00

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\$ 11.85

## Received for supplies:

G. Lauterer & Co., Chicago.....	\$ .15
Lieut. Col. Yengling, Ohio .....	4.00
Capt. Reeger, New Jersey.....	1.00
Lieut. Col. Marshall, New York.....	4.59
Lieut. Col. Murray, New York.....	1.05
Lieut. Yergason, Connecticut.....	1.00
Lieut. Col. Jones, New York.....	3.00
W. H. Sorley, Pennsylvania.....	.20
H. T. Grace, Connecticut.....	.20

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\$ 15.19

## ASSETS.

Filing cabinet (cost) .....	\$ 60.96
Commission plate (cost) .....	15.00
Typewriter (cost) .....	27.50
Stock of envelopes, stationery, paper and blanks.	

## IN GENERAL.

In the Department of Ohio, Lieutenant Colonel Yengling has continued his good work and shows a substantial gain numerically, and a considerably more material gain in efficiency, coming up to second place in rating. Too much cannot be said in

praise of his untiring efforts for the extension and betterment of the service.

The Department of New York shows a slight gain, notwithstanding the handicap of a change of administration during the year. In Lieutenant Colonel Murray's resignation we lost an able officer who promised much—fortunately he is not lost to the service for he resigned the command of the Department to take command of his local Company which seemed to him to need his services most; and, his action being the desire of his father, we had no alternative to accepting his resignation, regretting his loss but thinking none the less of him. In Lieutenant Colonel Marshall, we were doubly fortunate to find a worthy successor and we look for continued progress in that State with confidence.

The Department of New Jersey shows the effects of the unremitting work of its able Commanding Officer, Captain John L. Reeger, in the largest percentage gain numerically, and in again taking first place in the Efficiency Ratings, notwithstanding the fact that the independent commands still flourish unchecked.

Referring to our statement on this question in the last annual report, we desire to reiterate everything there said most emphatically, and to include the question of the unchecked wearing of non-descript uniforms of all kinds by Camps—even to the wearing of a Major-General's shoulder straps by a Camp Commander. Such performances can but bring the whole organization into disrepute in the eyes of the public and those for whose good opinion we care the most.

We recommend that Sec. 1, Chapter V of the Constitution be amended to read:

"The Sons of Veterans Reserve shall constitute the Military Department of the Order, and shall include all military bodies of the Order, with the exception that Camps may maintain a firing squad of not exceeding twelve men and one Sergeant, uniformed in accordance with Art. XVI, Chapter VI, provided they do not parade on any other occasion than the funeral of a veteran or on Memorial Day."

And further, since a law without penalty, or one, the enforcement of which is not the specific duty of some individual has proved ineffective, we recommend the addition of a new section to read:

"It shall be the duty of Division Commanders to enforce observance of the provisions of Sec. 1, and upon presentation of proper proofs of violations thereof, to recommend the revocation of the charter of the offending Camp."

And, since the matter of uniforms worn by Camps is hardly second in importance to proper protection and encouragement of the Reserve organization, we recommend the addition of a similar penalty clause to Art. XVI, Chapter VI.

The Pennsylvania Brigade, for the first time in its history, has shown a slight loss, which, while we regret it exceedingly, we do not believe is significant. The Division Encampment was this year unfortunately situated at the extreme end of the State, and four of our regimental organizations were unable to participate. These organizations were consequently without the



stimulus of the Spring recruiting for the camp, and this we believe was the principal reason for failure to show a gain.

In the Departments of Rhode Island and the Pacific we are sadly disappointed, and our optimistic opinion of last report failed to justify itself.

The Department of Rhode Island added one new command during the year, therefore shows a gain, but the glowing promises of Captain Parker have evaporated to such an extent that we failed to get any reports from his Department for May 1st.

In the Department of the Pacific, things have gone from bad to worse, if possible, and we only await the outcome of our endeavors to find some officer who will accept the command to relieve its present nominal Commanding Officer and ascertain if there be any real reason for the existence of the Department on our records, for the character of the work that has come to us is such as to raise very grave doubts on this question.

To the list of States in which we have separate Companies, we have added Connecticut.

On the whole, the year has been disappointing in its results—a by no means negligible factor being our inability to procure ordnance stores from the War Department, owing to the prohibition of the sale of any arms during the continuance of the European War. It is beyond our ability to comprehend in what way the sale of large calibre, black powder rifle, of pattern thirty years old, obsolete for twenty years, could affect the results of that great war, or our national neutrality—and we think that there should be within our organization men big enough to command the attention of the administration and secure the restoration of purchasing privileges to an organization such as ours—but we have not found them. To this effect, I would recommend your attention.

On another somewhat co-related subject, I would raise the question, without making any recommendation:—In view of the general recognition of our national unpreparedness and general lack of military instruction, is not the time ripe for an attempt by the big men of our Order to secure some little official recognition of the Reserve?

Official: HENRY STEWART.  
Colonel and Acting-Adjutant General.

John E. Sautter moves that all resolutions be referred to the committee without first being read. Seconded. Carried.

#### REPORT OF DELEGATE TO WORLD COURT CONGRESS.

Cincinnati, O., May 28, 1915.

Charles F. Sherman, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,  
U. S. A., Mount Vernon, N. Y.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that, pursuant to your direction, I attended the World Court Congress at Cleveland, Ohio, May 12-13, 1915, as a delegate, representative of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

We have been accustomed to the saying. "In time of peace

prepare for war;" but the sentiment which may be said to have called together this Congress at this particular time is expressed in the words, "In time of war let us prepare for peace."

The immediate purpose of this Congress, and those which shall follow it, is to create popular sentiment and crystalize public opinion in this country in favor of an international court of justice, so that, when the time comes (as many of us hope it soon may) for this nation to take its place in an international league of peace, it shall act with decision and promptness and by its activity in the cause place itself in the vanguard of the powers.

The object sought is the formation of a league of peace among the nations of the world, or as many of them as may be. The cardinal points of the suggested compact are:

First.—The creation of a World Court which would have jurisdiction, by consent of all members of the league, to consider and decide according to the principles of international law and equity all justiciable questions arising between them, or any of them, which have not yielded to diplomatic negotiations.

Second.—The creation of an assembly—for which the name "Council of Conciliation" has been suggested,—which shall consider all non-justiciable questions that may arise between the members of the league; such a Council to have power to hear evidence, investigate the causes of differences, mediate between the parties, and then to make a recommendation for a settlement of the dispute.

Third.—The nations signatory to such a convention shall agree that if any member of the league, without first having submitted the dispute, if justiciable, to the International Court, or if non-justiciable, to the Council of Conciliation, shall engage in hostilities against any other nation signatory to the compact, then the remaining members of the league agree to join in the defense of the nation thus prematurely attacked.

It will be seen that the project contemplates simply the compulsory submission of any dispute to the one tribunal or to the other *before hostilities are begun*. If such a compulsory submission of all disputes can be realized, it alone, by reason of the attendant lapse of time and the open investigation and discussion of the causes of the dispute, giving thus an opportunity for the cooling of momentary passion and the re-enthronement of calm and sober judgment, will materially promote enduring peace among the nations of the world. To enforce the submission of disputes to the World Court or to the Council of Conciliation, as the case may be, the league of peace would depend, it has been said; first, upon the force of the public opinion of the world; second, upon economic pressure by a sort of international ostracism or non-intercourse; or third, as a last resort, upon the employment of an international police to bring the recalcitrant nation to terms.

No methods have been considered for enforcing the *judgments* of the Court or the *recommendations* of the Council of Conciliation; but many believe that all nations would respond to the dictate of the World Court, or the recommendation of the Council of Conciliation, irrespective of the exercise of any constraining influence other than that of the public opinion of the rest of the world.

The project is not a new one. It was adopted in principle



by the forty-four States composing the second Hague Conference in 1907; it was endorsed by the Institute of International Law in 1912; since 1907 it has received the hearty support of all the leading powers, including Great Britain and Germany. It therefore is a mature project. It will be a powerful factor in maintaining the peace of the world in the future. The time is ripe for action looking toward its early establishment, for the close of the present great war will afford the most favorable opportunity in the history of the world for the working out of such a plan.

All rational and honorable plans for substituting other methods than war for the settlement of international differences should have our solemn consideration, and if they are found practicable, our earnest support.

I therefore respectfully suggest that the Order of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., do heartily endorse the proposition for the establishment of such an International Court of Justice, to the end that our own beloved country may place itself in the foremost file of the nations to do all that it may to "achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

Respectfully submitted,

W. M. COFFIN,

National Counselor.

*Delegate to World Court Congress.*

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO PREPARE A DESIGN OF A RECOGNITION BUTTON.

*Charles F. Sherman, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,  
U. S. A., Mount Vernon, N. Y.*

Sir:

Your committee, appointed pursuant to the instruction of the Thirty-third Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, and announced in General Orders No. 10, to prepare a design for a recognition button, and report to the Commander-in-Chief not later than March 1, 1915, beg leave to report:

The work of the committee has been accomplished by correspondence, without expense to the Commandery.

The committee, or a majority of it, are agreed that the preponderance of sentiment of the members of our organization is, beyond a question of doubt, favorable to some form of a bronze insignia, thus assuring a material not readily deteriorated by wear.

The committee, therefore, favors a *bronze* recognition button.

A recognition button, it goes without saying, should be readily "recognized." It should, at a glance, establish the identification of the organization.

In seeking a suitable design we have reached the conclusion that the old style "bronze shield," while favored by many, nevertheless lacks both the character and design that is essential, notwithstanding it has been worn, generally speaking, for a good many years and by a great many members.

All designs heretofore in use, including the more recent rosette decoration, were eliminated in the course of the consideration of the question.



The best known identification of our organization is its membership badge. Whatever have been the variations of opinion with regard to anything connected with the organization, the membership badge has remained unchanged. It has survived all the rapacious legislation of our much legislated organization.

The membership badge has been worn by every man who has become a member of the Order, it is related to our Ritual and speaks of our purpose.

This cannot be said of any of the numerous styles of buttons or pins, which, from time to time, have been in vogue.

The membership badge is known to all persons who know anything about the Sons of Veterans. It is the one well understood recognition mark we possess.

Therefore, it is our opinion that the lower portion, or medallion of the membership badge in miniature, best provides the necessary and essential features of a recognition button.

The character of the design is distinctly different from that of any other organization, thus enabling a member to readily recognize it. The letters S. V., the center monogram of the design, make it distinguishable as the initials of the "Sons of Veterans," and, on a reasonably close examination, the whole design is clearly associated with the organization.

A well executed, clearly cut die, will at a comparatively small initial cost, provide an attractive recognition button.

It will mean "Sons of Veterans" and have the same relation as a well established *trade mark* to a business concern.

The Grand Army of the Republic utilized the medallion portion of their badge for the "little bronze button." Everybody knows what it indicates. If, from their badge, the G. A. R. created their button, it is not illogical for the Sons of Veterans to have our badge, for our purposes, produce a like result.



Your committee, therefore, respectfully recommend the adoption of a reproduction in miniature, to be made of a bronze material, the lower portion of the membership badge, not to exceed 11/16" in height, and 9/16" in width, as the official recognition button of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

The committee feel, if we may be pardoned for expressing it, that this recommendation is the most practical suggestion available, and provides something that will meet every reasonable desire of our members, and once adopted will stand the test of opinion and become as permanent and as satisfactory as the membership badge has proven to be to the general membership of our Order.

At least we have endeavored to reach such a conclusion,

and have the honor to submit this report in the most gracious and fraternal spirit for the judgment of membership at large.

F. E. BOLTON,  
RALPH M. GRANT,  
*Committee.*

Boston, Mass., February 27, 1915.

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Brother Shellhouse of the committee, does not concur in the recommendation for a *bronze* button, and, in a communication addressed to the chairman of the committee says:

"In reference to the button I wish to say that in my opinion same should not be made of the bronze metal material. The bronze button in a way always has and does stand for honor. It stands for service, it stands for fight and for war. All we want is something plain, simple and durable, that will indicate to the observer, that we are the son of a man who possessed that peculiar individual and distinctive honor characterized by service and war record.

I think it was a Past Commander of Ohio who said, that such a button would look enough like the old Grand Army button, to be its worthy successor. We do not succeed to anything.

My idea is the old Pennsylvania button with the outside border taken off, thus relieving it of the words "Sons of Veterans," leaving the big monogram in the center S. of V. This would make a beautiful button and one the boys would like to wear.

I have had some designs made and some prices submitted. The design I am sending you would be finely gold plated, 24 karat Roman gold color. The enameling would be of the best quality of jewelry enamel. Each button equipped with the latest patent screw back.

These are merely my personal views and suggestions upon the matter."

FRANK SHELLHOUSE.

Dated: Indianapolis, Ind., March 1, 1915.

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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO FORMULATE  
A SET OF BLANKS FOR THE ORDERLY CON-  
DUCT OF THE JUNIOR ORDER.

*Charles F. Sherman, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,  
U. S. A., Mount Vernon, N. Y.*

Sir:

March 1, 1915.

The Committee appointed by authority of the Thirty-second National Encampment of the Sons of Veterans held at Chattanooga, and continued by action of the Thirty-third National Encampment held at Detroit, beg to submit the following report:

*Rules to Govern the Institution and Conduct of Affairs of Camps  
of Junior Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.*

1. The organization shall be known and designated as The Junior Order, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

2. All male descendants, whether through the paternal or maternal line, between twelve and eighteen years of age, of soldiers, sailors, and marines, who were regularly mustered and served honorably in, or were discharged from the Union Army or Navy of the United States of America during the War of the Rebellion of 1861-1865 and who have never been convicted of any heinous or infamous crime, or whose ancestors through whom membership is claimed have never borne arms voluntarily against the government of the United States of America are eligible to membership, provided that upon attaining the age of eighteen years they shall make application for membership in the Camp to which the Junior Camp is attached.

3. Junior Camps may be formed by authority of a Division Commander with the approval of the Senior Camp to which it is to be attached, upon the presentation of an application for Charter signed by at least fifteen eligibles, blanks for this purpose to be furnished by the Division Commander who shall designate the mustering officer and assign its number.

4. Camp officers shall be Captain, First Lieutenant, Second Lieutenant, Chaplain, First Sergeant, Color Sergeant, Sergeant of the Guard, Corporal of the Guard, and Picket Guard.

5. The Captain, First Lieutenant, and Second Lieutenant shall serve for six months, elections shall take place at the first meetings in June and December. The officers shall be installed the first meetings in January and July. Nominations may be made at the last two meetings in May and November, all other officers except supervisors shall be appointed by the Captain and the term of all officers shall be for six months or until their successors are elected or appointed and have qualified.

6. There shall be elected or appointed by the Camp to which a Junior Camp is attached a board of five supervisors one of whom shall be chosen by them to act as treasurer of the Junior Camp. He shall give a bond for the faithful performance of his duties in such amount as the Senior Camp shall determine.

7. Senior Camps at their last meetings in June and December shall appoint a committee of three to examine all the books of record and accounts of the Junior Camp attached to them, said committee to report in full to the Senior and Junior Camps on or before August and February first following their appointment.

8. All business of Junior Camps shall be transacted by its members except the receipt and expenditure of moneys, which shall be under the control and direction of the board of supervisors.

9. Senior Camps may admit to membership members of Junior Camps without payment of usual muster fee.

10. A Junior Camp shall be under the control of the Camp to which it is attached. No charge shall be levied upon the Camp except for supplies furnished to them from Division Headquarters and for charter fee.

11. Treasurers of Junior Camps shall in January of each year make a report in detail to the Division Commander of membership and receipts and expenses of the previous year.

12. Division Commanders shall report to the Commander-in-Chief annually on the first of each year the number of Junior Camps in their Division and total membership of the same.



13. The Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., shall issue a semi-annual password to Junior Camps through the usual channels.

14. Division or National organizations of Junior Camps shall not be permitted.

15. BLANKS.

1. Charter applications.
2. Applications for membership.
3. Rituals.
4. Requisitions for supplies.
5. Membership cards quarterly.
6. Membership cards annually.
7. Honorable discharges.
8. Notice to delinquent members.
9. Descriptive books.

Yours in F. C. & L.,  
GEO. W. POLLITT,  
WM. TRETBAR,  
WILLIAM O. COBB, M. D.

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#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MILITARY AFFAIRS.

Boston, Mass., August 19, 1915.

*Charles F. Sherman, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,  
U. S. A., Mount Vernon, N. Y.*

*Sir:*

The Committee on Military Affairs has had but two matters referred to it during the past year. The first was by action of the Thirty-third Annual Encampment, in adopting a recommendation of the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations. The specific matter before that Committee was a recommendation of the Chief-of-Staff in reference to independent companies of the Reserve, and the report was that the same be "referred to the Chief-of-Staff and the Committee on Military Affairs for further investigation with the recommendation that they report to the next Encampment such action in the premises as they may deem advisable."

We have taken this subject up with the Chief-of-Staff and recommend, after investigation of the facts, that there should be adopted to correct the present anomalous state of affairs caused by independent commands and heterogeneous uniforms worn by some camps, an amendment and addition to Chapter V, and an addition to Art. XVI, Chapter VI. C. R. & R., along the lines of the amendment published in General Orders preceding this meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief.

We are especially led to this action by the firm belief, that at a time when there is a deep appreciation of all that makes for better military preparation, and much reliance is placed on those outside of the regularly constituted forces of the Nation and the States, to bring this about, it is the more incumbent upon us to insist that those of our members who, through our Order, seek to attain some degree of proficiency in arms, do so in a manner worthy of it and of themselves. It is distinctly

not the age of burlesque uniforms or grotesque drill. It is a time when efficiency is expected, and only through proper instruction and supervision is there likely to be brought about any result which we as an Order ought to recognize or endorse.

The other matter brought to our attention and which has received our approval, is an addition to the Regulations of the Reserve, as follows:

"An officer who has served ten years, and having reached field rank, at the expiration of such last commission may, on his request, be placed upon the retired list,—being privileged to wear the uniform of his rank upon formal occasions of the Order, if the Reserve be represented, or in the field, if assigned to duty by a Brigade or Department Commandant."

Respectfully submitted in F., C. & L.,

CHARLES K. DARLING,

E. R. CAMPBELL,

FRANK L. SHEPARD,

SAMUEL S. HORN.

I dissent from so much of the above report as makes recommendation concerning independent companies.

GEORGE W. POLLITT.

I join in the recommendation of the Committee relative to independent commands.

EDWIN M. AMES,

*Chief-of-Staff.*

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George B. Abbott: I move that a recess be taken until 2:30 this afternoon. Seconded. Carried.

Meeting adjourned.

## TUESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

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Meeting called to order by the Commander-in-Chief.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The chief purpose of the session this afternoon will be the reception of the most distinguished guests whom we can have the honor of receiving. I left Colonel Palmer and Mrs. Fulton but a few minutes ago at the Lincoln memorial tree planting. Commander-in-Chief Palmer had just wielded the spade and Mrs. Fulton was about to be called upon, and I had to hurry back. I delayed opening this Encampment this afternoon beyond the time set because I felt that I wanted the brothers to be here and greet in large numbers our guests. Now, this session is yours. If there is any business you desire to discuss at this time, it is your privilege to bring it before the Encampment. But I would ask that as soon as our guests are announced, irrespective of what business may be engaging the attention of the delegates, that all of that matter be suspended temporarily and that they be received without delay.

H. H. Hammer reads the following telegrams:

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 28, 1915.

Charles F. Sherman, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,  
Hotel Shoreham, Washington, D. C.

Greetings:—

Congratulations and best wishes for a pleasant and harmonious convention. Sorry unable to attend.

FRED J. PHILLIPS.

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Los Angeles, Cal, Sept. 27, 1915.

C. F. Sherman, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,  
Hotel Shoreham, Washington, D. C.

Am sorry cannot be with you in person; am with you in spirit. Wish you progressive, harmonious, successful encampment. Let slogan be: "Upward and onward in increased membership." You are invited to visit the Garden of Eden, Los Angeles. God bless you all.

Fraternally,

GEO. W. CONART,

Past Division Commander, California and Oregon.

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Indianapolis, Ind., Sept. 27, 1915.

Charles F. Sherman, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,  
Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D. C.

Business conditions are such that for the first time in sev-



enteen years I am compelled to be absent from the National Encampment. Remember me kindly to all the boys.

Fraternally and sincerely yours,

NEWTON J. McGUIRE.

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Indianapolis, Ind., Sept. 26, 1915.

Frank Shellhouse

Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D. C.

I am unable to arrange things here. Cannot come. Regards to our friends.

THEODORE W. ALLEN.

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Ellsworth, Kan., Sept. 28, 1915.

Charles F. Sherman.

Hotel Shoreham, Washington, D. C.

Preston Camp No. 3, Dodge City, Kan., mustered with 49 members.

FRED A. KESLER.

Division Commander.

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Springfield, Ohio, Sept. 29, 1915.

T. E. Long, Ohio Division, Sons of Veterans,

Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D. C.

H. E. Frugehey mustered, Ottawa, 25 members; Seaman closed with 79.

WHITTLESEY AND SHIERY.

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George B. Abbott: There is a matter I wish to bring up as a correction. If I remember correctly, I moved the approval of the minutes of the Encampment at Detroit without reading. The minutes as published in the proceedings were not correct in one particular, and I wish to make that correction and have it straightened out, if we may do it at this time. It is on the question of the adoption of the report of the committee of which I was chairman, on the historical sketch of the order, which had been worked on for two or three years. It finally came up for action at Detroit. I closed my verbal report with the motion that the report of the committee as published in the May number, 1914, of The Banner was the report of the committee and should become part of the proceedings of the Encampment, and that the Secretary be authorized to issue the same in pamphlet form free of cost for the use of the order.

The proceedings did not contain that report nor did they contain my motion as made. I wish to have that become part of the historical records of the Commandery-in-Chief, because to my mind, and to the minds of my friends that have talked about it, it was an important matter and should be a question of official record, that that report should become incorporated in the report of the Commandery-in-Chief.

Past Commander-in-Chief R. M. J. Reed, Past Division Commander A. G. Loyd and Past Grand Division Commander Challis protest.

Commander-in-Chief Palmer and Mrs. Sarah E. Fulton are announced and escorted into the room.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: It seems as though there had been many culminating and crowning events during the year which is drawing to a close and the convention which is now in session, but I can't think of anything that gives me greater pleasure than to present to you these, our most distinguished guests, who can honor us by their presence, the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, David J. Palmer, and National President of the Woman's Relief Corps, Sarah E. Fulton. (Applause.)

Brothers, I present you the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army, and in token of the authority which our parent organization has over the Sons of Veterans, it gives me pleasure to tender to him this emblem of authority. (Hands Colonel Palmer the gavel. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief David J. Palmer: Commander-in-Chief and My Young Comrades: I am also pleased to be here. Over in our country in 1861, a couple of young fellows thought they would enlist the first year. One of them had been married awhile and the other was single. They were chummy at home, and they got into the same company and the same regiment. They were shown to the front and had some very hard marching and very severe battles. One day, after a long, hard day's march, they went into camp, and when these two chummy fellows pitched their dog tents together for the night and crawled in, one was heard to say to the other: "Jim, what made you enlist and take on all these hardships? This is simply killing on us. We can't stand this. We will be dead in a little while. What made you enlist?" "Oh, well," he said, "I was a single fellow. I didn't have anybody that cared for me, and I kind of liked war and enlisted. What made you enlist?" "Oh, I was married, and I liked peace, and I thought I would go, too." (Laughter.)

So, I have two reasons for being here. One is, I got a very cordial invitation, and the other is that I like to be here. I am glad to meet you and congratulate you on your organization and on your good meeting that I hear of and have heard of since I came to the city. I am glad to know what you are doing. I know very much of what your Commander-in-Chief has been doing in the past year. I met him in very many different places in the country. In fact, I couldn't get out of reach of him. Some way, everywhere I went, he sneaked in the same night. (Laughter.) I know of the Camps that he stirred up. I know of many of them that he organized, brought into existence, to help you who have been at the work for some years, and I want to congratulate him and you both in the fact that so much growth has attached to this organization during the past year.

Now, it follows that you have something to do. You have a message to convey to the neighbor and to the young boy or girl that is coming up. What are you doing about that? What do you say to the boy when you meet him coming from school? Do you ever speak to him at all and call him John or Jim or Johnny or whatever you know his name to be, and ask

him what he is studying and how he is getting along, and ask him if they have a flag in their school house, if the teacher ever says a word to him about the country in which we live and what the school ought to be taught relative thereto? Or do you pass him by and look sour at him? I tell you, we must take care of the boys of this country. We have got to take care of the girls, too. I would rather take care of the girls a good deal than the boys, anyhow. But that's something you can do, comrades, every one of you. There is not a soul here that can't say a good word to a boy eight or ten or twelve years old and lift him. It has a tendency just to lift him up a little. He feels that you are interested in him, and he wants to keep your acquaintance. The next time he sees you on the street and meets you, he will call you by name and say: "Mr. Smith, how are you?" or something, and pass along. It doesn't take a minute as you are walking down town or down street, or out in the country, and you meet him in the road. A country school boy likes to be spoken to. Lift him up. You can do it with a word, and you can lift him up so that he can see the Stars and Stripes.

There are some children that have never seen the Stars and Stripes yet in our country. We have an immigration here every year knowing nothing about what the Stars and Stripes mean. What is your duty? What is mine? I tell you, we must educate or perish in this country. Stand by the flag and what it represents. Stand by Uncle Sam, my boys, according to the old song that we used to sing at the time of the war. Now, we have organizations. Mrs. Fulton here represents one, and there are other organizations allied to you and to the Grand Army of the Republic that are simply doing wonders in this country in the way of promoting patriotism, promoting loyalty in the country. What are you doing? Helping along with that? I know you are. That is what you are aiming to do. But, don't pass the boy on the street without speaking to him. That we need to do. Keep in touch with the boy and girl. Then you will never get old. Stand by them always. That will keep you young. Why, I am not old. I am just seventy-five years young. That is what you ought to be. (Applause.) I have never seen the day yet that I didn't enjoy some fun, and I would like it right now if I could get it. (Laughter.)

It puts me in mind of a story down in our country. We have some Baptist people in our town. I live out in the wild and woolly West, west of the Mississippi River. There were two or three Baptist ministers. One blue Monday—Some of you are ministers. I think, from the looks of the tops of your heads, and you can appreciate that a minister has a blue Monday every now and then. And so they got a gun apiece and went down Skunk River and commenced to hunt and fish. Going up and down for a half a day or more, they became somewhat hungry and fatigued. They saw a little house out at the edge of the timber and they met a German there, a Dutchman, and asked him if they could get something to eat. He said, "I don't know. I will see mutter. Maype she gets you somedings to eat." He goes in and returns and says, "Yes, vee can get you somedings to eat." He calls a boy there and says to him, "Shakey, run oud to the parnyart and gatch a chigen and take in to mutter." Away he goes, and the Dutchman turns around and looks at the party. He says, "You look like you be ministers." "Yes, yes,



we are ministers." "You be Methodists?" No,-no; we are Baptist ministers." "Oh, Shakey, Shakey, get a duck." (Laughter.)

Now, we should keep ourselves in touch with everything that is going on in the country, and if it's a chicken, let us take that; if it's a duck, take the duck. Always be on hand for what is best suited to the occasion and always in sight of the flag.

When the Grand Army of the Republic stacked arms at Appomattox in 1865 they were turned loose to go home. Some of you perhaps are old enough to remember, even as a boy then eight or ten years old, you will remember what the press of the country said about turning two million of those hellions that had been down through the South stealing and putting their long fingers on everything they would come to. "Why, what will become of our country if we turn those fellows loose?" That was the press of the country, and in the mouths of some of the best citizens we had in our country at that day. They were turned loose and they came home. What was the first thing that the boy did? After he was received in the town, perhaps set up a dinner for the company that had just returned; then he went right to his mother. That is where he landed, at his mother's house. Doubtless she was in town ready to haul him out in the country. There he stayed with his mother, helped her if she needed him. If she didn't he hunted up some kind of a vocation in life, some kind of a profession, went to school or possibly found a business and commenced work. They went out into the undeveloped country that we had lots of in Iowa, in Kansas, in Nebraska and the Dakotas, Colorado and clear on out to the coast. Those boys scattered out there and they made communities and homes that are second to no homes or communities in the world around. That's what those boys did; that's what you will do and your sons and daughters will do if they keep their eye on the flag. Stand by Uncle Sam, my boys. (Applause.)

Up in Canada they had, some number of years ago, a banquet close to the line. Many British dignitaries were there and some of our good people, and they had a British flag up at one side and an American flag at the other, because it was a kind of a union banquet. In steps a very beautiful British lady, well dressed and with a long train to her, and she spied the American flag. She looked up at it with a good deal of disgust; in her countenance and disgust in the manner in which she expressed herself. She said, "I don't like that flag; it just makes me sick. It looks like a piece of checkerberry candy." It is said that Senator Hoar, who was then alive, stepped across and said, "Madam, I want to tell you, you are just right about that flag. That's the kind of candy that makes everybody sick that tries to lick it. (Applause.) (Much applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The Grand Army of the Republic, great as it is, would be incomplete without its recognized Auxiliary, the Woman's Relief Corps. It may be true that I upon several occasions have met with Colonel Palmer in our journeyings across the continent, but it is likewise true that where he has been, his co-worker and colleague, the National President of the Woman's Relief Corps, has always been in attendance at her meetings, ever an inspiration not only to the Grand Army of the Republic and the Woman's Relief Corps, but all of the allied organizations. We think of the

Grand Army as our father organization. We also and likewise thing of the Womans' Relief Corps as the mother organization, and I am proud to present to you the National President, she who has been a mother to me when I was absent from home, not only to me but all of the fifty-five thousand of the Sons of Veterans, and I give to her this token of authority. (Presents the gavel.) Mrs. Sarah E. Fulton. (Applause.)

National President Mrs. Sarah E. Fulton: Commander-in-Chief, Commander of the Sons of Veterans and Sons: It is a great pleasure as well as a privilege for me to come in here this afternoon and bring to you my personal greetings. I have noticed all through my official year the pleasant relations that have existed between the Sons of Veterans and the Woman's Relief Corps. Wherever I have been called upon to speak, I have endeavored to ask our members to co-operate with you Sons of Veterans and to aid you in organizing camps and give you that encouragement that only mothers can.

It is a pleasure and it is a privilege, more than you will ever know, for me to come in here and look at the faces of so many of our Sons of Veterans. The ranks of the Grand Army are thinning and many of the comrades' steps are faltering. It will not be many years before the last of that great army of men who fought for our country and brought back our flag without a star missing will have answered the last call, and their mantle must naturally fall upon you sons of worthy sires. I know of nothing that would please the comrades of the Grand Army and their Auxiliary more than to know that in every state, in every county, wherever there is a Grand Army Post, there was planted a camp of the Sons of Veterans. The comrades of the Grand Army need your help, and they need it now.

To you, Commander Sherman, you have been an inspiration to me wherever I have met you, and as the years come and go I shall look back with pleasure to this, our official year, and always hold you in loving, grateful remembrance.

And to you, Sons of Veterans, it is my earnest prayer and wish that you may grow in numbers, grow in interest and abound in good works. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I now ask Past Division Commander William T. Church of Illinois to respond to both Commander-in-Chief Palmer and National President Fulton.

William T. Church: Commander-in-Chief Palmer of the Grand Army of the Republic, and Mrs. Fulton, President of the Woman's Relief Corps: We bring to you today hearts overflowing with gratitude and with love and with loyalty. The atmosphere is so surcharged with patriotism at this time that it is almost impossible for us to exercise self-control. We today, after a half century of wonderful growth, of unparalleled progress, of accomplishments in national and private affairs the like of which the world has never known before and may never know again in the same space of time, have come to the capital city of the nation to pay our tribute to the Grand Army of the Republic, which we know is the grandest military organization the world has or ever shall know. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief, I know that I will have your approval in tendering first, the compliments of my assembled brothers to the ladies through their National President who has honored us with her presence here today, for I know that the loyalty



that our fathers and you exhibited in the days of the great rebellion would have meant nothing to you or to us had it not been for these women whom Mrs. Fulton represents, our mothers. There would have been no rebellion, there would have been no Grand Army, there would have been no government, but for them. Those things are of no value, but because men can give them to women. All the triumphs, all the victories, all the fame, all the power, all the material accumulations that men win, they bring and lay at the feet of women. So, we tender to you today the respect and heartfelt love of the Sons of Veterans to our mothers' organization.

And the Grand Army of the Republic. My brothers, don't you love that name? Grand Army of the Republic! Was there ever a slogan like that? If this country ever goes to war again, if you and I or our sons ever go, I know what the battle cry will be. It will be the star spangled banner and the Grand Army of the Republic. Where is there a foe can stand before that? Science has made great progress in the art of killing men since our fathers followed the flag on the battlefields of the South. There has been wonderful progress made in the effectiveness of the munitions of war. There has been no progress in the realm of loyalty and patriotism. As all artificial light is measured by the one great standard which none can ever equal, the sun in its glory, so the standard of loyalty and patriotism which the Grand Army of the Republic in the days of the nation's crisis gave not only to this nation but to the world, is beyond compare. Throughout all history it shall remain the standard by which other grades of loyalty and by which other men's patriotism shall be compared and tested, but never equaled. The old world is in a conflict today, in size, in immensity, in destructiveness, the greatest the world has ever known. But, for what is that great conflict being waged? For what are millions of lives being destroyed? For what is the face of Europe being torn and mangled until those of you who have seen it in the past will never recognize it again? There isn't one ounce of principle at stake in that conflict. It is the fight of animal hatred and militarism. Not so here. The Grand Army of the Republic that we all reverently marched away in the days of the sixties to make men free and to make men better and to make men stronger, to save the only government on earth that was organized and founded upon the essential and inalienable principle of liberty and freedom; and it brought back that flag the unsullied emblem of an undivided nation. It has further honored that flag and added glory to every star by fifty years of pacific service to our country. We know that no higher test or criterion of loyalty and patriotism can be had than that which is written in the records of this great parent organization whose members were endowed with the highest type of both civic and military virtue.

The Grand Army of the Republic, my brothers—we love it. Commander Palmer, it is the duty of this order, a duty that we recognize and love, to transmit the story of that day, the story of your campaigns to all the future, so that not alone we, but your descendants through all time to come, with the spirit of our fathers upon them, shall ever bow with reverence at the shrines of ancestral greatness, and rise to meet with hereditary valor and courage the stormy issues of any future hour.

Grand Army of the Republic, treasured in our memory, for-



ever revered, because it has given to us the greatest honor that can be conferred upon men, given us the right to wear the badge of our fathers' success, in which we take a greater pride than any decoration that could be conferred by the crowned heads of Europe. Grand Army of the Republic, through your Commander-in-Chief, accept our love and our loyalty, deep and strong as our fathers and mothers could make it in their sons. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I am sure your hearts have been touched, perhaps as never before, and I feel that the presence of these honored leaders have been even a benediction to this encampment. I feel, perhaps, as did the disciples of old, who on their walk to Emaus with the Saviour, remarked: "How our hearts did burn as He walked and talked with us by the way."

The guests are escorted from the room.

George B. Abbott again brings up the question of the accepting of the committee's report on the historical sketch.

George B. Abbott: I move that the historical sketch as prepared by the committee become a part of the proceedings of this encampment. Seconded. Motion did not prevail.

Alfred G. Loyd, Pennsylvania: I move that the matter be referred back to the same committee and that Brother Dustin be requested to publish a series of historical articles and that the matter be opened to discussion through the columns of The Banner. Seconded and carried.

H. H. Hammer: I desire to present the report of the Credential Committee. There are 173 delegates and members of the encampment present thus far. This is the high water mark for the first session of an encampment.

George W. Penniman: I would like to have just a word of explanation with reference to my report. In that report, it is stated that there are six divisions that did not submit information for my consolidated report. Two of those divisions were Wisconsin and Indiana. Wisconsin's report was received a few days after the first day of September, but too late to insert in the printed record. The one from Indiana I received last Saturday, and that, of course, was too late. That leaves to be mentioned in this report four divisions that have not yet sent in the information for the consolidated report, notwithstanding the fact that each of them has received at least three letters. These four delinquent divisions to be read into my report at present are Minnesota, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming and Montana.

Delegation from Sons of Veterans' Auxiliary announced.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: It gives me great pleasure to introduce to you Mrs. Bessie B. Bowser, the National President of the Sons of Veterans' Auxiliary; Miss Mayme Dwyer, National Patriotic Instructor, and Mrs. Emma S. Finch, National Secretary of the Sons of Veterans' Auxiliary. We are very glad indeed to welcome you to our convention this afternoon.

Mrs. Bessie B. Bowser: Brothers, you know in the war of '61 to '65—that's the cause of our organization really—it was the duty of our mothers, and they did a great deal of it, to make flags for our fathers to carry during the war. It came to us that the Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans had

to carry a tattered and torn flag or else borrow one. Following the example set by our mothers, we thought that the best thing we could do was to present this organization with a flag.

As our National Patriotic Instructor has had charge of this work, I am going to ask her to make a few remarks to you. She is the one to whom all the glory is due. She has collected the money for this and has taken a great interest in it, and has ordered the flags. (Applause.)

Miss Mayme Dwyer: It was certainly understood outside that any talking that was to be done was to be done by our National President. Only for that, we wouldn't have allowed her to come with us. But I am pleased to be here, and I have only one regret, that I could not bring with me the flags that our organization presents to you, our brothers. I know that you will be just as glad to receive them as we are to give them. I have been told by many who have seen them that they are the most beautiful flags they have ever gazed upon. One we want to present to you in honor of the living and the dead heroes of the army of '61 to '65, and the other flag is the flag of our navy. We want that flag of the navy to remind you that while the soldiers fought on land, the sailors guarded the seas. And so on this, the fiftieth anniversary of the grand review that was held here in Washington, we want you, the Sons of Veterans, to carry in your parade tomorrow, as an escort to the Grand Army of the Republic, something that will remind you of the men of '61 to '65 and what they did that these flags might be preserved. I need not say to you, "Guard them for the privilege that they confer," because I know you will do that. And, if you knew the pleasure that it has given us to be able to present them to you, I am sure you would appreciate them the more.

My flag fund has grown to quite a considerable amount, and it has been made up of five cent donations from the members of our organization. Every member that has contributed towards this flag fund sends to you her love with the donation that went toward it. I hope that we may be able in the years to come to present something to you each year that will remind you of the love and loyalty of the members of your Auxiliary. We are glad to be the Auxiliary of the Sons of Veterans, and all we ask of you is to remember that we are the only authorized Auxiliary to your organization. (Applause.)

I understand that we did not ask to come to you; you asked to have us come. For that reason, you owe it to us to give your allegiance and loyalty, and I hope that every man here who belongs to a camp that has no Auxiliary attached to it, when he sees these flags, "Well they do some good work," and will go home inspired and anxious to form an Auxiliary to his camp, that they in turn might present something like that to them. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I am led to believe that these flags are now being presented symbolically, and I so interpret it and accept them symbolically at this time. I will ask Brother McNulty of Pennsylvania to respond on behalf of the Sons of Veterans for this gift. (Applause.)

W. B. McNulty: Commander-in-Chief and Sisters of the Auxiliary: I am reminded of a story that I sometimes tell of a man who rushed into the Grand Central Station in New York City one day. He was addicted to the habit of stammering.



Rushing up to the ticket office, he said to the ticket seller: "I w-w-w-wa-wan-wan-wanted to get a t-t-t-t-tick-tick-ticket to—." Just then a number of people gathered around the window, and the ticket agent said to the man: "What is it you want? Speak out. I can't understand what you are saying." He said: "I w-w-w-w-w-want to g-g-g-get a t-t-tick-ticket for—." Just then the trainman shouted: "All aboard for Albany," and the gates closed and the engine with its train of cars rolled out of the depot. By this time the ticket seller was very angry, because of the way the man was blockading the window. He said: "What is it you want? If you can't tell me, get out of the way and let these people get their tickets." He said: "I w-w-w-wan-want to ask you wh-wh-whether you can send me to Al-Al-Al-Albany by freight?" The ticket seller said: "Why do you ask me such a question as that?" He said: "Be-be-be-because I c-c-c-can't ex-ex-ex-express myself." (Laughter.) And so, being called upon so unexpectedly by the Commander-in-Chief to perform this pleasant duty, this duty of honor, I am just exactly in that position.

There are so many beautiful things that I would like to say to the ladies and to the sisters of their great patriotic organizations that I cannot find words sufficiently strong in our beautiful language to give expression to those thoughts, thoughts that come from the innermost recesses of my heart and from that of every brother of this organization. (Applause.)

The two flags are brought in.

Mrs. Bessie B. Bowser: We are so glad these flags came before we left. We thought you might think that we were fooling you. You know, it takes a good talker to get money from man; it takes a better talker to get it from a woman, and Sister Dwyer deserves a great deal of credit for getting the money to buy these flags.

W. B. McNulty (continuing): I want to say that we are all assured that the members of our woman's organization never fool us on anything; that they are always ready and always willing to do everything that is in their power to advance the splendid principles and sublime objects of our organization.

There is a peculiar feature about this gift today, and yet in another way it is not peculiar, because it has been characteristic of womanhood since the beginning of the world to be at the forefront, to lead in all good and noble movements. The woman who first made that flag that we all love, Betsey Ross of Philadelphia, was but one of those noble women that from time to time in the history of the world have been active in advancing the welfare and uplift of humanity. Mentioning the name of Betsey Ross calls to my mind another peculiar thing that struck me a short time ago in connection with the flag. On the committee that appeared before Betsey Ross in her home was a Colonel Ross; that the father of Francis Scott Key was Colonel Ross Key, an officer of the revolutionary army; that the general who commanded the British forces when they assailed the city of Washington and afterwards made an assault upon Fort McHenry at Baltimore was General Ross. So you see the name of Ross has played an important part in connection with that flag. It was a woman, Mrs. Pickersgill, I believe, who made the flag that floated over Fort McHenry, that inspired Francis Scott Key to write that great poem that has made this flag famous



the world over from the fact that Americans in all parts of the world, wherever they may be, love to hear that great national anthem. It is known in all quarters of the globe and is recognized as the hymn of the "land of the free and the home of the brave."

When our mothers gave to our sires and grandsires that flag to carry to the front, to maintain the integrity of this Union, to keep every star in that firmament of blue, it was not the flag that these ladies here, the daughters and the descendants of those men, present to us, the Sons of Veterans, today. At that time there rested upon its folds the stain of human slavery, the only one foul blot that ever smeared or dishonored that flag. But, when our fathers marched down Pennsylvania Avenue fifty years ago they had by their heroic devotion, by the sacrifice of four hundred thousand lives, washed that flag clean and pure, and, as it is handed to us here today in the capital of the nation, fifty years after the close of that great conflict, we can stand erect and say to the world that it is the flag of the brave and it is the flag of the free, for there is no blot of human slavery upon it, that there was in 1861 when our sires and grandsires marched under its folds to stand, to battle and to die "that government of the people should not perish from the earth."

We love that flag and you love it. It is your flag. It is the flag of all the people who dwell within the boundary lines of this great nation or who live under its folds, who are Americans. You can rest assured that in accepting this splendid donation, that splendid present that you give us today, that there is nothing sweeter that you could give to the sons and the grandsons of the men who performed such deeds of valor as are unknown upon the pages of history in defense of that sweetest and best and greatest of the emblems of the nations of the earth, than to give it here to the Sons of Veterans. You can rest assured, sisters, that just as the men who went into the regiments and the men who served upon the decks of the ships of war, the men who fought upon the hills of Gettysburg, the men who followed Farragut into Mobile Bay, proved their devotion and loyalty to that flag, just as they upheld it as it was handed to them by the women of this nation in the days that tested men's patriotism, in the days when a crisis hovered over this country and when the question of the rule by the common people was at issue, just as our sires and grandsires fought to uphold it and to bring it through in victory, so will the sons and the grandsons and the great-grandsons emulate the deeds of their sires and grandsires, and, if occasion should require it, they would take those flags that you have given today, the flag of the nation and the flag of the navy, the greatest and best of the navies of the nations of the earth, and they would go forth and they would do battle, too, battle as valiantly, battle as loyally as their sires and grandsires did, and they would bring it back again to you girls, they would bring it back to the loyal women of America, though it might be tattered and torn with shot and shell, but they would bring it back again to you to hand it back to you with victory written across its folds. (Applause.)

In behalf of this great organization of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., we accept these flags with heartfelt thanks, and we only say to you, as we can truthfully and justly say, as you have called to our attention in our opening remarks, that you are our own

particular Auxiliary, that we appreciate what you have done today, and as long as any of us are living, and as we go back to our camps in the various quarters of this great nation, we will tell this little tale today, we will tell what you ladies did here on this, the fiftieth anniversary of the close of the great Civil War, here within the shadow of the capitol, here within the shadow of the place that the immortal Lincoln gave his life for this nation—not alone for this nation, but that all men and women all over the world might be free, for he died for all mankind. We will tell this tale of how you came here to us today and gave us that which is dearest to us, dearer than life, dearer to us than anything that we could think of or ask for or pray for from Almighty God, the flag of our nation. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I have the pleasure also to present to you Mrs. Emma S. Finch, National Secretary, Sons of Veterans' Auxiliary, and Mrs. Bowser's right bower. (Applause.)

Mrs. Emma S. Finch: I esteem it a very great privilege and a very high honor to be able to come to you in your national convention. It is the first time such a privilege has ever been accorded to me, and I hope it will not be the last. I am sure I can't tell you how pleased I am to be here. Thank you. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I met this good sister (referring to Mrs. Finch) as I was traveling about the states, and I recognize that she has caught a good deal of sunshine in her hair. She is a right good worker, spreading sunshine wherever she goes, and I wish we had more like her.

Sister Bowser, Sister Dwyer and Sister Finch, proud indeed are we to be the recipients of your kindness and your thoughtfulness, this afternoon. These flags shall be an inspiration to us, and tomorrow and in the weeks to come, and even in the months and years that are before us, we will ever strive to keep before us these flags, for they are symbolic to us of the nation itself; and as we love them we love our nation. If we were untrue to them, we would be likewise untrue to our nation.

I also thank you for your visit to us upon this occasion. We are honored to have had already three of the national officers of our sister societies visit us thus early in our encampment. We trust, Sister Bowser, that this encampment which is now in session, over which you so gracefully preside, may be the very best encampment that the Sons of Veterans' Auxiliary has ever held. And, brothers, remember that these sisters represent not the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Sons of Veterans; they are the Sons of Veterans' Auxiliary, and our own Auxiliary.

The ladies are escorted from the room with much applause.

Motion that the sincere thanks of the Sons of Veterans to the Sons of Veterans' Auxiliary be suitably expressed and that the same be prepared in due form and sent to them. Carried.

Motion to adjourn. Carried.

Adjournment. To meet at 2:30 on Wednesday after the parade.

## WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Meeting called to order at 2:30 by the Commander-in-Chief.  
Taking of password. It is found that all are entitled to remain.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The first matter to come before the encampment this afternoon is the report of your special committee on Constitution, of which Brother John E. Sautter is chairman.

John E. Sautter reads the report.

(EXHIBIT NO. 3)

Aspinwall, Pa., July 29, 1915.

*To the Officers and Members of the Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.*

*Greetings:*

In his report to the Thirty-third Annual Encampment, held at Detroit, Mich., September 1 to 3, 1914, Commander-in-Chief Sautter, under the caption "Proposed Revision in Method of Reporting Members," made certain recommendations, to be found on pages 20 and 21 of the Proceedings of said Encampment. In general these recommendations had for their purpose the abolishment of the suspension of members and the substitution of semi-annual for quarterly reports. In regular order this portion of the report was referred to the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations, and said committee recommended as follows:

"The recommendations of the Commander-in-Chief, marked A, B, C, D, E and F, on page 12 of his report, are hereby concurred in, in so far as pertains to the appointment of a committee, which committee shall consider said recommendations and draft such legislation as it may deem advisable covering the subject matter of said recommendations; and recommend that if, after consideration, it believes that any such legislation is wise, it shall prepare the same in the usual form for constitutional amendments and shall cause the same to be duly published and presented to the next annual meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief in the manner provided by law for amendments to the C. R. and R."

This recommendation was unanimously adopted, and in conformity with this action the undersigned committee was appointed by you in General Orders No. 10, Series of 1914.

In considering the subject and in the recommendations which follow providing for changes in the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, we have added one as being co-related to the question of the substitution of semi-annual for quarterly reports



and which provides for the election of officers and their installation in March and April, respectively, instead of in December and January, as at present provided for.

We respectfully recommend the following changes in the Constitution, Rules and Regulations governing the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., covering the recommendations separately under the three heads above named:

First: To provide for the abolishment of the suspension of members.

Page 8, Chapter II, Article III, Section 3. Strike out the entire section and insert a new section reading as follows:

"Section 3. *Any member of a camp who is one year in arrears in the payment of his dues may, by a vote of the camp, be dropped. If in arrears in the payment of his dues for two years, his name shall, without further action by the camp, be dropped from the roll, and he shall be notified of this action by the Secretary.*

*Until his name is dropped from the roll, the camp shall be subject to per capita tax on such member.*

*"A dropped member may be again admitted into the order in the same manner as a new member; provided, however, he shall pay one year's dues to the camp from which he was dropped, if such camp is still in existence."*

Page 45, Chapter VI, Article II, Section 3, line 1. Strike out the words "suspended or," so that this section shall read as follows:

*"A member may be dropped for the non-payment of fines in the same manner and form as provided for in the case of the non-payment of dues."*

Second: To provide for semi-annual instead of quarterly reports.

Page 5, Chapter II, Article I, Section 4, line 3. Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual"; lines 4 and 5. Strike out the words "one" and "or more" and insert the word "two" following the word "for," so that this section shall read as follows:

*"A Division Commander may suspend delinquent camps, at his discretion, for failure to make semi-annual reports. All camps which have failed for two years to make reports or pay per capita tax shall be considered disbanded and the charters thereof revoked."*

Page 7, Chapter II, Article II, Section 3, line 6. Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual," so that this section shall read as follows:

*"Each application for membership must be accompanied with a fee of not less than one dollar, twenty-five cents of which amount shall be paid to the Commandery-in-Chief and forwarded through Division Headquarters with the semi-annual report."*

Page 9, Chapter II, Article IV, Section 1, line 4. Strike out the word "quarter" and insert "three months," so that this section shall read as follows:

*"Regular and special meetings of camps shall be held as provided by their respective by-laws. Camps shall meet not less than once each three months."*

Page 13, Chapter II, Article VII, Section 4(a), line 5.

Strike out the word "quarter" and insert "designated semi-annual period." Line 7. Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual," so that this section shall read as follows:

"The Secretary shall attest with the seal of the camp all orders, circulars and other documents issued by the Commander, and after the last regular meeting of the camp in each *designated semi-annual period*, make out on blanks furnished by the Division Secretary duplicate *semi-annual* reports, one copy of which shall be forwarded, together with the per capita tax due from the camp, to Division Headquarters, on or before the 10th day of the following month, the other copy, to be placed on file in the camp. He shall draw all requisitions upon the Treasurer for the expenditure of money, upon the order of the camp, and submit the same to the Commander for his approval, keeping a book for that purpose."

Page 16, Chapter II, Article VII, Section 9, line 18. Strike out the word "quarter" and insert "designated semi-annual period," so that the last sentence of this section shall read as follows:

"The Camp Council shall, at the end of each *designated semi-annual period*, render a full and complete report in writing, showing its transactions and the financial condition of the camp."

Page 20, Chapter III, Article I, Section 2(h), line 3. Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert the word "semi-annual," so that this paragraph of Section 2 shall read as follows:

"The Commander-in-Chief shall have power to suspend any division for failure to make *semi-annual* reports or for the non-payment of per capita tax."

Page 20, Chapter III, Article II, Section 1 (second), lines 6 and 7, on page 21. Strike out the words "quarter next preceding the Encampment" and insert "September semi-annual period," so that this paragraph of Section 1 shall read as follows:

"Delegates elected by ballot by the several camps of the divisions as follows: One delegate for each camp, whatever its membership, and additional delegates, in the ratio of one for every fifty members, or major fraction thereof, based upon the report of the *September semi-annual period*."

Page 25, Chapter III, Article VI, Section 3, lines 14 and 15. Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual," so that the fourth sentence of this section shall read as follows:

"He shall prepare and promptly submit to the Division Commander *semi-annual* and all other reports, required by the Commandery-in-Chief."

Page 38, Chapter IV, Article VI, Section 3, line 16. Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual." Line 17. After the word "Order" insert "This report to include all camps suspended by the various divisions and the number of members of such camps as reported in the last semi-annual reports submitted," so that the third sentence of this section shall read as follows:

"He shall make a monthly report of the financial standing of the Commandery-in-Chief and a *semi-annual* report of the financial and numerical strength of the order, *this report to include all camps suspended by the various divisions and the number of members in such camps as reported in the last semi-*

*annual reports submitted, and cause the same to be published in the official organ of the order."*

Page 47, Chapter VI, Article VII, line 1. Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual." Line 3. Strike out the word "January" and "July." Second paragraph, line 2. Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual." Insert the following additional paragraph: "The semi-annual periods provided for shall be from April 1st to September 30th, inclusive, and from October 1st to March 31st, inclusive," so that this section shall read as follows:

"The Camp Secretary shall make *semi-annual* reports to the Division Secretary on the first days of April and October upon the forms prescribed by the Commandery-in-Chief. The Division Secretary within thirty days thereafter shall make a consolidated report to the Division Commander, and a copy of same shall be forwarded to the National Secretary, together with the amount due for per capita tax.

"The Camp treasurer shall also make a *semi-annual* report to the Division Secretary.

*"The semi-annual periods provided for shall be from April 1st to September 30th, inclusive, and from October 1st to March 31st, inclusive."*

Page 52, Chapter VI, Article XIII, lines 3 and 4. Strike out the words "in good standing at the end of each quarter" and insert "at the end of each semi-annual period." Line 5. Strike out the word "four" and insert "two." Page 53, line 2. Strike out the words "January" and "July." Line 5. Strike out the word "quarter" and insert "semi-annual period," so that this article shall read as follows:

"The Commandery-in-Chief shall assess a per capita tax, not exceeding forty cents per annum, on each member reported *at the end of each semi-annual period*. Such tax shall be payable in *two* equal installments and forwarded by the Division Treasurer to the National Secretary on or before the last days of April and October, provided that neither camps nor divisions shall be required to pay per capita tax on any member for the semi-annual period in which he was initiated."

Page 73, Chapter VI, Article XXIII, lines 4 and 5. Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual," so that these lines shall read as follows:

"50 Form 5—Membership Cards—Semi-annual."

Page 73, Chapter VI, Article XXIII, line 17. Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual," so that lines 17 and 18 shall read as follows:

"3 Form 13—Camp Council's Semi-Annual Reports."

Page 74, Chapter VI, Article XXIII, line 22. Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual," so that lines 21 and 22 shall read as follows:

"1 Form 27D—Duplicate Book, Camp Secretary's Semi-Annual Reports."

Page 75, Chapter VI, Article XXIII, line 2. Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual," so that lines 1, 2 and 3 shall read as follows:

"1 Form 28D—Duplicate Book, Camp Treasurer's Semi-Annual Reports."



Third: To provide for the election of camp officers in March and their installation in April, instead of in December and January.

Page 10, Chapter 11, Article VI, Section 1, line 2. Strike out the word "and." Line 3. Following the word "Council" insert "and Delegates and Alternates to the Division Encampment." Line 4. Strike out the word "December" and insert "March"; strike out all of paragraph (a) and insert an additional paragraph reading "They shall take office the first stated meeting in April," so that the section, as amended, shall read as follows:

"The Camp Commander, Senior and Junior Vice Camp Commanders, Camp Council and Delegates and Alternates to the Division Encampment shall be elected by ballot, on the first stated meeting in March. If, from any cause, such election is not held at said stated meeting, then such election must be held at the next regular meeting of the camp. If there be but one nominee for an office, the camp may elect by a viva voce vote.

"They shall take office the first stated meeting in April."

We would respectfully ask that this report be published in The Banner in order to convey to the membership, as required by the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, the necessary notice of the proposed changes.

Fraternally yours,

JOHN E. SAUTTER, Chairman.

MILTON E. GIBBS.

W. H. RUSSELL.

Mr. McLoughlin offers an objection.

John E. Sautter: I move that we suspend Chapter VII of the Constitution. Carried.

John E. Sautter: I move the adoption of the recommendation of the chairman of the committee. Seconded.

J. N. Smith of Pennsylvania offers an objection.

H. V. Speelman: I move to amend the report; in paragraph No. 3, line 3, strike out "provided, however, he shall pay one year's dues to the camp from which he was dropped, if such camp is still in existence." (Amendment agreed to.)

Wm. M. Coffin: From what has been said, I think that this amendment might also be considered: Amend the section in the first paragraph by striking out all of the first paragraph after these words: "Any member of a camp who is one year in arrears in the payment of dues, may, by a vote of the camp, be dropped," all of the first paragraph after that being stricken out.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: That, if I catch the purport of the amendment, would obviate the necessity of the camp dropping the member.

W. M. Coffin: That puts it up again to the camp, which seems to be the wish of a number of the brothers who have spoken here. It also obviates the necessity of forcing the camp to violate a law. In other words, having a law on our books which the camp does not or will not obey. Speaking from our experience in our own camp, I know that we have had brothers in arrears

for one, two and three and maybe more years, who, by constant effort, we have gotten back into the order and gotten all their dues paid up. I think it would be inadvisable to put on the books a law compelling the dropping of a member, and maybe a good member, who can be retained in the fold, or putting on the books a law which a camp simply will not obey.

W. M. Coffin's amendment is accepted.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The question is now upon the original motion, twice amended. It is carried unanimously.

W. M. Coffin: I move to clear the record, and, to avoid any constitutional question, that the section as now adopted be considered effective fully and completely from and after the first of January next ensuing. Seconded. Carried.

John E. Sautter: I move the adoption of Section 3, on page 45, Article 2, Chapter VI, line 1, as amended. Seconded. Carried.

We now reach the second portion of the report of the committee, which deals with the question of elimination of quarterly reports and the substitution thereof of semi-annual reports. It will be noted that there are a number of recommendations in connection with this one question, but the failure of one to carry would necessarily mean that no action need be taken on the balance of it.

I move the adoption of Section 2 of the report of the committee, dealing in general with the question of providing for semi-annual instead of quarterly reports. Seconded.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Is it your judgment, Brother Sautter, if we should decide for semi-annual reports that it must necessitate changing the time of the election?

John E. Sautter: By no means, Commander-in-Chief, but we have reasons for offering that portion.

J. P. H. Kimble: I would like to ask why it is stated April and October instead of January and July.

John E. Sautter: That is made to provide for reports in the March and September quarters, particularly because it is found that it is practically impossible to obtain reports with a June quarter as we have it now in time for the meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief. Perhaps there is no difficulty in obtaining reports from camps and divisions with a June quarter with the Commandery-in-Chief meeting as late as we meet this year, but this is the latest time the Commandery-in-Chief has met perhaps for a number of years. If we continue to meet with the Grand Army of the Republic, the usual time of the meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic is in the middle of August, and any Division Commander will appreciate the almost impossible task of getting reports for a June period in time to consolidate them, forward them to the Division Secretary, and the Division Secretary consolidate and forward them to the National Secretary by that time.

W. B. McNulty objects.

I would like to withdraw the motion I made providing for the adoption of this portion of the committee's report, and move that it is the sense of this body that we abolish quarterly reports and substitute semi-annual reports.

Brothers, if this motion prevails, then we ought to and we

can discuss the committee's report in any manner that you desire. If this motion does not prevail, then, as the chairman of the committee, and with the consent of the committee, I would feel like withdrawing entirely all of the recommendations of the committee touching on the question of semi-annual instead of quarterly reports.

J. L. Rake: It is a question whether this organization desires to progress and amount to more than it does now, or whether, crablike, it wants to walk backward. If the committee, in its wisdom, has felt with a few thousand of strike-outs and inserts, having in mind that they were going to lessen the burden of the national officers or the division officers, it was a kindly act on their part and shows that they are given to great generosity. If their report, however, was intended to benefit the organization of Sons of Veterans, I think they had better retrace their steps and ask permission to withdraw the report. (Applause.)

In some quiet argument with the committee, it has been pointed out that certain organizations, as, for instance, the Masonic one, collected their dues annually. We might name some other contrasts that might be even more favorable to their report, but you are not dealing in anything but actualities in this organization, and every Division Secretary knows the trouble he has in lining up his camps, and I venture the suggestion, without fear of contradiction, that it is a Godsend to the camps that they come in contact with the division officers at least quarterly. Divide that by two and deal with your camps semi-annually, then we will come back to a reminder of the brother from Massachusetts who a few moments ago had tombstones scattered all over the universe labeled "Past Captains of Camps," only in this case you will have dead camps. And, so far as your national headquarters are concerned, you will have some dead divisions.

The committee, in its all-wise judgment, has given no thought at all to who is going to pay the bills of the Commandery-in-Chief, at least for the first six months, but that is a mere bagatelle. Resolve in your minds all the troubles every one of you have had with your camps in keeping them alive by keeping constantly in touch with them and see where you will get if you lengthen out that time and double it. Personally, I know the officers will probably be grateful to this committee for a lesser amount of work, but those who have the interest of the organization at heart will vote against the committee's recommendation, and in saying this to you, I but voice that which the National Secretary would as well tell you if he were not indisposed and were able to be here.

Franz H. Chaille: As a Past Division Commander and a present Division Secretary, I want to say that I sincerely indorse the remarks of Brother Rake.

Arthur M. Boule: The reception of quarterly or semi-annual reports neither makes nor breaks a camp. It is a question as to whether the division and camp officers put life and enthusiasm into the ranks. If they will do that, I have no doubt as to the outcome of the report. It is wholly a question as to whether or not we are up to snuff and if our members are alive and working with us. If they are working with us, then there will be no trouble about getting the reports, and I believe



that we are in line with progress when we get a semi-annual report, for I know in so many instances when we rely on quarterly reports, especially in the summer months, that those reports are half the time not the correct condition of the order. Let us have these reports come at a time of the year when we can get a good understanding of what the condition of the order is. Then we will get a report that will amount to something.

W. B. McNulty: I think I require quite some nerve to get up after the remarks of Past Commander-in-Chief Rake. I happen to have the honor of being Secretary of the largest division in the organization and have quite a deal of experience. I quite agree with my brother from Maine. It is not a question of reports altogether in so far as the camps are concerned as to their growth or their destruction, but it is as he says the activity of the life that is put into the organization by those in charge of its destiny. Why is it that this organization, after nearly thirty-five years of existence, is the smallest of the organizations, and from the date of its inception it has had quarterly reports? Why is it that all the organizations of this country have semi-annual reports, those who run up into the millions of people in their membership? Are they a different class of men than we? Why doesn't the tribe of Redmen die? Why don't the lodges of other organizations die? They don't get quarterly reports. On the contrary, this constant dunning of camps for money every three months is disgusting to them. The time spent by officers of an order goes into the purely clerical work of writing out envelopes and could be better devoted to the actual coming in contact with the membership of the organization in their division. (Applause.)

C. H. Young of Rhode Island: I have listened with a great deal of interest to the remarks on this subject, but it strikes me that Brother Rake is in the right. As far as I can see and from my knowledge, and something like ten or fifteen years' experience in division work in Rhode Island, it would be a detriment to the division of Rhode Island to adopt this semi-annual report. In our state, as in a great many of the smaller divisions, we have camps that are barely struggling along, barely holding together. Now, those camps, if you insist on their having semi-annual periods, paying their per capita tax semi-annually, are going to use up that money prior to the period. It is all very well to say that the division officers must be alive and must make the camp officers alive, but how are you going to do it? You have to take conditions as they are. If you adopt this semi-annual period, I agree with one of the brothers who said that we would lose about a third of the membership. I hope that we wouldn't lose a third of the membership in Rhode Island, but I am very much afraid that we would lose some, and I hope that this encampment will refuse to concur in this amendment to the Constitution.

John E. Sautter: It is not the purpose of the chairman of this committee to enter into this argument. I simply want to say for the committee that a duty was imposed upon it and the committee met the duty. In preparing this report, the committee do not say that personally they favor the substitution of semi-annual for quarterly reports. At the last encampment, a certain action was taken and in conformity with that action the committee prepared this report. Personally, I would like to see

the order of Sons of Veterans lifted out of the kindergarten class and placed at least in the seventh grade. (Applause.) I said in my report last year, and I want to repeat it now, "He is a poor Division Commander who cannot obtain a knowledge of the condition of his camps save through the medium of the present quarterly reports." I have been a Division Commander. You honored me by making me your Commander-in-Chief. But I believe I could learn the condition of the camps of my Division if I were still a Division Commander, even though we had annual instead of quarterly reports. (Applause.)

Now, brothers, perhaps what I will say now may seem peculiar to you. I question the wisdom, after all, at this time, of substituting semi-annual for quarterly reports. (Applause.) This question has been one that has agitated the Pennsylvania Division and some other Divisions for a long time. I believe that it is one that we ought to meet and settle. Let us settle it now and not have this question coming around year after year, as some other questions have. Personally, it makes no difference to me, but I hope that some day, some day, we will have Division Commanders who will perform their duties, and when we have them it won't make a particle of difference if we get a quarterly report instead of a semi-annual report.

George B. Abbott: I wish to call Brother McNulty's attention to the fact that these organizations that make annual reports, and there are many, require their members to pay their dues yearly in advance. When we do that then we can have annual reports.

I am of the opinion that every delegate and representative in the Division here is prepared now to vote and I do move the previous question. Seconded. Carried.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The question is that we substitute semi-annual for quarterly reports. Lost.

John E. Sautter: I move that the next section of the committee's report be adopted. Seconded. Motion lost.

John E. Sautter: I propose to read the remaining section of the committee's report, and while I will move that it be adopted. I hope that some one will immediately call for the question and defeat the motion.

(Reads third section of report.)

I move that we adopt the recommendation of the committee. Lost.

I move the adoption of the report of the committee as a whole, as amended, and that the committee be discharged. Unanimously carried.

Commander-in-Chief: The amended section is adopted and becomes the law of the order.

Past Commander-in-Chief Grant presents report of the Committee on Button Hole Decorations.

Ralph M. Grant: To refresh the memory of the encampment, I will call your attention to the fact that at the Thirty-third Annual Encampment, by recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief, which was as follows: That if by action of this encampment the present recognition button is abolished the incoming Commander-in-Chief appoint a committee of three to select a design for recognition button, etc. That recom-



mendation was adopted by the Thirty-third Annual Encampment; pursuant thereto the Commander-in-Chief appointed Past Commander-in-Chief Bolton, Past Division Commander Shellhouse of Indiana and the speaker. The committee made its report and it has been published in The Banner. The report of the committee also appears in the published reports of officers that is before this encampment. I will not read it in detail. I will call to your attention that the majority report is signed by Past Commander-in-Chief Bolton and myself, and there is a dissenting minority report signed by Brother Shellhouse. The majority report of the committee is in favor of the adoption of the lower part of the membership badge in miniature size to be adopted as the recognition button of this order. Without further extended comments, I move the acceptance of the committee's report, the majority report, and the adoption of their recommendation. Seconded.

Alfred G. Loyd: I amend that motion by suggesting that we substitute for the words "*gratia dei servatus*" the words "Sons of Veterans." Seconded.

William F. Church: I have given up nearly all of my life to the study of the English language and have acquired a very imperfect knowledge of it. Now, let us pause. Let us just stop a minute before considering the adoption of that amendment. I understand that the approval of this committee report abolishes the license to use any other buttonhole decoration than that which is now advocated by the committee, which will be immediately the medallion of our order. It will consist of the lower half of our membership badge in its entirety. Some of us think very much of the red, white and blue rosette, which the order authorized at a previous encampment. We know that every one of us loves the colors, and we wouldn't one of us insinuate anything else, but some of us love the peculiar form in which those colors were combined in that little rosette. Now, if we give that up, you must give us credit for desiring to retain something of the sentiment of the order in the place of that we are giving up. I am willing to go with the sentiment of this encampment on whatever decoration it may decide. It is of no importance to me or to my brother from St. Louis or from Chicago or you in Washington what the language of the inscription upon that medallion is, whether it is in Latin or Greek or Sanscrit or English, because nobody but the wearer reads it. You know the button of the Grand Army of the Republic and you can recognize it as far as you can see, but you don't read a letter that is printed on that button. It is the emblem there. You don't need anything else. Now, we know this old emblem that has hung to our badges for the past thirty years, ever since we have been members of the order, and if we are going to adopt that emblem for our buttonhole decoration, let us not change a hair, let us take it all as it is. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The question is that we substitute Sons of Veterans for the present Latin inscription. Motion lost.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The report is accepted and its recommendation adopted, and you have by this act adopted a buttonhole decoration. It is a fact that we have not had officially such a decoration for the past year. From henceforth



you have one, and the National Secretary and Treasurer will provide them and they will be listed as soon as they can be provided. (Applause.)

W. M. Coffin: I rise once more to make the record sure. This question has been before the encampment three years, but not this exact and precise question. Therefore, I move you that the action we have now taken be taken as fully and effectively adopted now and here. Carried.

John E. Sautter: I move that where there are no objections the report of the committee be considered adopted. Carried.

W. B. McNulty reads report of Committee on Ritual and Ceremonies.

(EXHIBIT NO. 4)

*To the Officers and Members of the Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.*

*Greetings:*

The following is the report of the Committee on Ritual and Ceremonies:

No. 1. Recommendation from the Division of California. Would recommend that no change be made in the present memorial services for Sons of Veterans, as we deem the service as printed on page 90 of the Ritual covers the request as made by the California Division.

No. 2. Recommendation from Missouri Division. We recommend that no change be made in Ritual, as we consider the present charge to the veterans as printed on page 8 of the Ritual amply covers this request made by the Missouri Division.

No. 3. Recommendation from the Massachusetts Division as follows: That the latter part of Section 7 of the general instructions for Camps in the front of the Ritual be changed or amended so that it will provide that in arranging the altar for the meeting the two crossed swords be placed under the Bible instead of upon it. We approve this recommendation.

No. 4. Recommendation from the Pennsylvania Division. We approve the request of this Division for adding to the unwritten work a sign of recognition, but do not approve of that part of the recommendation adding a sign of distress.

Respectfully submitted,

W. B. McNULTY, Chairman.  
JOHN D. HOOPER,  
W. O. COBB,  
A. W. McDANIEL,  
G. W. PALMER,

*Committee.*

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Alfred G. Loyd: I move that we suspend Section VII of the Constitution for the purpose of making a change in the Rituals. Motion lost.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The section is not suspended. Consequently the question can only be upon the adoption of this as first reading.

W. M. Coffin: I move that the committee's report be adopted. Seconded. Carried.

W. B. McNulty. The committee desires to be continued.

John E. Sautter: I am about to present the report of the Committee on Resolutions; at least, I am prepared to make a partial report. There are some matters that the committee must necessarily give some further consideration. The final report of the committee will be made, we hope, at tomorrow morning's session. Yesterday I made a motion that the resolutions be presented to the committee without reading, stating that they would be read by the committee in offering their report. The committee will have no objection to doing that if the brothers desire, but as a matter of fact, ninety-nine and nine-tenths per cent need not be read in order to give you the substance of the resolution.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: With your consent, the chairman will give you a summary of the proposed recommendation.

John E. Sautter: Proposition No. 1. Advocating the city of Boston as the place for holding the next annual meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief. Committee recommends no action. Sustained.

Proposition No. 2. Advocating the city of Saratoga Springs as the place for holding the next annual meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief. Committee recommend no action. Sustained.

Proposition No. 3. From the Division of Connecticut, advocating a new application blank as per sample submitted. Committee recommends that the Secretary be instructed to change the blanks in accordance with the suggested plan when the present supply is exhausted. Sustained.

Proposition No. 4. That we endorse the formation of the Lincoln National League of school children and their teachers. The committee reports favorably. Sustained.

Proposition No. 5. From the Missouri Division. Recommending to the next session of Congress the passage of the Sheppard Bill, or a similar bill, to prevent the improper use or desecration of the national emblem. The committee reports favorably. Sustained.

Proposition No. 6-A. Requesting restoration of rank of Past Commander to Thomas B. Lineburg, Camp 79; John Seaman, John P. Gormley, Daniel J. Cosgro, Camp 209, and Frank S. Fogg, Camp 225. The committee reports unfavorably. No facts stated upon which we could determine the merits of the case. (Let me explain that a number of the Divisions handled this matter in exactly the same manner, asking for restoration of rank without giving a word of reason to the committee or in their resolutions as to why it should be done.) Sustained.

Proposition No. 6-B. Requesting a number of additional queries for the Camp Patriotic Instructor's report; also that the Commandery-in-Chief furnish a standard record card to be used in connection with a card index of the location of soldiers' graves, and the military record of each soldier in their locality. Committee report unfavorably, as this is properly the work of a Camp Chaplain, and if it is desired to include it in any report it should be in the report of the Chaplain. Sustained.

Proposition No. 7. From the Wisconsin Division. Asking for the restoration of rank of Past Camp Commander to E. O. Brewer and W. C. Hagelmeyer, Camp 11, and James McConnell, Camp 19. Your committee report unfavorably. No facts stated which would assist in determining the merits of the case. Sustained.

Proposition No. 8. Request from the New Jersey Division for the restoration of rank of Past Camp Commander of Brothers Albert S. Stephany, Camp 11; A. M. Van Buskirk and George S. Bogart, Camp 13. Your committee reports unfavorably. No facts stated to determine the merits of the case. Sustained.

Proposition No. 9. From the New Hampshire Division. Suggesting the advisability of membership for smaller towns where it is impracticable to maintain an active Camp. Your committee report that they have no objection to the New Hampshire delegates following the instructions of their encampment. Sustained.

Proposition No. 10. From the Division of Massachusetts. Requesting that the report blanks furnished by National Headquarters for the quarterly reports of the Camp Council be changed by omitting the following: "And we recommend those six months in arrears be suspended and those one year in arrears be dropped," so that the clause will then read: "The books of the Treasurer show that the following brothers are in arrears for dues, they having been duly notified of the fact that they are in arrears." Your committee report favorably, inasmuch as this does not in any manner conflict with the action already taken up by this encampment on Constitutional changes as it pertains to the reports of members. Sustained.

E. M. Amies: I move that we recess until 9 o'clock tomorrow morning. Seconded. Carried. Adjournment.



## THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

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Meeting called to order by Commander-in-Chief Sherman at 9:15.

Pass word is taken. It is found that all are entitled to remain.

H. H. Hammer: The Credential Committee presents a supplementary report showing 191 members.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: At the time of our adjournment yesterday afternoon the chairman of the Committee on Resolutions had the floor, and it was arranged that he should be given the floor at the beginning of this session.

John E. Sautter: The Committee on Resolutions at yesterday afternoon's session completed their report to and including resolution No. 10.

Proposition No. 11. From the Kentucky G. A. R. Requesting the appointment of a committee to act in conjunction with a similar committee appointed by the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, with a view to securing more favorable railroad rates for National Encampment. Your committee recommends no action. Sustained.

Proposition No. 12. From Camp No. 2, Division of California and Pacific. Requesting the Commandery-in-Chief to commend Chief of Police Snively of Los Angeles for requiring all members of the Los Angeles police department to salute the flag of our country whenever it is carried in a procession and while they are on duty. Committee reports favorably. Sustained.

Proposition No. 13. From the Division of Massachusetts. For the restoration of rank of Past Camp Commander to Joseph A. Trevor of Camp 81. This record being clear, and facts given to sustain the claim, the committee reports favorably. Sustained.

Proposition No. 14. From the Division of Ohio. Requesting the restoration of rank of Past Camp Commander to Brothers J. S. Garber, Camp 207; F. Wise, Camp 12; Charles Raymond, Camp 97; J. H. Thompson, Camp 6; C. C. Peale, Camp 231. The committee reports favorably. Sustained.

Proposition No. 15. From the Division of Maine. Requesting the restoration of rank of Past Camp Commander to Brothers E. L. Stevens, S. E. Norwood, Edw. Cunningham, E. P. Stevens, H. R. McIntire, A. B. McIntire, S. S. Stevens, Charles B. Libby and E. J. Cook, formerly of Camp 58; U. G. Blackington, formerly of Camp 12; Frank B. Libby, formerly of Camp 39; A. B. Davis and Rufus L. Moody, formerly of Camp 17; George K. Robinson, formerly of Camp 7; Eugene E. Annable, formerly of Camp 46, and Frank E. Webster, formerly of Camp 65. Committee reports favorably. Sustained.

Proposition No. 16. A petition from certain residents of the city of Washington, D. C., requesting the Commandery-in-Chief to cause and direct a charter to be issued so that they may be mustered into the order. Committee reports no action be taken upon this communication. Sustained.

Proposition No. 17. Committee reports unfavorably, because no facts were stated. Sustained.

As to the third recommendation referring to the endorsement of the memorial chart, the committee does not concur in it. Sustained.

*"Resolved.* That our delegation to the Commandery-in-Chief be instructed to work for," etc. This should have been referred to the Committee on Ritual, but your committee took this action that in their judgment the provisions for the saluting and for standing when the national air is played, as provided for in the Ritual now, should stand. The last from the Kansas Division was referred to the Committee on Constitution and Laws. It is in reference to the admission to our meetings of members of the various allied organizations.

Proposition No. 18. The Michigan Division recommends the restoration of rank of Past Camp Commander to the following brothers: Hemenway, Prentice and Penoyer of Camp 2; Roberts and Strain of Camp 55; Hatt of Camp 91; Sweet of Camp 179, and Fry of Camp 4. Your committee reports favorably. Sustained.

Proposition No. 19. In lieu of the resolution referred to this committee at the opening session of the encampment your committee offers the following resolution:

*Whereas.* The war raging in Europe, with the resulting devastation of property and loss of life, has brought to the consciousness of our nation the necessity of preparation for the defense of our country, and has demonstrated that its citizens should be prepared to defend the rights of equality, liberty and justice, established on this continent by our Revolutionary heroes under George Washington, and firmly secured and perpetuated by the soldiers of the Union, under Abraham Lincoln, in our War of the Rebellion: therefore, be it

*Resolved.* That the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., in and through the Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment of its Commandery-in-Chief, in regular session assembled at Washington this 29th day of September, 1915, heartily concur in and approve the adoption by the Congress and the constituted authorities of the United States of such a wise policy of preparedness as shall fully and adequately provide for the effective defense of our country.

Committee recommends its adoption. Sustained.

The Ladies of the G. A. R. are announced.

They are escorted into the room.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Brothers, it gives me great pleasure to present to you this delegation from our sister society, the Ladies of the G. A. R., headed by their National Patriotic Instructor, Mrs. Ehrman from New York, by Mrs. Cummerford and by Mrs. Prisk. (Applause.)

Some of us are familiar with the great, deep interest that has been taken in the Sons of Veterans by Mrs. Ehrman, the National Patriotic Instructor of the Ladies of the Grand Army of



the Republic, particularly in her assistance in organizing a camp of Sons of Veterans, all of whom were full-blooded Indians. (Applause.)

Mrs. Ehrman: Commander and Brothers: Indeed, it is a great pleasure this morning to look into all of your smiling faces and to say my boys, because I feel that every son of a veteran belongs to me. You are indeed one of the greatest bodies of boys and men that are in existence today. You are related to us by the strongest tie known, the tie of blood, and we as the Ladies of the G. A. R. are composed of your mothers, wives, sisters and daughters, all blood of the veteran.

A number of years ago, while I was Department President, one of the comrades came to me and he said: "Sister Ehrman, I want to tell you something. I feel that the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Daughters of the Veterans and the Sons of Veterans are the noblest organizations in existence." I said: "Comrade, why do you say that?" He said: "I tell you why. Because fifty years ago or more when we as comrades and heroes of all the great battles, came back to our cities, we were heralded as heroes, and the best girls in the town, in fact, all of the girls in the town, set their caps for us. We had our pick of the land, and you today are blood descendants of those noblest of women, the women who fought with us, the women who suffered with us and the women who died with us". And today, Commander, you belong to this organization of sons, and that is why I say you are the noblest organization of men outside of our Grand Army in existence today. We of New York are more than proud of our National Commander Sherman. Virginia had its Commander-in-Chief, but New York state has our Commander-in-Chief. We congratulate you (Applause) that he gave his time and energy to your organization, for we are more than proud of our Sherman. The Ladies of the G. A. R. stand shoulder to shoulder with you, because we love you, and we are willing at all times to help you, to render any aid that is possible. We love you because we know if tonight or tomorrow you were called upon to defend our glorious banner every son of you would stand up as one as our fathers did in defense of it. (Applause.) We know it.

I had the pleasure during my administration of working in co-operation with your National Patriotic Instructor, George W. Penniman. It has been a very pleasant year. I am not going to detain you, but I just want to say that our work this year has far exceeded our expectations. I myself have had the pleasure of presenting over two hundred flags to our schools and public buildings and have given fifty-four public addresses. Our Ladies of the G. A. R. have visited over sixty thousand schools and have instructed the children in the pledge and salute to the flag and presented flags, presented pictures of Lincoln and done everything that could be done of a patriotic nature.

Now, boys, I am a brother as well as a daughter. I have been a member of the Daughters of Veterans for nineteen years, a member of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic for nineteen years. I was the first lady obligated in McKinley Camp of Buffalo in the Sons of Veterans, and I think I am the only lady that ever had your initiation. (Laughter.) Now, I am going to tell you how it was. When the Indian camp was organized at Versailles, there was nobody there that understood the



work or was ever inside of a patriotic organization before, except Theodore Cazeau, the Department Patriotic Instructor of New York, and myself, and he said: "Mrs. Ehrman, what are we going to do? I want to exemplify this work, and it is so hard to instruct these boys. We must instruct them right, because we can't come back again very soon." So we went through the initiatory service, and I was the candidate. I helped these boys to get around and do the work, so I am a brother. (Applause.) I am proud of it, for I have no brothers of my own to be a member of this organization, as I was an only child. When I went home and told my father, the tears streamed down his face and he said: "Well, my girl, I have no son, but I am so glad and so proud of you to think that the Sons of Veterans honored you in this manner." I bring the greetings of my dear old veteran father to you boys, for he loves every one of you.

And now, Commander, I wish for you the best, the sincerest wishes for a happy and harmonious convention. May God prosper you and yours in all that you may do here, and may your deliberations be ever thoughts from those above. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: "Brother" Ehrman, I wish all of our membership had the same knowledge of your loyalty to our organization that I have. We do appreciate the interest you have ever manifested in the Sons of Veterans, and we give you a most cordial welcome, even to our membership, as it may be termed. In order that a fitting response might be made at this time, I will call upon Past Commander-in-Chief Amies. (Applause.)

Edwin M. Amies: I assure you that each and every one of us appreciates your appearance here this morning, and also assure you that we realize that coming as you do from an organization composed of the wives, the mothers, sisters and our blood relatives makes us appreciate it the more heartily. We know that there is no organization that is so near by such ties as I have mentioned as the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, and we feel that you have honored us by coming. We appreciate every word that you have said, and we realize the truthfulness of it. We on our part reciprocate every word of it. We thank you for your kindness and we assure you also that we will do all in our power to merit those words which come from you. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I wish that our time would permit greetings extended to you by the other members of the committee, Mrs. Cummerford and Mrs. Prisk. I know particularly of the good work of Mrs. Prisk, but I feel that we shall have to content ourselves with the greetings from the chairman of the delegation, as there are four others yet to present themselves and their greetings to our organization. (Applause.)

Guests are escorted from the room. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Brothers, I ask your indulgence for a few moments. Your Commander-in-Chief has received a personal request from the National President of the Woman's Relief Corps, Mrs. Fulton, to pay a visit to that organization this morning, and a request from that honored head would always be considered a command. In view of that fact, I ask your indulgence while I absent myself from the meeting for just a few moments. I have asked Past Commander-in-Chief

Amies to assume the chair. With your consent, Brother Amies will assume the chair and the business will go right on. I shall return as quickly as possible.

Edwin M. Amies: Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter will continue to present the report of the Committee on Resolutions.

John E. Sautter: Proposition No. 20. Division of Nebraska requests the restoration of rank of Past Division Commander to P. A. Barrows of Lincoln, Neb. The committee recommends favorably. Sustained.

Proposition No. 21. It will be recalled at the session of Tuesday morning, upon motion of Past Commander-in-Chief Grant, the recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief in his report following the subject "Unpreparedness of our country," was referred to the Committee on Resolutions, instead of being acted upon by the committee on Officers' Reports.

This recommendation was in three parts as follows: I will report on each of these divisions of the recommendation. First, favorable. Sustained. Second, favorable. Sustained. Third, favorable. Sustained.

Proposition No. 22. Request from the Division of Pennsylvania for the restoration of rank of Past Camp Commander to Brother Lovelle L. Kern of Camp 39 and Brother Charles C. Ammerman of Star Davis Camp. Committee report favorably. Sustained.

Proposition No. 23. Memorial. That the Sons of Veterans endorse the project of the Legion of Loyal Women that a memorial to Clara Barton should be erected in the capitol of the nation, and that the incoming Commander-in-Chief call the attention of the members to this memorial in his General Orders. Committee report favorably. Sustained.

Proposition No. 24. By Commander-in-Chief Abbott.

*Whereas*, The flags placed upon the graves of deceased veterans on Memorial Day become faded and weather beaten; and

*Whereas*, One of the purposes of our order, and a duty lovingly and reverently performed, is to care for the graves of the departed heroes,

*Resolved*, That it is recommended to the camps of our order in such places as the opportunity presents itself and is necessary, that such flags be replaced by new ones, and that the Sunday preceding or following November 19th of each year, commemorating the anniversary of the delivery of the immortal address at Gettysburg by Abraham Lincoln, be designated as an appropriate time to perform this duty.

Committee report favorably. Sustained.

Proposition No. 25. From the Ohio Division, asking endorsement of the National McKinley Birthplace Memorial Building in Niles, Ohio. Committee report favorably. Sustained.

*Whereas*, The citizens of our capital city, the committees having in charge the arrangements for the Forty-ninth Annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic and its allied and affiliated organizations, including the Sons of Veterans, the members of the Maryland Division, and the public press, have been uniting in their efforts to make this occasion an enjoyable and memorable one, and



*Whereas*, The Encampment marking the fiftieth anniversary of the close of that great conflict of the sixties will be held in vivid remembrance by all who have been permitted to attend and enjoy the courtesies extended,

*Resolved*, That we convey to all citizens, the committees, the members of the Maryland Division, and the public press, our grateful acknowledgment of obligation for their untiring efforts to make our stay in this beautiful city a pleasure and our encampment a success.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN E. SAUTTER.  
T. L. AUGHINBAUGH.  
GUY RICHARDSON.  
C. A. DORSEY.  
FRANZ SIGEL.

*Committee.*

H. V. Speelman: Commander-in-Chief and Brothers: You all know the provisions of the Constitution with reference to amendments. The Committee on Constitution has considered such matters as have been referred to it through presentation to the Commander-in-Chief and publication in *The Banner*. In the August issue of *The Banner* there appeared a number of proposed amendments to the Constitution. Your committee reports on the proposed amendments as follows:

(a) That the matter now contained in Article IV, Chapter I, be designated and known as Section 1, with the title "Active Membership."

That Article IV, Chapter I, be further amended by a new section as follows:

"Section 2.—Honorary Membership. All soldiers, sailors or marines who were regularly mustered and served honorably in, and who were honorably discharged from the Army and Navy of the United States of America during the War of the Rebellion of 1861-65."

(a) Upon this proposed amendment your committee reports adversely, for the reason that a great many camps now have honorary membership, and if this proposed amendment were adopted, it would limit this honorary membership to a certain class. There is no objection to their electing honorary members, as we understand it, and for this reason we disapprove of the proposed amendment. Sustained.

Guests are announced.

Edwin M. Amles: Comrade Torrance: I assure you it is a great pleasure to all of us to have you here once more to convey to us your fatherly advice and greetings. (Applause.)

Past Commander-in-Chief Torrance of the G. A. R.: When I was a child, I was reared in a Godly home. The Scriptures were read morning and night. If the father was away, the mother performed that sacred duty. I was taught to believe every declaration in the book, and as I came in this morning, I recalled the statement that "out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaketh." This morning and in your presence, I



almost doubt the truth of that statement, for in all my life I never felt less able to express to you the sentiments of my heart.

Thirteen years ago I visited Washington as Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic. The skies were bright and the event was one of transcendent importance to me and to many others. I rode at the head of a column down Pennsylvania Avenue, and I was followed by a guard of honor composed of the Sons of Veterans. (Applause.) Yesterday I marched with the boys, back in the ranks, no more entitled to as much respect as I was when I was entrusted with the highest honors of that great organization. I have been deeply touched by what I have seen and witnessed since I came to this city. I first visited Washington, or first saw the capital of the country, in 1861, immediately following the disastrous battle of Bull Run. The next time I visited it was as a wounded man, coming from the disastrous field of Manassas; I was housed in one of the hospitals of this city. Then I went back again to my regiment. The next time, I marched down Pennsylvania Avenue with the remnant of my regiment, thirteen men of the original company of one hundred men marching with me. Then, after a brief vacation, I returned to the army and remained until the close of the war. I witnessed the great review in 1865. I wish I had the time and the descriptive powers to picture that magnificent event to you, regiment after regiment composed of young men, few of them having more than reached their majority, marching down that avenue with all the vigor and splendor of the American soldier, flags tattered and torn, shot ridden and rent, with a remnant of the men that first rallied around the colors when they were bright and new. They marched down the avenue, touching elbows and crowding up to the colors until it was patriotism, self-sacrifice and honor personified. I marched down Pennsylvania Avenue again as Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, and was leading the guard of honor when the body of William McKinley was taken from the White House to the capitol, that the last said rite and tribute of respect might be paid to the memory of that glorious patriot and comrade under the dome of the nation's capitol. Yesterday I marched down the avenue again, facing the sunset. By my side marched an invisible host, a cloud of witnesses, my comrades of the earlier days, men who were tried and true and were ready in any emergency and were willing to make any sacrifice in defense of the country. I felt that from the eternal heights they were looking down upon us with benediction and approval. They and their surviving comrades need no monument: except the restored and strengthened and unified and indestructible republic. (Applause.) Tablets and shafts are well enough in their place, but the great monument undying in its testimony, more glorious and overshadowing all things else, is this great American republic.

And now, as the twilight shadows deepen and as the pilot's voice is heard, that it is time to push out from the shore into the unknown sea, we look back with confidence and trust and hope into the future welfare of the republic, and our first thought and our strongest trust is in the Sons of Veterans. (Applause.) You have a mighty heritage committed to your trust. You ought to regard it as a most sacred trust. It is worthy of your supreme devotion, and I want you to remember that of all the definitions

that are given of patriotism, it can be summed up in the one word, "sacrifice!" Patriotism that does not rest upon sacrifice is not a true patriotism. You must be willing to forego your own pleasure, forego your own personal welfare and interest, if the public welfare requires it. You must be ready to do anything and everything within your power for the welfare of the republic, and the welfare of the republic calls for the highest integrity, for the most honorable behavior, for a becoming walk in private life as well as in public life, for loyalty to the home, for devotion to the wife and children and to the assumption and ready acceptance of every public and private duty. I am done. I am happy to be with you this morning. It was impossible for me to get the consent of my heart or of my judgment to go to the opening session of the National Encampment—I felt that I must come here and be in your presence for a few moments, and possibly say something that might be helpful to you. And if not helpful to you, I will be helped and inspired by my visit to you. I bid you a happy good morning, and hope that the blessing of Heaven may rest upon you all through all the days and years that are to come. (Applause.)

Edwin M. Amies: Past Commander-in-Chief Torrance: I assure you that we appreciate every word that you have uttered here this morning. I know that each and every one of us feels that you have given us words of inspiration which will be a benefit not only to us now, but hereafter. To more fittingly express the sentiment which I know exists within all of us, I have the privilege of calling upon the Honorable Frank L. Green, Past Division Commander from Vermont and Congressman from his district. (Applause.)

Frank L. Green: I hope I will not intrude upon your patience too long by attempting to explain to you in the presence of your distinguished guest how embarrassed I feel myself at this unexpected opportunity to attempt to represent you in a sentiment which I know you share with me so abundantly that neither of us would hope satisfactorily to express it to anybody. I feel more particularly my embarrassment because it is many years since I have had an opportunity to be active in the work of this order, and I am now happily reminded, as the Commander-in-Chief has so aptly expressed it, of trust and confidence in the Scriptures which we have learned from our boyhood, because I too find, as it was recorded of old, that "he who comes in at the eleventh hour receives his penny just the same as all the rest." Only in my case coming in at the eleventh hour, I have received more than a penny; I have received a priceless privilege, beyond all estimate.

Commander-in-Chief Torrance, it is a very easy matter for young men, free of speech and handy with the pen, in these days to speak or to indite all manner of fitting and eloquent resolutions and memorials. It is easy to express patriotism by word of mouth or by memorial of some kind, but after all, we young men who are heirs to such a priceless legacy as the noble example of yourself and your comrades set for us fifty years ago, must find even as you said, that the best, the only satisfactory memorial that can be devised to perpetuate the glorious sacrifices you and your comrades made fifty years ago and more is this great, glorious, free and reunited, indivisible country. (Applause.)



I know you will pardon me, brothers, if I attempt no extended response to that which has been so eloquently expressed by Commander-in-Chief Torrance. You will understand my embarrassment and know that perhaps in some measure I express by my own timidity your own embarrassment, too. There is no response we can make in words to you, Commander. Some of us are now passing on away beyond the years in which you and your associates of half a century and more ago gave the last full measure of devotion to your country. There can be no response of living men in time of peace to adequately memorialize that. It is utterly beyond our possibilities in full measure to meet the sentiment you lived and your comrades died for. But, taking you at the very suggestion you have offered so eloquently to us in your remarks this morning, perhaps I may venture to say that if we are here to attempt to respond formally to what you have said, we may, outside of this place, actively, effectively respond in devoting our lives, consecrating our brains and ambitions, and making, if need be, the last great sacrifice, ourselves, to see that this monument and memorial of a united, free, indivisible country is maintained as long as we live and for all time. (Applause.)

Our response, Commander-in-Chief Torrance, like all satisfactory responses at any time, must be in deeds rather than in words. I hope I am not assuming too much if, stranger as I am to most of you, but affectionate brother in sentiment to all of you, and all whom you represent, I do offer you in response these words of promise, we hope to fulfill a promise of devotion, consecration and sacrifice, if need be, to maintain for our children and our children's children through all the generations to come, Old Glory and the institutions she so proudly represents, that you and your comrades founded for us in the birth of our great nation half a century ago. (Applause.)

In that life, we may find some measure of patriotic devotion, we may hope to try at least to be worthy of the great patent of nobility that you knightly sires have bequeathed to us, a patent of nobility far more honorable than that won by men upon the battlefields of olden time, for it was won in the patient, willing, oft-times obscure sacrifice, that there might be at least one spot on this fair earth where all men might dwell together in freedom and liberty and where the drops of sweat on honest brows are the diadem of the nobility of American manhood. In that kind of nobility, and with the right which you have bequeathed to us to bear it proudly, we accept the trust, Commander Torrance, and only hope that we will live and die worthy of it. (Applause.)

Guest is escorted from the room.

Another guest is announced.

Edwin M. Amies: I have the pleasure of introducing to you Mrs. Ada H. Weiss of the Clara Barton Memorial. (Applause.)

Mrs. Weiss: Mr. Commander and Members of the Sons of Veterans: I do not believe that I have ever talked before to the Sons of Veterans in a body. We are the mothers, wives, widows, daughters, grand-daughters and nieces of the veterans of the Civil War. We are the oldest patriotic order in the city. We have done nothing for twenty-six years but work for the veterans and their dependent ones. It is with the greatest



pleasure that I bring the greetings of the Legion of Loyal Women to the Sons of Veterans.

I have a double duty today. Clara Barton, who was loved by all the boys that wore the blue, has gone—I can scarcely speak of her. She died five years ago at the age of ninety-two, after fifty-two years of doing the noblest work that any woman in the United States had ever done, we think. There has never been a national monument reared to her in the city. We feel that there should be something, some kind of a monument. After no recognition for five years, we decided, as she was a charter member and an active member to her death, to take this up. We have been distributing twenty thousand letters all over the United States. We are hearing of people that didn't even know Clara Barton, men that are not in any patriotic order, the Shriners and men like that. We are here today simply to bring this letter to you, and we hope to have your endorsement.

I have been asked in what form this monument or tribute would be. We have no idea. We left the details to be worked out later. We had a heart to heart talk with General Miles and with Admiral Dewey, and those two men particularly were so interested that they said: "We are honored to have our names on this letter." Mrs. Odell and I called on General Miles, and in his talk he said: "I tell you what I'd like to see in Washington—a bronze monument of Clara Barton in the open, as her life was in the open, where every man, woman and child and foreigner and people coming by the thousands to Washington could see it. Do not put it in the Hall of Fame, do not put it in any kind of an institution. Put it where the whole world can learn of her work." Now, we leave this to you, and with you because it is very close to our hearts, and we feel that Clara Barton did not only for the boys in blue, but at the Spanish War she was right there, doing all that was possible for a woman to do, even with herself bowed with years at that time.

We are glad to be here, and as the chairman of the citizens' committee said to me the other day, "Mrs. Weiss, next to your work in the Legion of Loyal Women, what would be your work next?" I didn't hesitate, but said: "The Sons of Veterans." And she said: "I am with you." I am glad to see this large body here, and I know that the mothers in the Legion are glad that you boys are taking up the work of the fathers. Mr. Commander, I think you. (Applause.)

Edwin M. Amies: It seems that the local organization of the Sons of Veterans is somewhat interested in this movement, and to bring it more prominently before us, I call on Brother Robb. (Applause.)

S. E. Robb: I have been more or less interested in looking up the matter in reference to the memorial to Clara Barton, our beloved and honored member and organizer of the Red Cross of the United States of America. It would seem to me fitting that the Sons of Veterans should remember the women who have done so much for our fathers. I think we should endorse this matter and refer it to our Commandery-in-Chief for their favorable consideration in the very near future. It is in a raw state. I would not offer any motion to raise or help to raise any funds at this time, but I would do this: Suggest that the matter be referred to the Commandery-in-Chief, with the recommendation of this encampment for its favorable action or for an action to be

brought in later at our national body. Therefore, I move that that action be taken at this time, and that this be referred to the Committee on Resolutions, to make a report later in our sessions. Seconded. Carried.

Mrs. Weiss departs (Applause.)

S. S. Horn: I move that Chapter VII of the Constitution be suspended during the report of the Committee on Constitution, and that all changes adopted be effective January 1 next. Seconded. Carried.

H. V. Speelman: Continuing the report, the committee submits its report as follows:

(b) Amend Section 3, Article II, Chapter II, by striking out the words "Twenty-five cents of which amount shall be paid to the Commandery-in-Chief, and forwarded through Division Headquarters with the quarterly report."

(b) Your committee reports adversely on this proposed amendment. Sustained.

(c) Amend Section 1, Chapter V, add the following: "With the exception that camps may maintain a firing squad not exceeding twelve men, and two sergeants, uniformed in accordance with Article XVI, Chapter VI, provided they do not parade on any other occasion than the funeral of a veteran, or on Memorial Day."

• Section 1A, Chapter V.

"It shall be the duty of Division Commanders to enforce observances of Section 1, and upon presentation of proper proof of violation thereof, to recommend the revocation of the charter of the offending camp."

A new section to be known as "Section 2, Article XVI, Chapter VI," as follows:

"It shall be the duty of Division Commanders to enforce the observance of Section 1 and the various subdivisions thereof, and upon presentation of proper proof of violation thereof, to recommend the revocation of the charter of the offending camp."

(c) Your committee reports these proposed amendments without a recommendation.

S. S. Horn: I move the adoption of the amendment to the Constitution. Seconded.

Objections to the amendment from Brothers Challis of New Hampshire, Gentieu of Maryland, Crowley of New Hampshire and Young of Rhode Island.

S. S. Horn: I move that the matter be referred back to the Committee on Military Affairs for consideration and report in another year. Seconded.

Edwin M. Amies: I just want to say this, I am heartily in favor of this motion, but I hope that the delegates when they come here next year will consider these amendments to the Constitution, come in a frame of mind that they will be ready and willing to abide by and with the law of this association when it has come to certain conclusions.

S. S. Horn's motion is carried and the matter is referred to the Committee on Military affairs.

(d) A new section to be known as Section 2, Article XXI, Chapter VI," as follows:

"Members of the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, the Woman's Relief Corps, the Daughters of Veterans, the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Army Nurses, when in good standing in their respective organizations, may be admitted to the sessions of the camp."

H. V. Speelman: (d) Your committee reports this proposed amendment without a recommendation.

S. E. Robb: What different will this be from the action taken at Chattanooga, for the information of those who were not there?

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The chair holds that if you adopt this proposed amendment at this time, it will become the law of the order from any date that you may set to become effective.

S. E. Robb: In other words, this is the same action?

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Absolutely the same, but by an error at that time was not properly adopted.

George B. Abbott: I move the adoption of the recommendation.

W. B. McNulty offers an objection. S. E. Robb and G. B. Abbott declare in favor of the recommendation.

H. V. Speelman: We have one communication here from Jersey City, N. J., in which they take action opposing this proposed legislation. I now renew the motion to take up the previous question.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The motion is declared carried. 78 voting for it and 74 against it. (Standing vote.) (Applause.)

(e) That Article V of Chapter III of the Constitution be amended by adding thereto a new section to be designated as Section 8, and to be and to read as follows:

"Section 8. The Commander-in-Chief shall have power to suspend, pending investigation, any Division Commander for failure to perform the duties of his office, or for any violation of obligations or of the Constitution and Laws of the order. At the time of any such suspension, the Commander-in-Chief shall appoint an Investigating Committee, to be composed of three members of the order in good standing, which committee shall investigate the complaint and file their report in the premises with the National Secretary within thirty days from the date of their appointment. If the report of the Investigating Committee sustains the complaint, the Commander-in-Chief shall have the power to remove permanently the Division Commander so complained of, and to declare vacant his office."

H. V. Speelman (e) Believing that the Commander-in-Chief already possesses inherent power to suspend an officer, your committee reports adversely on this proposed amendment. Sustained.

(f) Strike out Chapter I, Article I, Section 1, third paragraph, the following: "Except in cities of 100,000 inhabitants or more when thirty applicants shall be required."

H. V. Speelman: (f) The committee report adversely. Your committee recommends as an amendment to the proposed amend-



ment to substitute in the present law the word "members" instead of "applicants" in the last line.

H. H. Hammer: You ought to have a specific number anywhere and everywhere. You ought not to have fifteen here and thirty there. I move to change it to "when a new camp is organized, the membership thereof shall not be less than fifteen."

George B. Abbott: It strikes me that if Brother Hammer approves of the published amendment, he should move not to concur in the report of the committee, but to concur in the published recommendation.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The chair recognizes that as the motion for non-concurrence in the report of the committee and the adoption of the proposed amendment as printed. Seconded.

The motion is adopted. The recommendation of the committee is not adopted and the proposed amendment becomes the law of the order, eliminating from the Constitution that portion which relates to the population of a city where a camp may be established.

H. V. Speelman: Next, in reference to recommendation of National Secretary Hammer as to eligibility to membership. The committee concurs in the proposed amendment and recommends its adoption.

Edwin M. Amies: I move that the report of the committee be not concurred in. Seconded.

H. V. Speelman: I wish to amend that motion by suggesting that this be considered a first reading of the proposed amendment and that it be referred to the various Divisions for referendum. Seconded. Carried.

Guests are announced.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Brothers of the Encampment: I am permitted to present to you at this time this representative committee from the Sons of Veterans Auxillary, headed by Mrs. Mary L. Warren, Past National President; Miss Mame E. Dwyer, National Patriotic Instructor, and Miss Lenore A. Kivers, Chief of Staff. Brothers, let us salute these, our distinguished guests. (Salute.)

Sister Warren, I extend to you a most cordial welcome to this encampment, and we shall be pleased to hear from you. (Applause.)

Mrs. Mary L. Warren: Brother Sherman, Commander-in-Chief of this grand body of Sons of Veterans, and Brothers of the National Encampment: It is indeed a great honor that has been conferred upon me by our National President, to bring to you the greetings of your old Auxillary and having the privilege of meeting you in this encampment under such auspicious conditions. It has been said that we are the heirs of all the ages, but there is no inheritance of which we are so proud as that our fathers won at Yorktown and preserved at Appomattox, and because of those noble deeds and heroic self-sacrifices we are enabled today to enjoy the great privileges of a free and undivided country whose banner has never lost a star. If our influence counts for anything, it never will. God grant that never again shall this fair land of ours be called upon to shed the blood of her precious sons for any cause whatsoever. (Applause.)

God grant that never again shall the tears of our anguished and heart-broken daughters be necessary to wash a blot from the escutcheons of our beloved country, but if she ever calls her boys to her defense, we, your sisters, know that you will respond just as loyally as did your fathers in '61. We your auxiliary co-workers, will urge you on and work for you and pray for you just as loyally as did your mothers in the dark days of the Civil War.

We have a great work before us which we hope to be united in doing for many years, as we have been in the past, and our great work, in addition to the perpetuation of these principles for which our fathers fought, will be to teach the children of our land to speak plainly the word "country," that a country is the thing man should die for at need, to teach them of liberty, rights and about the tyrant cast out. So shall we perpetuate the principles of our order and live in the assurance that they shall ever be as now, a living, active presence in this home of the free and land of the brave.

I thank you for this courteous attention and pledge anew the loyalty and the co-operation and the support of your co-workers of the national organization of the Sons of Veterans' Auxiliary, and bring to you their greetings, their love and this little token expressing their affection. (Applause.) (Presents bouquet of chrysanthemums.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Sister Warren, of course, I wish that I could share this gift with all my brothers, for this is, of course, a gift to the Sons of Veterans, but as I am your Commander-in-Chief, and as there are not enough of these beautiful, beautiful flowers to give each one of you one, I, on behalf of my brothers, am privileged to accept this beautiful token. And, Sister Warren, convey to your Auxiliary the kindest thanks of the Sons of Veterans for the very great—I was going to say sisterly, but it is a motherly interest that some of these dear members have in our organization. Thank you.

Now, brothers, we have another member of this delegation who has shown her interest in our organization by being sponsor of the movement which gave to us this beautiful standard of colors. I therefore present to you Miss Mame E. Dwyer of New York, National Patriotic Instructor of the Sons of Veterans' Auxiliary. (Applause.)

Miss Mame E. Dwyer: Mr. Commander-in-Chief Sherman and Brothers of this Convention: It was an understood fact when we came in here that Mrs. Warren was to do the speech-making for our committee, and we kind of prepared that speech for her outside. (Laughter.) We told her just what would be nice to say, and felt that she could say it the nicest of the three members of this committee, but it seems to me that when a delegation is sent as a greetings committee they should know some stories. Your boys are always full of them when they come to meet us, and yesterday while I was viewing the parade, I heard a member of the Woman's Relief Corps relate to some of her co-workers in what relation their organization stood, and the Ladies of the G. A. R., to the Grand Army of the Republic. And while the story may not be just up to the mark, I thought it would be just suitable to bring before the Sons of Veterans, to show them in what position the Sons of Veterans' Auxiliary



stand to them. I may not get this story quite right, but this is something like what she said:

She said that when Johnny went away to the war, Nancy stayed at home and took care of the children and did the work that he had left behind, and in that way she did not advance as rapidly as she might have had she had him by her side. When he came home from the war, just around the corner from where they lived was a very neat little postmistress who always had a very pleasing smile for Johnny, who always managed to have a doughnut to share with him, and in that way he came to think of how nice and pleasant she always was. When he would get home, Nancy would have a frown and he began to compare them. Time went on and Johnny met with reverses, and finally the mortgage came due on the old home. Johnny came home one day to Nancy and he said: "Nancy, I am in an awful lot of trouble. Here's the mortgage due, and we haven't a cent to pay it." And the tears began to trickle down his cheeks. Nancy said: "Well, don't worry. I don't know what we are going to do either." And he kept fretting and fretting, and finally Nancy got up and went to the bureau drawer and drew out all the savings that she had gathered together all the time that he was away, and she put her arm around him and said: "Johnny, you don't need to worry now. Here is the money to pay off the mortgage." Then he began to compare Nancy and the postmistress. And that's the relation that we hold to the Sons of Veterans. The other organizations may pat you on the back and give you a smile, but when you need anything, come to us. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Believe me, I'd rather have Nancy than the postmistress.

I now have the pleasure of presenting to you one of the very distinguished members of the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, Miss Lenore A. Rivers of Vermont. She is in the position of Chief of Staff. (Applause.)

Miss Lenore A. Rivers: It seems to me there is nothing left for me to do but take the part of the postmistress. There is nothing left to be said except perhaps what we think about you; and up in Vermont it isn't what the boys think about us, it's what we think about them that counts. They have to measure up to the standard, and if any of you were at Keith's last night, it is best expressed in what the Irishman means when he says "machrec"; it is a combination of all the feelings that we have for mother and brother and sister and wife and for woman, the wine of his life. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Brothers and Members of this Delegation: Before I ask a brother to respond, I wish to convey to you this information and request you to likewise convey to your organizations in session at this time this fact, that a few moments ago this deliberative body voted to permit members of the women's allied patriotic organizations to be present at the sessions of the Sons of Veterans. (Applause.)

Now, brothers, we have been delighted to receive these distinguished guests, and on behalf of the encampment I request Brother A. A. Bronsdon of Massachusetts to respond. There is reason in this, because the chairman of the delegation is from Massachusetts and the brother who responds is from there. I assume they have it all fixed up between them. (Applause.)



A. A. Bronsdon, Commander-in-Chief, Sister Warren and Members of the Greeting Committee: The beautiful emblems which you have brought to us this morning, significant of your love and loyalty to our organization, will send forth their bloom for but a short time, but permit me to say to you that the sacrifices and deeds of our fathers which through these years amid the century which has just closed, stand out in all their beauty and in all their worth and in all their value as a memory that shall ever be honored and effective in our relations to life and to citizenship. The tokens resting before us this morning speak the sympathy of love and of loyalty, but permit me to express in behalf of the Sons of Veterans gathered here our deepest and sincerest appreciation of all those gifts which come apart from the offering of flowers, but come in those mental and common and frequent offerings of love, friendship and service to our great fraternity. And so, as you return from this assembly and go back again to the task and appointments of life, I ask that you may carry to those with whom you shall assemble after you leave here the greetings of this company, and may you know that in our hearts there is the deepest affection for the offerings which you have made in the name of our fathers.

Something has been said here today about love. Love is a force in the world's great life, and I am believing as I behold the work and service of this great fraternity of auxiliaries that love on the part of you women will have much to do with the affections of our brother men, who as life brings to them the service and opportunity of welding their affection with yours, that you may walk with them in the common tasks and friendships and fellowships of life in days to come, as have our fathers and mothers walked together in the common tie of love and friendship since those days of '61 to '65. O'er our lives has been spread the benign influence of their love and friendship as we within the portals of home have felt the stimulus of their devotion and loyalty, and may God grant that the service which you render in the name of love in days to come be akin to that service rendered by our mothers to our fathers, as you sisters render it to the brothers. (Applause.)

Mrs. Mary L. Warren: Brother Sherman, before you send us from this convention, I would like to have a personal word with you. I have been talking to the Commandery-in-Chief, and now, with your permission, I will speak a word to the Commander-in-Chief. Your co-workers in the Sons of Veterans' Auxiliary have watched with increasing interest and adoration and appreciation your great work during the past year, and we come today to congratulate you upon your success and to wish you many, many more years of happiness and prosperity. It is sometimes said that patriotism is but a sentiment and so is unworthy of any serious consideration, but so is love, duty, reverence—all the attributes of the human heart are but sentiment, and we realize what life would be without them. And you, we feel sure, have been an exponent of the highest patriotism and that your example to the Sons of Veterans and to your co-workers in the Auxiliary has cast a halo upon the work of the past year. We bring to you as a slight token of our appreciation and of our love what we hope will be a timely gift. (Applause.) (A mahogany clock is brought forward.) And in the future years as it ticks away the hours, the moments and the seconds

of life, may its little ring resound in your heart and repeat to you the words we wish it to bear: be-lov-ed-ev-er, for-got-ten nev-er, for-got-ten nev-er, be-lov-ed ev-er. We ask your acceptance of this little gift as a very, very slight token of our appreciation of the many courtesies and the many good words advanced, which you have performed in behalf of the Sons of Veterans' Auxiliary. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Sister Warren, you have put upon me at this time an almost impossible task. All I can say in the presence of my brothers is this, all I have ever done palls into insignificance as compared with what I ought to have done for your noble organization. Say to your sisters that they need to give me no token of love, for I felt in my heart that I had their love, but I accept this gift most humbly, not because it has been worthily bestowed—I wish that I were half as good as you have intimated to these brothers that I am—but, it is my privilege to be the recipient of your kindness, and I accept this gift and shall prize it as among the dearest things that have come to me, one of the tangible things which I shall retain and which will not pass from me when the symbol of power is given over this afternoon. Sister Warren, I thank you personally and beg of you to convey to your associates my deepest thanks from the bottom of my heart. (Applause.)

Mrs. Warren: Brother Sherman, I am sure you make too much of a little gift. It is an offering of the heart.

J. L. Rake: I am compelled at this juncture to give the whole snap away. All this was, as has been intimated before, a pre-arranged plot, and before coming in the ladies entered into a conspiracy, even to the point as to their respective duties and the line they would take. The Nancy story was sprung upon you and you fell for it. You admitted your love for Nancy, you Mormon you. (Laughter.) But there was a deeper and more sinister motive behind the gift that has so appropriately been given to our Commander-in-Chief. It has been rumored that through the Auxiliary he has been keeping rather late hours, so the National Secretary and myself had the honor to be called upon to help the ladies this morning in the selection of a gift, and with malice aforethought and with some regard for Mrs. Commander-in-Chief, we picked the appropriate gift, bearing in mind a celebrated character in reading who stammered and who had a very handsome hall clock, but with a single gong in it. Arriving home at an unseemly hour in the morning, after he had been out with a body of convivals, of which I happened to be one, so we will make no excuses—

H. H. Hammer: He is telling the truth.

J. L. Rake: He gets to his house and in going up the stairway, Mrs. Edwards said: "Charles, what is the hour?" He said: "I b-b-b-believe it-it-it's abou-abou-about ww-w-w-one o'clock." A moment later there was bong-bong-bong. Quick as a flash and before she could say anything, he said: "S-s-s-s-Say d-d-d-d-d-dear, since wh-wh-wh-when d-d-d-does that d-d-d-d— clock ss-s-stutter?" (Applause.)

So, to avoid a repetition of opportunity for repartee, on the part of our Commander-in-Chief, who has been fast falling into the habit of late hours, we selected one with three different chimcs, and he will be able to work no stammering racket on

Mrs. Sherman, for even before the gift was presented to him, we posted her with the combination. (Applause.)

The guests are escorted from the room.

H. V. Speelman: Resuming the report of the Committee on Constitutional Law. There is published in the September Banner the following: "Provide in the Constitution for a rank strap to be worn." etc. Do you have any definitely proposed amendment on this subject?

W. D. McBryar: I would suggest this, that inasmuch as the rank strap of a Division Commander is that of a colonel and the Commander-in-Chief that of a captain, it would be logical for the District Aides to receive the rank strap of a major.

H. V. Speelman: There is nothing definitely before up, because of no prepared amendment, and in view of that fact, the committee feels constrained to report that this matter be referred back to the Pennsylvania Division for something more definite.

W. D. McBryar: This was merely made in the way of a suggestion, personally to the Commander-in-Chief. I thought that if he saw fit, he would recommend in his report to this encampment that they take favorable action upon it. The Pennsylvania Division would not object to its being referred back to the committee with power to act, or any other arrangement that might be made by this encampment.

H. V. Speelman: Then, the recommendation of the committee is that the matter be referred back to the Pennsylvania Division. It is so referred.

The report of the National Counselor is approved and this committee concurs in each of his opinions and in each of the conclusions therein reached. Sustained.

That concludes the report of the committee, inasmuch as all matters referred to it have been considered and reported upon. I move the adoption of the report of the committee as amended. Seconded. Carried.

I think it is generally understood as to when these proposed amendments that have been adopted shall be effective, but in order that there shall be no mistaken idea about it, I move that all amendments to the Constitution made by this encampment become effective on the first day of January, 1916. Seconded. Carried.

C. C. Behnke: I move to take a recess until 2 o'clock this afternoon. Seconded. Carried.

Meeting adjourned.



## THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

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Meeting called to order by Commander-in-Chief Sherman.

National Secretary Hammer, as chairman of the Committee on Credentials, reported that a total of 201 names had been passed upon by that committee, and that number of members constituted the voting strength of the encampment.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The following brothers will compose the committee authorized at the session of the encampment held on Tuesday to draft and submit a resolution relative to my Personal Aide, Clarence E. Holmes:

George W. Penniman, Massachusetts.

R. M. J. Reed, Pennsylvania.

J. L. Rake, Pennsylvania.

E. M. Amies, Pennsylvania.

H. H. Hammer, Pennsylvania.

F. H. Challis, New Hampshire.

F. W. Meyers, Ohio.

T. G. Carlisle, Ohio.

Michael Crowley, New Hampshire.

We will now hear the report of the Council-in-Chief. The chair will recognize Clifford E. Batchelor, chairman.

### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL-IN-CHIEF.

Washington, D. C., September 30, 1915.

*To the Officers and Members of the Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.*

*Greetings:*

In compliance with the Constitution of our order, your Council-in-Chief respectfully submits the following report for the term ending at this encampment:

#### ORGANIZATION.

Immediately after the closing of the Thirty-third Annual Encampment, held in Detroit, Mich., on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd of September, 1914, on Friday, September 4th, the Council-in-Chief met in the Cadillac Hotel, Detroit. The following were present: Charles C. Behnke, St. Louis, Mo.; Clifford E. Batchelor, Ansonia, Conn.; Henry C. Springston, Peoria, Ill.

Charles C. Behnke called the meeting to order. Clifford E. Batchelor was elected chairman and H. C. Springston secretary.

#### BONDS.

The bonds of the Commandery-in-Chief officers were fixed at the following amounts:

Commander-in-Chief .....	\$1,000.00
National Secretary .....	5,000.00
National Treasurer .....	5,000.00

## ENCAMPMENT ACCOUNTS.

The vouchers covering the expenses of the Detroit encampment were duly audited and approved. The total expenses of the encampment amounted to \$1,100.46.

## AUDIT OF BOOKS AND ACCOUNTS.

Audit of the National Secretary and National Treasurer was made on September 27, 1915, and showed the following exhibit of the financial condition of the Commandery-in-Chief:

DR.

To receipts September 21, 1915.	
September 3, 1914, to balance .....	\$ 4,064.06
Total amount of receipts during the year .....	18,810.67
Total .....	\$22,874.73

CR.

By Expenditures.	
For general expenses .....	\$16,763.17
Office expenses .....	1,341.51
Commander-in-Chief .....	1,368.76
Total .....	\$19,473.44
By balance September 21, 1915 .....	3,401.29
Total .....	\$22,874.73

The books of the Secretary show to be in the hands of the Treasurer .....	\$3,401.29
And on deposit in the interest account .....	73.74
Total .....	\$3,475.03

The above balance is certified by a letter from the cashier of the Reading National Bank, and which certificate is hereto annexed and made a part hereof, and marked "Exhibit A."

## PERMANENT RESERVE.

The reserve fund has to its credit \$4,586.29 in collateral mortgages, notes and savings fund, and we recommend that no further appropriations be made at this time to this fund.

## PER CAPITA TAX.

Your Council-in-Chief recommends there be no change in the per capita tax of six (6) cents a member per quarter.

## BUDGET.

The following budget is recommended for your approval:

Estimated receipts for 1915-1916—	
Per capita tax for 54,000 members .....	\$13,000.00
Membership fees .....	1,000.00
Charter fees .....	325.00
Supplies .....	4,500.00
Total receipts .....	\$18,825.00

## Budget for 1915-1916—

Official publications .....	\$ 9,750.00
Supplies .....	2,500.00
Salaries .....	2,300.00
Commander-in-Chief, traveling and other expenses....	1,000.00
Office expense of National Secretary and National Treasurer .....	1,000.00
Office equipment .....	250.00
Encampment proceedings .....	600.00
Chief of Staff and reserves .....	450.00
Past Commander-in-Chief badge .....	300.00
Miscellaneous expenses for National Officers, not above provided for .....	100.00
Bonds of National Officers .....	35.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$18,285.00</b>

## ENCAMPMENT PROCEEDINGS.

We recommend the publication and distribution of 1,500 copies of the Official Proceedings of this encampment, one to be sent to each camp through their Division Officers.

## ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS.

The Commander-in-Chief having exhausted his original appropriation of one thousand dollars, and having submitted to your Council-in-Chief his report for work done, was granted an additional sum of \$368.76, and to the Chief of Staff \$150.00 additional appropriation.

## CONCLUSION.

Your Council-in-Chief find the books of the National Secretary, H. H. Hammer, and National Treasurer, J. L. Rake, correct, and kept in the most approved manner, and with the Commander-in-Chief they have shown courtesy, co-operation with the desire to promote the best interests of our order, and the Council-in-Chief desire to now express their thanks for having had the pleasure of having served with them.

Respectfully submitted,

C. E. BATCHELOR,

H. C. SPRINGSTON,

*Committee.*

## EXHIBIT "A"

Reading, Pa., September 21, 1915.

*To the Council-in-Chief, Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,  
U. S. A.*

*Gentlemen:—*

This is to certify that there is on deposit to the credit of James Lewis Rake, National Treasurer, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., at this date, the sum of \$3,475.03.

HENRY K. HARRISON,

*Cashier.*



C. C. Behnke: I desire to submit the following minority report:

Washington, D. C., September 28, 1915.

*To the Officers and Members of the Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.*

*Greetings:*

While I fully approve the report of my colleagues on the Council-in-Chief, I am compelled, as a matter of future possible safeguard, to protest against the methods pursued to obtain the additional funds voted him by two members, without him having presented the matter before the Council-in-Chief, in accordance of the Constitution and customs he himself used both as a member of the Council-in-Chief and as Commander-in-Chief, as is best evidenced by his request to the Council-in-Chief, he submitting that request, as has always been the custom (the Council being a constituted body) to each member thereof, and not one, as is the case here, thus expecting the other members to consider the matter irregularly, if not, indeed, blindly.

Therefore I protest, or rather do not approve, that section relating to the extra appropriation of money, for I believe the method assumed may not always be to the best interest of the order; for I believe a suggestion might have been made whereby the return might have been more beneficial to the order.

Respectfully submitted in F., C. and L.,

CHAS. C. BEHNKE,  
*Member Council-in-Chief.*

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G. B. Abbott: I move the adoption of the report of the Council-in-Chief as submitted by the chairman. Seconded. Carried.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: We have with us Comrade J. B. Lewis, President of the National Association of Patriotic Instructors, who has given to the work much of his time, of his money, of his talent and has in no small degree assisted in inculcating a proper spirit of patriotism.

Comrade J. B. Lewis: Sons: I thank you for the greeting you have given me. I am always glad to look into the faces of these sons. I know what it means, and so does every man that wears the blue, for we realize that when we with trembling hand lay down this life, you will take up the patriotic effort. And sons, thrice happy is he that does anything to uplift the glorious structure of this nation, which since 1865 has been growing until today we are the grandest nation on earth, without question, but—there is a but—when I look into the future, I am appalled with what there is in front of me. Those of you that remember Benjamin Franklin know that he was one of the greatest philosophers in the world, certainly at his time, and in 1775, when we had two million one hundred thousand population, made the prediction that this nation would double its population every twenty-five years. So truthful was that prophecy that until this day, if you will figure it out, which you can easily do, you will find that we are entitled to one hundred and sixty millions of population in 1925. We have over a hundred million people today, and when I think what is going to

happen when this war in Europe closes, and of the millions and millions of people that are coming over here to be with us, and how we shall have to melt them into good American patriots, I realize that our problem is great.

One of the societies that is going to do this is your own, another is the National Association of Patriotic Instructors, of which I am proud to be President, and which has done much and is going to do more. It does not take away from you any glory. All we want to do is to help to uplift our national patriotism. We have done much already. We have striven in every state in the Union to have laws made which shall stop the desecration of our flag. In many states we have been instrumental in having those laws enacted, but we need something more. In my own state of Massachusetts we have a law which I had a small part in carrying through. That law today is so drastic that it would not allow the picture of a flag in a dictionary or an encyclopedia, nor on any piece of stationery. We did not draw well when we drew that law. We want a national law, and we are now working to have a national law, but it will be so drafted that there will be no question of its full intent.

I want to say to you Sons of Veterans that as I came up Pennsylvania Avenue, the thought came to me, "These young men, what about them?" And tears came into my eyes as I thought of what the veterans that were marching along had been through. Until 1865, no previous war had equaled the ferocity that was exhibited in that war of '61 to '65. There were 10,455 engagements, and most cruel was the ferocity exhibited in them. In every one of those engagements some son or some loved one went down, and the tears came to my eyes—I do not know if it were manly or not—but I could not help it. Then the thought came to me of a poem that I read some time ago:

After sob and breath have passed,  
As the thin, blue ranks marched slowly past,  
After the bared heads and streaming eye,  
As the shreds of the battle-flag passed by,  
There came the sturdy lines of sons  
And grandsons of their honored ones.

And as the shouts aroused the air,  
Again the sob and then the prayer,  
O Lord, keep these from passing through  
The hell their grizzled fathers knew.

And I was glad that I could come here today to give you the greeting of the National Patriotic Instructors' Association. Thank you. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Just a brief response by our own National Patriotic Instructor, Brother Penniman, who has been very closely associated with Brother Lewis. (Applause.)

George W. Penniman: I would like to have your indulgence for just a moment or two longer than the ordinary response might take, and, by way of prefatory remarks, allow me to say this: I prize most highly this privilege of responding to the address which has been given to us by the President of the National Patriotic Instructors' Association.

During the twelve months past I have given the very best



that is in me to the work of this department of our organization and have been in close touch continually with this association. What I think of it you will find in my report, submitted on Tuesday afternoon. For thirty-two years and a little more I have been a member of this organization. With the close of this convention this afternoon I will probably sever forever my official relations with the order of Sons of Veterans, but I want to say that during all these thirty-two years there has never come to me a higher privilege, more deeply prized, than that of being honored last year with the position of National Patriotic Instructor of this splendid organization. During the year, through the columns of *The Banner*, I have endeavored, as best I might be able to do, to address myself to the members upon themes of patriotic instruction.

The work of our organization is intensely practical if we would will it so. If I were to preach a sermon, I should like to take the text from something that you had read to you on Tuesday afternoon, and which I wish might be graven on the tablets of the memory of every member of our organization. It is that passage from the report of our Commander-in-Chief which reads thus: "No man's patriotism rises higher than his realization of the need that his country has for him." There is the thought for our work along the line of patriotic instruction, to make every man in the United States of America realize the great need that this country has of him. There is a need today, not the need that is expressed across the waters, where they have changed that clarion call of Nelson so that it now reads: "England compels every man to do his duty; not expects every man to do his duty." I tell you, my brothers, in this work of patriotic instruction there are things that we ought to do.

In the first place, to instruct the boys and the girls, and then the men of our nation. I am proud of the privilege that has been made mine to say some words into your ear along these lines, and I want to vocalize in just two or three sentences all that might be said if I had time and your patience would permit in this, the busiest session of our convention. In the first place, teaching the boys and girls to realize that the tomorrow is in the now, realizing that beneath the roof of the schoolhouse there go sixteen million boys and girls today, and upon the quality of that which is put into their hearts and into their lives at this time will be dependent the quality of the manhood and the womanhood of the future. If we can instill into them the principle that there is nothing grander, finer, nobler in all this world than that which is known as American citizenship, then we will be doing a part of our duty. To a Roman, to march under the eagles was to be greater than a king. I commend to you, brothers, this sentiment—I believe you will endorse it: That today, because of our position in the world, not only as a pacemaker, but as a peacemaker, because of the position of our country, we can say that the noblest, grandest, finest title that any man on earth can possibly bear is the plain title of American citizen. (Applause.) We believe in not simply a German-American or an Irish-American or a French-American—Oh! I wish the time should come when there would be no hyphenated Americans. Every man should say, I am proud to be an American!



Just let me say a word along these lines—American citizenship—Oh! what an inspiration we have, sir, in the work you are doing in our organization (referring to Mr. Lewis) and I believe that the order of Sons of Veterans can do no better work in the years of the future than to exalt more than you ever have before the position of Patriotic Instructor in camp, in division and in our Commandery-in-Chief, that we may go out from this meeting to teach all the people the priceless privileges that are ours, the glory of our heritage and the privileges that are ours as American citizens to do these things that shall have a wonderful influence upon the world of civilization of the future. You have heard that story of the color-bearer in the regiment, the boy who, at the command of the commanding officer, rushed in advance of his companions up the hill, and when the commanding officer saw him there at the top of the hill, he said to him: "Boy, come back and bring those colors back to the men." But he was made of sterner stuff than that, and he just simply made his salutation and said: "Commander, bring the men up to the colors." And that's what we want to do, to bring the manhood of America up to the colors that shall mean more than ever before. American citizenship is the highest type of citizenship that the world has ever known.

Mr. Lewis has made a reference to the flag, to the most glorious flag that the world has ever seen—your flag, yes, my flag—our flag, with its thirteen stripes, alternating red and white, and forty-eight stars, and each star representing a splendid American state. That flag stands for more and means more than any other flag that waves above the people in any other part of the world today, and we can only prove our loyalty, our appreciation of the services of yourself and your comrades, both present and departed, when we are willing to take up this flag and carry it onward and forward without a blot on the escutcheon, without a star erased, without a stripe soiled in any way.

I said this over in Pittsburgh the other night, and some of those present agreed with me; I repeat it to you now and to you as a Grand Army man, as a member of that splendid fraternity—when the question has been asked, as a brother asked me in Rochester, N. Y., one day, and he is here today, "After the Grand Army, what?" I simply said what has been in my mind for a great many years, a great many of the boys have said, "We want to take the name of the Grand Army and carry it on for all coming time," but I say this, "There is only one and never can be but one Grand Army of the Republic, and when the song has been sung for the last veteran, and he has been placed in the low, green tent whose curtains never outward swing, that will be the end of the name of the Grand Army of the Republic, and we don't want to carry on their name, but we do want to carry on their work and say that what the fathers fought for from '61 to '65 is worth talking about today and worth working for to the end of your lives and mine." That's the kind of work that I believe that we ought to do.

I thank you, Mr. Commander, for this privilege and this opportunity, and am glad to give my endorsement not only to the National Association of Patriotic Instructors, but to its splendid representative who is with us this afternoon. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The next matter before us is the presentation of

### THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON OFFICERS' REPORTS

Ralph M. Grant, chairman, then presented the report as follows:

Washington, D. C., September 30, 1915.

*To the Officers and Members of the Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.*

*Greetings:*

Your Committee on Officers' Reports, to whom were referred for consideration and action the reports of the several officers of the Commandery-in-Chief, begs leave to submit the following:

#### REPORT OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

As we listened to the reading of the report of Commander-in-Chief Sherman, we all realized that he had redeemed, in spirit and letter, his promise, made to the encampment that elected him, that "service" would be his watchword. The careful scanning of its pages, combined with the testimony of associate officers and members of this encampment, deepens such realization into a settled conviction.

The report is most complete and comprehensive, reflecting the ability and efficiency of the author, and with our knowledge that no report can fully set forth the undertakings and accomplishments of a year of earnest work in office, we may well wonder at, and profit in contemplating, the devotion of our beloved Commander to our order and the personal and business sacrifices that he must have made.

In honoring him by election to his high position, he doubtless felt that he owed our order a debt of gratitude. He has paid, and more than paid, the debt, and the balance is on the other side of the ledger. We cannot balance the account, except by payment in the currency, more prized than gold, silver or precious stones, the currency of lasting love and fraternal affection. This we tender to our Commander-in-Chief and beg its acceptance.

His report contains four recommendations.

Recommendation No. 1 is as follows: "That the Commander-in-Chief designate one day in each year to be observed by all camps as "Veterans' Night."

Your committee heartily concurs and desires to express the hope that this day will be observed in no perfunctory manner, but will soon become one of the great days on the Sons of Veterans' calendar.

R. M. Grant: I move that unless there is an objection to the recommendations that I am about to present, they be considered adopted. Seconded. Carried.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Recommendation No. 1 is adopted.

R. M. Grant: Your committee concurs in recommendation No. 2, provided that it shall not be mandatory upon the Council.

in-Chief to appropriate the sum of \$300 should a lesser sum, in its judgment, be sufficient, and recommends its adoption.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Recommendation No. 2 is adopted.

R. M. Grant: Your committee concurs in recommendation No. 3 and recommends its adoption.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Recommendation No. 3 is adopted.

R. M. Grant: Recommendation No. 4 was referred to your Committee on Resolutions and has been acted upon by this encampment.

On page 10 of Officers' Reports as printed appears the report of the Commander-in-Chief regarding the decision of Behnke against Helm. Your committee gave a hearing to Brother Behnke and carefully considered and appreciated the position taken by him. Of course, this Commandery-in-Chief cannot deal in any manner with the merits of the facts in this case. We may not enter into a discussion of whether the charges were well founded or not. We are concerned only in the legal phase of it, whether there has been a violation of the legal provision, and, after long consideration, your committee reports that it is of the opinion that the legislation passed at the Thirty-third Annual Encampment, held at Detroit, relative to the removal of Division Officers, was legal and its provisions fully complied with by the Commander-in-Chief, and that no provisions of the Constitution have been violated, that there is no legal requirement that a stenographer be furnished and that it does not appear that any injustice was done to the complainant by reason of the presence of two members of the Division Council only. The decision of the Commander-in-Chief is therefore sustained, and the appellant given leave to withdraw.

W. B. McNulty: I move that the report of the committee be adopted. Seconded.

C. C. Behnke offers an objection.

W. B. McNulty's motion is unanimously carried.

E. M. Amies: In view of the apparent unanimous support of the report of the chairman of the Committee on Officers' Reports, I move, for the sake of harmony, that all parts of the discussion on this question be expunged from the record. Seconded. Carried.

R. M. Grant: The several decisions of the Commander-in-Chief as approved in his report are approved by the committee. Sustained.

The report of the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief contains three recommendations.

Recommendation No. 1. We can concur in the spirit of this recommendation, but suggest that the Council-in-Chief already possesses the power to appropriate funds required for administrative purposes, and recommend that no action be taken at this encampment. Sustained.

Recommendation No. 2. The committee concurs with every suggestion looking to the emphasizing of the importance of The Banner and its possibilities for increased usefulness, but your committee is reminded that the Commandery-in-Chief is now,



and for some years will be, under contract with the publishers of The Banner, and on the basis now existing we can see no great opportunity of changing conditions and do not concur in the recommendation. Sustained.

Recommendation No. 3. The subject matter of this recommendation was made the subject matter of a recommendation one year ago by Commander-in-Chief Sautter, the sum suggested being five hundred dollars. In its wisdom, and after discussion, the Commandery-in-Chief decided that the possibilities and the practical carrying into effect did not appear to make such an appropriation advisable. There appears to be no particular reason to believe that there has been a change in conditions, nor is there any practical way of carrying this into effect suggested. Your committee is unanimous in believing that our order needs publicity, and we believe that it should begin in the camps, that they should take active steps for securing public notices, but for the reason stated one year ago by the Committee on Officers' Reports, we do not concur in the recommendation. Sustained.

The next is the report of the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief. To those of us who are especially familiar with the rapid growth of the Division of Michigan, which in the space of less than three years has more than trebled in numbers, and to those of us who realize how greatly this is due to their efficient Secretary and Treasurer, the report of the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief comes as no surprise. We expected it. We commend him for what he has been able to accomplish, what he has made that office worth to his own Division and to those Divisions placed immediately under his charge. There are no recommendations contained in the report.

Then, the report of the National Secretary. Words of commendation for the occupant of this office are unnecessary, nor do we any more manifest surprise at the efficiency with which he carries on the work of that office. The only surprise this body will experience is when Horace Hammer falls down on a thing. It must have been a source of great pride and pleasure to him to have received the resolutions and letters of endorsement that he has received during the year, and I am sure that we feel like congratulating ourselves that we have, and may yet have for a long period, we hope, the value of his great services. He makes several recommendations.

Recommendation No. 1 is referred to the Council-in-Chief and has been acted upon.

Recommendation No. 2. The committee concur and recommend its adoption. Sustained.

C. A. Dorsey: While you are making the camp packet complete, why not put in a constitution for each member of the camp. I offer this as an amendment. Adopted.

W. L. Barnum, Jr.: The camp packet as now made up does not contain a ballot box nor a gavel, and that is one of the most important things. We have had to furnish our camps with that time and time again in Illinois. I offer that as an amendment. Amendment lost.

R. M. Grant: Recommendation No. 3 of the National Secretary was referred to the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Laws.

The report of the National Treasurer is next. The National Treasurer is a humorist. He is a past master in the distribution of jokes, but he never treats that duty of his office as a joke. His books and his reports are models of efficiency. He has one recommendation upon the question of the reserve fund. It was referred to the Council-in-Chief and has received your action.

The next is the report of the National Counselor. His work has been performed ably and well, as a matter of course. The various opinions and matters contained in his report were referred to the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Laws, and have been acted upon by this encampment.

The report of the National Chaplain. You will observe at the beginning of the reading of that report the high mark set by the National Chaplain, wherein he says: "It has been my endeavor to add to the dignity and importance of this office." He has attained success in his attempt, and I may add that the reading of the report is the most gratifying, as it shows that he has been able to stimulate increasing activity on the part of our membership in the work of his department, which is of the utmost importance to the order. His report contains no recommendation.

National Patriotic Instructor. To the duties of this position of National Patriotic Instructor he brought a store of rich experience, not only from long service in our order, but in other high orders. No more important position exists in our order than that which he was called upon to fill. He has realized its importance and measured up in full to its requirements. His report contains one recommendation, but in passing I would beg of you that you give to his report a most careful reading, yea, a most careful study, that we may profit by his advice and profit by the ability displayed in the report. His recommendation was also made the subject matter of a resolution from the state of New York, which was referred to the Committee on Resolutions and received the action of this encampment. Therefore, we recommend no action upon the recommendation of the Patriotic Instructor. Sustained.

At the encampment held one year ago, the Committee on Officers' Reports recommended that at the 1915 meeting reports of national officers be printed in advance, etc. We renew that motion, slightly amending it, to make it read as follows: Your committee recommends that for future meetings the reports of national officers be printed in advance of the time for holding the sessions of the Commandery-in-Chief and that a sufficient number of copies thereof, under one cover, be prepared for the use of the members of the Commandery. We move the adoption of the recommendation.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: No objection. It is considered adopted.

R. M. Grant: I move the acceptance of the report of the Committee on Officers' Reports and that the recommendations therein contained, as amended, be adopted. (See page 139.) Seconded. Carried.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The next report is that of the Committee on Fraternal Relations.

W. D. McBryar: We have performed the duties so far as we have been permitted. All bodies have been extended the frater-



nal greetings of this encampment, with the exception of the Grand Army of the Republic. We presented our cards a little after 11 o'clock, and at that time they had not yet organized. Later in the day our greetings will be extended to them. Accepted.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Brother Sautter will continue to present the report of the Committee on Resolutions.

John E. Sautter: I move the acceptance of the report of the committee as a whole. Seconded. Carried.

W. M. Coffin: The brothers will recall the action of the last encampment at Detroit where a committee was provided for, a standing committee on legislation. This matter was briefly touched upon in the reports of the National Counselor. The brothers of the committee who were present felt that the committee for itself should make a report, and I therefore offer the following:

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION.

*To the Officers and Members of the Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. Greetings:*

The standing Legislative Committee appointed pursuant to the action of the Thirty-third National Encampment, hereby adopts as the report of its activities during the year, and as its recommendations, as fully as if here repeated, that portion of the report of the National Counselor at this encampment included under the sub-heading "Legislative Committee."

W. M. COFFIN,  
WILLIAM B. MOYNIHAN,  
*Legislative Committee.*

#### Entrance of guests.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I am privileged again to present to you a delegation from our sister society, the Woman's Relief Corps, in the person of Mrs. Sawyer, Mrs. Julia Moynihan and Mrs. Mary Nelson, representing our mothers. We greet them as befits the welcome that a son extends toward a mother. (Applause.)

Mrs. Sawyer: Commander-in-Chief and Sons: I thank you for the very cordial greeting that you have given your mothers. Down in Massachusetts where I came from, the Massachusetts sons and daughters six years ago were all calling me mother, and I hadn't really gotten over the feeling that I am the mother of all the Sons of Veterans.

I am only going to say a word. I think that I was sent simply because they thought that they would give me the honor of coming in to see you young men. I remember over fifty years ago when the men we saw marching yesterday were younger than most of you, and yesterday you see what they were. But it was a glorious sight to see them going up Pennsylvania Avenue. As I say, I was sent just to bring the greetings of the mothers to the sons, and that is all I am going to say. (Applause.)



Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I am now about to introduce one who has a large place in her heart for the Sons of Veterans, and who not many years ago changed her relationship so far as it concerns the Sons of Veterans by no longer being a sister to them, but took unto herself that new position of motherhood. Therefore, I present to you Mother Moynihan.

Mrs. Julia Moynihan: Mr. Commander-in-Chief: I am sure that introduction was so lovely that you won't want to hear a word from me. Nevertheless, I will say that I was not present when I was appointed on the committee to visit the Sons of Veterans, else I might not have accepted, feeling that it would be a little selfish on my part to do so. I have visited you Sons so many times, and since I have become Mother Moynihan, I think I prefer to have someone else visit you, some one that is more entitled to the name of "Mother." Nevertheless, it is a privilege and a pleasure to come and visit you just for a moment, and I am sure that each one of us three present to you the loyalty of a woman's heart in every member of the Woman's Relief Corps. They feel proud indeed to be called your mothers, and well they may, for there are few women in the Woman's Relief Corps who know so well what you Sons of Veterans are doing and what you stand for. Thank you. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: We should be pleased to have a brief word from Mrs. Nelson.

Mrs. Nelson: I think the sisters have said all there is to be said. However, I want you all to know that I am very happy indeed to be with you. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: In recognizing these greetings I will call upon Division Commander Guy Richardson. (Applause.)

Guy Richardson: I don't quite understand why it is, what the consistency is, although there may be one, of asking me to make my baby speech before the mothers, for this is the first time that I have appeared before this body in public, but it is indeed an honor to speak to you.

I want to tell you that it is literally true when I refer to you as my mother, my kin, for I have a mother in New Hampshire who is a member of your order, and I have a wife who lives in Boston, who but a few hours ago was shaking hands with the President in the White House, who is also a member of your order. I want to tell you that we boys appreciate the splendid work that you are doing for the comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic, and not one of us has ever been where there is a Relief Corps but that we have seen as well as heard of your magnificent support. We know that there is no order in this country that is doing what it was organized to do any better, perhaps none so well, as is the Woman's Relief Corps.

Mothers, I have at home two gifts. One is a copy of the Holy Scriptures, which my mother put in my hands when I was very young, and, acting, I suppose, on the same principle, lest I should ever forget when in later years I began to wander abroad and to travel in foreign countries, she placed in my hand also a flag of our country, a little silk banner. What a blessed thing for a mother to do! thus to fortify her son with the word of God in one hand and the flag of our country in the other. (Applause.)

I think that the spirit of that mother of mine, who did those two things for me, is what actuates you. It is love of God and love of country. We thank you and we appreciate your fraternal greetings. (Applause.)

Guests escorted from the room.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The next matter to come before this encampment is the report of the Committee on Press.

W. G. Dustin: I would say that I have not been particularly active in this matter of furnishing copy for the press on account of not being acquainted with the newspaper men, but the local men that you put on that committee have done very good work, and the papers generally have used us very nicely since we have been in the city. Report adopted and become part of the record.

C. J. Deckman: If I may be permitted, I would like to make a very modest motion at this time. I do not believe there is a member of this encampment who is more loyal to the allied organizations than I am myself, and I know that you all appreciate the warm words of greeting that have been expressed to us by the several committees that have visited us during this encampment, as well as preceding encampments. I move you that hereafter, for the purpose of receiving the committees on fraternal greetings from the parent and allied organizations, the Commandery-in-Chief, through its officers, advise these bodies that the hours between 2 and 5 of the first day's convention be set aside for the reception of these committees on fraternal greetings. Seconded.

George B. Holmes: I would like to move that the motion be amended by striking out the words "Grand Army of the Republic." We cannot dictate any time when the Grand Army of the Republic is to be admitted. We should strike out "parent" and leave it "allied organizations." The amendment is accepted. Amended motion carried.

F. H. Challis: I submit draft of proposed second class of members:

In Divisions which may adopt this provision by vote at any Division Encampment there shall be a class of members to be known as second class members, who shall be constituted in towns or villages where local conditions do not admit the existence of regular camps. Such second class members shall, as to eligibility, conform to all requirements for membership that are enjoined upon members of this order. They shall be organized in squads of not less than five members, and shall be attached for the purpose of discipline to some regularly established camp through which their reports shall be transmitted and from which they shall receive supplies authorized by the order. They shall be regularly obligated by the mustering officer of the Division or his duly commissioned substitute, and shall be officered by a Deputy Commander and such other officers as local conditions may make expedient. The Deputy Commander shall be responsible to the camp to which his squad may be attached, for the carrying out of the observance of Memorial Day and the general carrying out of the principles and objects of the order, and he shall convene the members of his squad as early as the month of April in each year for the purpose of preparing for the observance of Memorial Day. Members of the



second class shall be entitled to wear the badge of the order and to admission to meetings of camps thereof, while in good standing, but shall not be entitled to voice or vote therein, except that by courtesy they may be allowed to speak in any camp at the discretion of the Camp Commander. They shall pay an annual due of not less than one dollar, twenty-five cents of which shall be paid to the camp to which they are attached, and said due shall be paid in advance, on or before the first day of April in each year. Members failing to pay such due on or before said date shall be forthwith dropped from the roll and forfeit privilege of membership, but may be restored thereto for the current year on payment of said due. Divisions adopting this section shall be authorized to collect from the camps 10 cents for each second class member, and shall pay to the Commandery-in-Chief an annual per capita tax of five cents, said per capita tax to be collected and paid annually with the July report. They shall be carried on such reports as second class members and shall be separately designated in making up the tables of membership in the several branches of the order. Said squads shall have the power to adopt such by-laws and elect such officers as they may deem expedient, not conflicting with the general provisions of the Constitution, Rules and Regulations and general practice of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., but shall not be required to submit quarterly reports of any character.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: We will now have the report of the special committee to prepare a minute on Brother Holmes. The chair recognizes Brother Penniman.

George W. Penniman reads report.

The Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., representing nearly 55,000 sons of Union soldiers of the War of the Rebellion, has learned with sincere regret of the illness of our loved co-patriot, Clarence E. Holmes, Past Division Commander of New York, and during the present administration Personal Aide of Commander-in-Chief Sherman.

We desire to place on the permanent records of this body a testimony of our fraternal love and appreciation of Brother Holmes, who for more than 32 years has been an active member of our organization and for many years our associate in the Commandery-in-Chief.

Clarence E. Holmes has been, and is today, a loyal "son" and has served in many positions of honor, trust and responsibility with rare fidelity, ability and enthusiasm.

His counsel has been wise, his patriotism has been of lofty type and his optimism has been contagious.

We miss him from the circles of our fellowship today, but we send him the assurance of our heart interest and pray our Heavenly Father to give him peace and comfort and stay him up with the everlasting arms.

His name and services will be a precious heritage to us, and the manliness of his character and the clarity of his sentiments will all inspire us to do noble things—not dream them all day long.

Alfred G. Loyd: I move the election of officers. Seconded. Carried.

M. E. Gibbs: I move that all nominating speeches be limited to two minutes. Seconded. Carried.



H. V. Speelman: The Division of Ohio responds to this call in full realization of the great responsibility which it implies. As Sons of Veterans, we are possessors of a priceless heritage. Ours is a great organization, made so by the service and sacrifice of the men who went out in the discharge of a most sacred duty in 1861 to 1865. We were honored by being called upon to act as the official escort, in their parade, of the Grand Army of the Republic, the grandest army the world has ever known. (Applause.) I believe that each one of us who marched up Pennsylvania Avenue yesterday is a better son of a veteran and a better American citizen today because of that fact. We were the sons and the grandsons of those men who wear that little bronze button.

Where e'er he goes, they greet him,  
They salute him near and far,  
For he wears the magic button  
Of the honored G. A. R.

Commander-in-Chief and Brothers, the business of the hour is of the highest importance. The mantle of authority is about to pass from old shoulders to new. It devolves upon us as an organization to maintain the high standard of excellence that has been achieved by those who have served us in official capacity in the years of the past. I need not recall, or recite, or give names of those who have served in these high offices and official places. Suffice it to say that they have brought to our organization a full realization of the responsibilities and the trust that rest upon us as true Sons of Veterans and as patriotic American citizens. We are about to elect a new Commander-in-Chief. I voice the sentiment of 5,000 loyal members of this organization, who claim membership in the Division of Ohio, in presenting for your consideration for that high office the name of a brother whom we believe to be in every way deserving, and who is fully equipped to meet the great responsibilities of the high office of Commander-in-Chief. He has been tried and found to be true to every trust that has been given into his hands. For twenty-nine years he has given his services to this organization; the organizer of a camp, a constant, consistent, patriotic member of our order ever since; serving as camp officer, as Division Commander, on the staff of different Commanders-in-Chief, he has discharged all of the obligations to the fullest extent. We in Ohio believe that the brother whom I will name, if elected, will measure up to the splendid records that have been made by those who have preceded him. He is an original "Yankee Doodle Dandy." It is reported on good authority that he came into this world bearing a Sons of Veterans' badge in one hand and the flag of our country in the other, lustily singing: "Three cheers for the red, white and blue. Brothers, on behalf of the Ohio delegation here represented, it is my great honor and pleasure to present for your consideration the name of that true American citizen, who wears the flag of our country in his heart as a badge of honor three hundred and sixty-five days every year, Ambrose Everett Burnside Stephens for Commander-in-Chief for the ensuing year. (Applause.)

Guy Richardson: Believing that the Order of Sons of Veterans is peculiarly fortunate in getting the services, for its

highest office, of men of unusual ability, men in high offices and high positions who are willing to sacrifice their time, their family life and other things that are dear to them personally, for the good of this Order, it gives me great pleasure, in the name of Massachusetts, to second the nomination of Brother Stephens of Ohio. (Applause.)

W. D. McBryar: Arising as the official head of the greatest division in this order, I do so with a mixed feeling of personal interest in the man whose nomination I am about to second, for the dearest friend I have ever had in this world came from Ohio, my mother, and so, coming as I do, from the neighboring division of Pennsylvania, I feel that my personal feelings and my heart are touched with the pride which a true son of a good mother only can have, and so, Commander-in-Chief and brothers, on behalf of the Pennsylvania Division, I take pleasure in seconding the nomination of A. E. B. Stephens of Ohio. (Applause.)

A. W. McDaniel of Indiana: I also second the nomination of Brother Stephens.

W. O. Cobb: I desire to see Maine represented as seconding the nomination, because every man that I have heard of since I came here has spoken well of this brother, and I want it recorded that Maine is not for any ring, but for the best man in this national body, if he is the best man for this position, and I take the honor of seconding the nomination of Brother Stephens.

L. J. Rake: We have just had a hasty conference here, and we don't want to be left. "The official family" desires to second the nomination.

C. C. Behnke: I am not going to second that nomination, but I am not going to give anybody a chance to make any opposition. I move that the nominations close on Brother Stephens of Ohio and the secretary cast the ballot for this body.

H. H. Hammer: The National Secretary has the pleasure of casting two hundred and one votes of the encampment for the election of A. E. B. Stephens.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I declare Brother Stephens elected Commander-in-Chief.

A. E. B. Stephens: Commander-in-Chief and Brothers: I desire to express my thanks to all of you, and it is unnecessary to state that I accept this high honor, and I expect every one of you who are here today and all of your friends to become part of this official family the next year, so that we can hustle things up and keep things moving in the grand Order of the Sons of Veterans throughout the United States the next year. Thank you. (Applause.)

Michael Crowley: I have been requested by a number of brothers to stand for the nomination and run for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. I rise now to get up and thank those brothers who were going to vote for me and say I am out of the field and leave it to New York.

M. E. Gibbs: I had supposed that after three days in this very stuffy room high pressure oratory had spent itself, and I thought when I made that simple limitation of two



minutes that it would be very pleasantly received, but still the pressure is on. I am going to stand by the motion that I made and still believe that there are some of you that are not at this time wanting any more high pressure oratory, with all respect to everybody under the sun. I desire to mention for your consideration the name of Edwin W. Sanford of Albany. He was one of the best Division Commanders that we ever had.

G. B. Abbott: Moved that the unanimous vote of the encampment be cast by the National Secretary for Edwin W. Sanford of New York for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. (Seconded. Carried.)

H. H. Hammer: The National Secretary has the pleasure of casting two hundred and one votes of the encampment for Edwin W. Sanford for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I declare Brother Sanford elected. Do you accept?

Edwin W. Sanford: Commander-in-Chief: I do accept the office, and I must say in accepting it that this election has come with as much surprise to me as it must be to a great many members of this convention. I appreciate the honor you have conferred upon me, and I shall try in every way possible to live up to the standard of the office and to my obligations as a Son of a Veteran. (Applause.)

E. R. Campbell: Our usual custom is, and I think it a good one, to give to the division in which the Commandery is held the nomination for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, thereby in a measure recognizing the efforts of the members of the division in entertaining their friends. Therefore, on behalf of the Maryland delegation and by order of the Division Commander, I stand before you for the purpose of nominating a brother of the Maryland Division for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief. He is one of our boys, clean and honest, upright in every particular. He stands well in society, stands high in the Order, and in other orders, is past commander of his camp, past commander of a division, thoroughly qualified and will be an ornament to the commander's stand. It affords me very great pleasure to nominate my dear friend, George Duffy of the Maryland Division. (Applause.)

Motion that a unanimous vote be cast by the secretary for George Duffy for the position of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

H. H. Hammer: The National Secretary has the pleasure of casting two hundred and one votes of the encampment for George Duffy for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Brother George Duffy is elected Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief. (Applause.) Do you accept?

George Duffy: Commander-in-Chief: I accept the office with deep gratitude and I assure you that I will do my best to be more than an ornament to the office.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The next is the nomination of three members for the Council-in-Chief.

R. M. Grant: Commander-in-Chief, it was my privilege one year ago to place a nomination for a brother of my own division,



he who was subsequently elected and who has for the past year served as the Chairman of the Council-in-Chief. I take great pleasure in nominating him for re-election and promise you that he will not only bring to the position the success that he has attained during the year, but that the experience of the year will yet further benefit him and you in the service of the office. I name for your consideration Brother C. E. Batchelor.

W. L. Barnum, Jr.: I desire to present to the members here the name of Brother H. C. Springston for re-election.

G. B. Abbott: I am not ashamed to come from good old Michigan. I have spent happy days there, and the Michigan brothers have honored me beyond my full deserts. I want to nominate for the third member of the Council-in-Chief a brother whom we all know well, and the best recommendation I can give him is what one of the leading brothers of Michigan said to me the other day, that we never do anything in Michigan until we consult with Brother Fred J. McMurtrie. He is one of the old timers that has been always faithful and devoted. I therefore beg of you to give your votes to Brother McMurtrie, the retiring Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, for the third member of the Council-in-Chief.

The chair declares the nominations closed and recognizes the motion as having been passed for the secretary to cast the unanimous vote of the encampment for Brothers Clifford E. Batchelor, H. C. Springston and F. J. McMurtrie. Secretary declares them unanimously elected.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: It is true that with the closing of the election of these brothers, we could probably just as well dispense with electing any further officers, but as a matter of form in order that the records may be clear, the chair will entertain a nomination for the office of National Secretary.

W. B. McNulty: There is a saying that brevity is the soul of wit, and when I think of how we have sat here patiently in this abominable atmosphere on account of the awful ventilation, I believe you will subscribe to the wisdom of those words at this particular time. I have been forbidden to make the speech that I had intended to. The National Secretary won't permit any stories nor will he permit me to tell some truthful things and some beautiful things about his life work in this organization. I might simply say to you that our good brother, Past Commander-in-Chief Grant, made a nominating speech that extended possibly a little over a moment's time, that covered all that I might say in hours in so far as its reference might be to the National Secretary. When Pennsylvania presented his candidacy this year, they felt that it was not necessary to make any extended canvass, that his record was his platform and that his record was his appeal. He does not belong alone to Pennsylvania, but to all the divisions of this organization, and he loves you all, brothers, just as much as he loves his own brothers in the great Division of Pennsylvania. Therefore, on behalf of the members of the Pennsylvania Division, numbering over fourteen thousand, I have the great pleasure and the distinguished honor of presenting to you today for re-election to the office of National Secretary, Horace H. Hammer. (Applause.)

W. G. Dustin: I move that the nominations close and that

the Commander-in-Chief cast the vote of this encampment for Horace H. Hammer. Seconded. Carried.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The Commander-in-Chief hereby casts your unanimous ballot for Horace H. Hammer for National Secretary. Brother Hammer, do you accept?

H. H. Hammer: "I certainly do."

E. M. Amies: Commander-in-Chief and brothers: All that Brother McNulty has said we rehearsed beforehand, and it was understood that he was to make the speech which was to nominate both Brother Hammer and Brother Rake, with the reservation, however, that in view of the fact that Brother Rake, during all of these sessions, as well as sessions held outside has seen fit to put every one,—everybody, you included, I included, you all included—in the category of either thieves, rogues, renegades or murderers, the opportunity now is at hand whereby some of us at least can get even. If it be possible to get even with Rake. I am happy to be in the position where I think that I cannot be replied to, but I doubt it.

J. L. Rake: There is an old saying that you had better be safe than be sober. Look out, now.

E. M. Amies: But, I do rise here with a great deal of pleasure to place before this encampment the name of James Lewis Rake, of Pennsylvania, as your candidate for the National Treasurer of this Commandery and of our Order.

Thirty-three years ago I first met Jim Rake, as we called him then. We were but kids in this organization, and what we didn't do at those preliminary encampments as well as the first national encampment, I can't suggest even now—nothing was forgotten. I will admit that I wasn't the instigator of all the things that were done. I was merely a follower, even from painting dogs around the postoffice in the city of Philadelphia to driving dump-carts in the city of Reading. He was one of them—I was merely a follower. For thirty-three of thirty-four years I have known him constantly in this organization, in the camp, in the division and in the Commandery-in-Chief. During all these years, I have watched his career from a wild boy to a sedate businessman, and it is only my great doubt that we can induce Lewis Rake to accept the position of National Treasurer of this Commandery-in-Chief.

Lewis Rake is one of the big men of this Order. He is one of the men that we can well be proud of, who is willing to lay aside the big problems of life and business and devote some of his energy to the uplift of this Order. His career in business is one of which we may be proud. We may be proud that a Son of a Veteran has attained the eminence not only in business but in social and fraternal life as to make his name known not only throughout the state of Pennsylvania from one end to the other, but throughout the whole United States of ours as well as adjoining territory. He is one of the men that we can be proud of, a man who is ready and willing at all times to lay aside the business cares and say to us that he will devote time to us, not only for the benefit of this Order but for the memory of the father who gave him life. I now name James Lewis Rake.

F. H. Challis: I do not desire Pennsylvania to have the entire monopoly of James Lewis Rake. It was thirty-one years ago at the encampment in Philadelphia that I first met not only



James Lewis Rake but Horace H. Hammer and my friend who took such pleasure in calling me down this morning, Brother Amies who has just spoken, but I am going to forgive Brother Amies, because he misunderstood me, because we are all devoted to this order, and I want to say that it was my pleasure in the New Hampshire Division to draw the resolution by which we endorsed Brother Hammer and Brother Rake for re-election, and I want to say, too, that all of us old fellows who may get excited perhaps sometimes when you are arguing some questions are true to this Order, if ever any men were true. You need not expect, notwithstanding a statement which I made in some sort of shape this morning that seemed to be misunderstood, that Challis of New Hampshire will ever go back on the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., or any of its members. (Applause.)

H. H. Hammer: I now cast 201 votes for James Lewis Rake for National Treasurer.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Do you accept?

J. L. Rake: I don't know about that. I feel that there is an explanation due the encampment. I told you of some of the tricks this morning that we played on you and how we double-teamed you. Now, I think I will give ourselves away. (Michael Crowley: Mind that you tell everything:) No, not fully, Mike, I didn't say fully, but if I did say fully I would have to bring in some people who would probably suffer at the end of the rope, like yourself, for instance.

Fearing that there might be some hidden opposition to this pair of positions that are so lucrative, and that we want so greatly, we entered into a little scheme, and I wired Hammer ahead, "For God's sake get sick and create a little sympathy." (Laughter.) (Applause.) And Hammer immediately took the cue, got the good doctor from Maine to dope him up and there was a constant stream of visitors in 111 where, of course, I was by his side constantly, helping the game along. This Damon and Pythias business, you know, has done a great deal for men. Now, having given the secret away and having, by your vote, pledged yourself for five years again, and knowing that memory is short, we have arranged that, as it had worked so well, five years hence, I am to be sick and Hammer will play the nurse until we have sympathetically got up to the point where we have you all bagged as we had today. (Laughter.)

At any rate, Brothers, I have to say that it is almost needless that I confess it has been a labor of love. Promises you need none. My past shall have to be my promise for future performance. (Applause.)

Ralph Sheldon: Commander-in-Chief, within a very short time, you will have passed the gavel of authority to your successor. You will not become a member of the order of has-beens, for knowing you as I do, I know that you will continue your work of love for the order as you have of yore, but rather you will join the great order of the House of Lords, composed of the very best, the most loyal and royal good fellows that ever trod God's footstool. Commander, it is not necessary for me to tell this encampment what you have done in the past nor what you will do in the future, except that I do pledge my word that you will continue your interest and your labors. Every member of this encampment, every member of this order has the highest



regard for you, but to us who have known you for so long, it is necessary for a stronger word to express our affection for you, for our affection has gone to the highest point, that of love.

Commander, this little emblem, it gives me great deal of pleasure to pin upon your breast, a Past Commander-in-Chief's jewel, not of any particular intrinsic value, but weighted heavily with our love and respect. May your future life be as happy and as bright as the gold of which this badge is composed. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Brother Sheldon, I cannot claim that this is altogether a surprise, but I confess to you that no man can receive at the hands of his brothers, as has been given to me this afternoon, a token which represents, as you have stated, the love of my brothers in this organization, and fully or clearly express as he ought the feelings that are welling within his heart. I have tried to steel myself, lest my feelings betray the emotion that I would fain hide from you, and yet, my brothers, I have had great satisfaction in the service which I have been permitted to render. In behalf of my good brother from New York who has presented this as your spokesman, I accept it and shall treasure it not, as he has stated, for its intrinsic worth or value, but rather for the sentimental value which attaches to it, and I shall ever prize it. I love to think of the future when I no longer shall be a worker among you that he who bears my name and comes after me shall say, "My father received that from his brothers," and he too shall hand down to his children this emblem, a token that is richer than all else that you could give me. My brothers, I thank you most sincerely. (Applause.)

M. E. Gibbs: I want to ask that the Commander-in-Chief stand about half way between where he is now and his present station—Now, it is a long way from this position of authority which you just left down to where you are now. I am going to talk to you not as a Commander-in-Chief, nor attribute to you any of the ministerial attributes that we all know you have. I am just going to talk to you a minute as plain Charley Sherman. I know that it's a shock to this great dignity that you have carried around for a year, but the rest of us are not disturbed by it, and inasmuch as we have got you where we want you, we will tell you what we think about you.

A year ago up at Detroit, I had a pitiful part in helping to elect you Commander-in-Chief, and I endeavored to do that with becoming dignity, and permit me to say that you have not embarrassed me by your conduct in the office during that time. But now, inasmuch as you are about to go back to your "plow," it is fair that we give you a bit of advice. You have circulated you said about thirty thousand miles during the last year. You remind me of the fellow that was brought up before a Police Justice charged with vagrancy. The police justice said to the chap, "Well what have you got to say for yourself? What have you been doing?" He said, "Judge, I have just been circulating around a little." The judge said, "You are withdrawn from circulation for sixty days." (Laughter.) Now those of us that put you in the position of authority where you went circulating propose to withdraw you from circulation, get your feet right down on the ground with the rest of us and send you on your way rejoicing. Ever since I got to Washington I have been reminded

of Will Carleton's poem of "Old Elderland's Donation;" everybody that I have met has given me some sort of stuff, truck or loot. I don't know where they got it, and they said, when the time comes, give it to Sherman.

Some of it I gave to Dr. Sheldon, being a past Commander-in-Chief and he has presented you with those emblems of honor and respect. Now, I haven't anything to do with honor and dignity and all of that business; I have something of good-fellowship, man to man, heart to heart—that's all. Now, where's the loot? (Laughter.)

They tell me that in your trips about the country and meeting the Divisions of the Sons of Veterans, that you have completed the circle of friendship among these boys and their associates in various states, and as a sort of emblem of that completed circle, these chaps have put it in the form of a completed circle with a bright spot in the top, and that bright spot is emblematic of the little bright spot that you have left in so many hearts all over this country. (Applause.) (Presentation of a diamond ring.)

Now, you have told us to be prepared for war. I want to tell you to be prepared for peace, and I am going to give you the tools. (Presentation of a set of silver.) I might say that this looks as though it was sent by William Jennings Bryan, it looks like free silver. (Applause.)

If you will accept all of these things, you are welcome to them. I have handed them around so much that they kept me awake nights for fear the same fellow that stole my hat up at Detroit would get hold of them.

After all, Charlie, after all, the greatest pleasure you will get out of your last year's work which is about to end is not the honor of being an important officer. It is just the heart friendship of one good man's meeting another. (Shaking hands.) (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Brother Gibbs and Brothers: I want to thank you for turning the presentation of this gift in the direction you have which has enabled me to recover my self possession. There are times, my brothers, in a man's life that cannot be well expressed in words. There are depths of love and friendship that cannot be portrayed, and I stand before you and acknowledge that I am unable to express to you that feeling of appreciation that I have for the great consideration which you have shown me, and to say that these gifts which come from the brothers closest to me shall be treasured in memory, and these articles before me of a useful character shall not be laid away where moth and rust doth corrupt, but I shall make use of them and every time I take them in my hand, it will serve to bridge that chasm between the past and the present, between those of my friends and myself. And as I wear (the ring,) may it make me humble and more willing to serve, not for any compensation that comes from service save that compensation of duty well performed.

My brothers, more I cannot say. I wish it were a time when I could call upon some of my gifted brothers to respond for me. As I have for the various delegations that were received, but now I must speak for myself. You have been better to me by far than I deserve. I love you all, and I am so glad that we can close the encampment in that splendid spirit of friendship as typified



by this circle, when every brother feels his obligation towards his brother, and my prayer shall be that this relation which has had its continuance during the past year may never, never be broken so long as we have breath of life in our bodies. (Applause.)

#### ENTRANCE OF GUESTS.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Brothers of the encampment: It gives me great pleasure to present to you Mrs. Rosenberg, President of the Ohio Division of the Daughters of Veterans, Mrs. Decker, Department President of New York and Mrs. Sullivan, Patriotic Instructor. We give you all a most cordial welcome. Mrs. Rosenberg will now say a few words.

Mrs. Rosenberg: I take great pleasure in bringing you greetings from our National President. You are our brothers, and I am most heartily glad to be with you on this occasion. I think it is quite an honor for our National President to appoint me as the chairman of this committee, and I am delighted to bring you greetings from our sisters, The Daughters of Veterans. I know you are busy, and as we haven't been in session this afternoon yet, I will bid you good-bye.

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Sister Rosenberg, you are the representative of one of our best friends, Sister Lulu Carlin. Convey to her the thanks of this body for the kindness which has been represented and expressed by this token. (Applause.)

Mrs. Decker: My Judge Advocate is in the room and I think he has talked enough for this afternoon, that is, Mr. Gibbs, so I will cease. (Applause.)

Mrs. Sullivan: Brothers, I had the extreme pleasure to respond to the Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans speech at Moline, and it was a great pleasure to me, I assure. Now, I am going to say just two lines, the Sons and the Daughters forever; three cheers for the red, white and blue! (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I will call upon another distinguished brother from Massachusetts to respond. It is surprising what wonderful speakers Massachusetts has given to our order. There is a brother here who has been a good friend not only to the Sons of Veterans, but likewise the Daughters of Veterans. I therefore call upon Brother Joseph Mitchell Chapple of Boston, Mass., to respond. (Applause.)

J. M. Chapple: I can't tell you what emotions were awakened when I looked upon the boys in the great parade yesterday. I believe we witnessed a great heart-throb of history. Oh, how we looked upon that fading line of blue and wished those of us whose fathers have passed to the grand review young could have been there. Boys, I will carry that parade home with me in memory, for it was the most significant procession that has ever been known in the history of this country, because it typified the tolerance of those who have gone through the struggle and tragedies of war. As they marched along, I thought what a contrast to that zeal of those sweeping across the borders of Belgium like a funeral procession, the like of which has never been known in all the ages. Five million men wearing the uniform have passed from the muster-roll within a little over a year, and do we realize the tremendous, the awful responsibilities that are coming to us when the dawn of peace comes and the fragments and the



remnants of the nations that are left and the flood-tide of emigration that is coming to us and the citizenship that must be made when they come here? Every time I see an initiation within our Order and see a man standing within the folds of old glory, I think, what a great thing it would be to make our American citizens take an obligation other than that of merely raising their hand and signing a paper at the behest of some politician. We should make that obligation known to these boys and girls that are coming from over the seas. We are sons in a broader sense than merely kith or kin to the dear old members of the G. A. R.; we are sons of the Republic, and it behooves us to gather with those good women affiliated with us, represented by the ladies who have come here today, who have done such splendid work and have added a glow of happiness to many a hearthstone. When I look upon the crossed sabre upon the altar, when I see an initiation and when I realize that we are careless when a celebration occurs in this country, just put up a scattering flag here and there all along, I wonder what the foreigners are to think if we ourselves do not show the spirit of reverence to that flag with its stainless stars in a field of blue, like the vaulted skies of peace overhead today, and with its bars of red recording indelibly and eternally the valor of American heroism, and the bars of white emblematic of the purity of the mothers who bore us, of the daughters who are with us. Oh, I can see untold and before me a vision of the United States of the World following in the wake of the great destiny which has followed because our fathers preserved that flag. Our fathers have left us a heritage, and God bless their trembling limbs and their aged eyes and their silvered hair, for we love them. And tonight I am going to try to pay my tribute to every member of the G. A. R. who is to me my father, because they wear that emblem that speaks of the paternity of us all, the paternity of the flag we love. Under that canopy yesterday, the President of the United States stood under only the field of blue, without the stripes, the stripes that signified the stipes and the lash of slavery, which was wiped away because those old boys stood firm and true and face to the front, an example and an inspiration which we as sons will cherish as long as the sun continues in its course. (Applause.)

Guests escorted from the room.

#### INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

Past Commander-in-Chief H. V. Speelman was requested to act as installing officer, and he performed this pleasant duty in his usual brilliant style, and Commander-in-Chief Stephens assumed the chair.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Commander-in-Chief Stephens, it gives me pleasure to be the first to thus address you and give you official welcome to your new position. There is an emblem of authority—a token of the high and dignified position you now hold, which has been worn by every Commander-in-Chief and in turn passed to his successor. It shows the result of long use, but remember that this emblem containing four stars indicative of the highest title and the greatest honor that can be conferred upon you at this, or any other future time, has been worn over the hearts of many brave men—men whose activities in the Order have made a deep and lasting impression upon those with whom they came in contact.

I now place this upon your coat, and in so doing recognize that the mantle of authority which has rested upon me for the past year has, by this act, been transmitted to you. May it ever serve to inspire you to greater deeds of devotion, greater sacrifices for the Order, greater love for your brothers, and with it I extend to you the hand of fellowship. I crave nothing better for you than that your administration may exceed in every way that which has now closed.

H. H. Hammer: Commander-in-Chief Stephens, I take great pleasure in presenting to you the first application for a charter from the Division of Maryland.

Motion was made by National Secretary Hammer that the minutes of this encampment be approved without reading. Seconded and carried.

W. M. Coffin: I move that when the encampment adjourn, it adjourn to meet next year at the same time and place as the Grand Army of the Republic. Seconded. Carried.

Motion to adjourn. Adjournment.

Following adjournment a committee from the Grand Army of the Republic consisting of Comrades Samuel C. Pierce of New York, B. C. Ward of Iowa, and E. L. Hawk of California appeared at the meeting place of the Commandery-in-Chief, for the purpose of conveying the fraternal greetings of the Grand Army and expressed their regret at their inability to do so.

# GENERAL ORDERS

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## GENERAL ORDERS NO. IX.

(Series of 1914)

HEADQUARTERS, COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,  
SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

Mount Vernon, N. Y., Sept. 5, 1914.

I. Having been elected and installed Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, United States of America, command is hereby assumed, and headquarters established at 46 South Fourth Avenue, Mount Vernon, New York.

II. The following additional officers were elected and installed, and have entered upon the discharge of their respective duties. They will be respected and obeyed accordingly:

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, William F. Chambers, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, F. J. McMurtrie, Detroit, Mich.

Council-in-Chief, Clifford E. Batchelor, Ansonia, Conn.; Henry C. Springston, Peoria, Ill. and Charles C. Behnke, St. Louis, Mo.

Chief-of-Staff, Edwin M. Amies, Altoona, Pa.

III. The following staff appointments are hereby made, and these officers will at once enter upon their respective duties:

National Counselor, William M. Coffin, Cincinnati, Ohio.

National Patriotic Instructor, George W. Penniman, Mattapan, Mass.

IV. National Secretary Horace H. Hammer, Reading, Pa., and National Treasurer James L. Rake, Reading, Pa., continue in their respective offices having been previously elected for a period of five years.

V. The Council-in-Chief was formally organized with C. E. Batchelor as Chairman and H. C. Springston as Secretary.

VI. All Bonds as required by the Constitution have been properly provided for.

VII. The reports of all officers show a very encouraging condition with a membership in excess of 50,000, and a cash balance of nearly \$5,000. Another thousand dollars was added to our Permanent Reserve Fund and the per capita tax again reduced.

VIII. The reports from all Camps are due Division Headquarters at the end of September. There should be no delay in completing these reports and forwarding them promptly. Pride in the office as held by our Camp Secretaries and Treasurers, if no other reason, should prompt them to make early returns.



IX. Plans are being formulated for continuing a system of awards and appointment of Aides. They will be presented in the next General Order.

X. All Aides heretofore appointed by the Commander-in-Chief are requested to continue to act as such until specially relieved by General Order. As their title indicates they have rendered assistance to the Commander-in-Chief; it is hoped they will redouble their efforts to the end that the work of the Order may continue without the slightest interruption.

XI. Your Commander-in-Chief has been highly gratified at the many indications of loyal friendship manifested since announcement of his election. Pledges of support are very heartening, but better than all pledges are results. If you would show your interest to be of the right kind get something that will be of permanent good to the Order. It may be only a recruit; it may be a new Camp, or it may be saving one who has lost interest. But let it be something definite whereby the Sons of Veterans is the gainer.

XII. Attention is directed in this General Order to a letter appearing elsewhere in The Banner over the signature of your Commander-in-Chief which should be read by every member of our Order.

XIII. Camps have been instituted since last announcement as follows:

Date	No.	Location	No. Mem.
Apr. 24	153	Saxonburg, Pennsylvania	23
May 2	152	Ransomville, New York	30
July 18	172	Shirleysburg, Pennsylvania	37
Aug. 1	173	South Gibson, Pennsylvania	46
July 15	2	Morgantown, W. Va., Maryland	31
Aug. 10	4	Colorado Springs, Col. & Wyo.	28
Aug. 13	9	Flemington, New Jersey	36
Aug. 12	90	Ellisville, Illinois	24
July 10	65	Aitkin, Minnesota	15
Aug. 19	10	Kalamazoo, Michigan	75

Applications were approved in addition as follows:

Date	No.	Location	No. Ap.
Aug. 1	174	Beaver, Pennsylvania	33
Aug. 17		Thurmont, Maryland	29
By order of			

CHARLES F. SHERMAN,  
Commander-in-Chief.

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

#### GENERAL ORDERS NO. X.

(Series of 1914)

HEADQUARTERS, COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,  
SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

Mount Vernon, N. Y., Oct. 1, 1914.

I. The following additional staff appointments are herewith announced:

National Chaplain, Rev. Ernest L. Benson, Madison, Wis.  
 Personal Aide, Clarence E. Holmes, New Rochelle, N. Y.

II. The following Committees, as authorized at the Thirty-third National Encampment, are appointed:

To formulate a system of blanks for the orderly conduct of the Junior Order:

Past Commander-in-Chief George W. Pollitt, Paterson, N. J.,  
 Chairman.

Brother Wm. E. Tretbar, Philadelphia, Pa., and  
 Division Commander Wm. O. Cobb, Gardiner, Me.

To prepare a testimonial conveying the thanks of the Commandery-in-Chief to Honorable Washington Gardner, Past Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic:

Past Commander-in-Chief John E. Sautter, Pennsylvania.

To prepare such revisions or amendments to the Constitution and Laws as may be necessary to provide for semi-annual reports:

Past Commander-in-Chief John E. Sautter, Pa., Chairman.

Past Commander-in-Chief W. H. Russell, Kansas.

Past Division Commander Milton E. Gibbs, New York.

The Legislative Committee:

National Counselor Wm. M. Coffin, Ohio, Chairman.

Past Division Commander Wm. B. Moynihan, New York.

Division Commander E. T. Fairchild, Wisconsin.

Brother Fred J. Phillips, Illinois.

Brother Harry Weller, Massachusetts.

To prepare a design of a recognition button:

Past Commander-in-Chief James L. Rake, Pennsylvania.

Past Commander-in-Chief Ralph M. Grant, Connecticut.

Division Commander Frank Shellhouse, Indiana.

To supervise publication of a digest: (Committee specified in the Commandery-in-Chief meeting.)

Commander-in-Chief Charles F. Sherman.

National Secretary Horace H. Hammer.

National Treasurer James L. Rake.

Past Commander-in-Chief John E. Sautter.

All Committees, as previously announced must take up the discharge of their several duties at as early a date as possible and when completed, render full report to this office.

III. By action of the Thirty-third National Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Past Rank was restored to the following brothers:

#### PAST CAMP COMMANDER.

Connecticut Division: Walter G. Moore, Franklin Bartlett  
 Camp No. 11.

Illinois Division: James P. Lynch, Camp Thrush No. 25;  
 Thomas J. Sampson, Camp Thrush No. 25; Robert Scholes,  
 Camp Thrush No. 25; Charles H. Ireland, Camp Thrush No. 25;  
 Clarence E. Hall, Camp Thrush No. 25; D. W. Uebel, Camp  
 Thrush No. 25; W. J. Hackett, Camp Thrush No. 25; J. H.  
 Zinkhon, Camp Thrush No. 25.

Michigan Division: B. J. Rice, Austin Blair Camp No. 7;

John Rod, William Bell Camp No. 125; George M. Camburn, D. A. Woodbury Camp No. 191; N. A. S. Hamilton, D. A. Woodbury Camp No. 191; H. A. La Rock, Charles T. Foster Camp No. 4; Frank T. Culver, Charles T. Foster Camp No. 4.

New York Division: M. J. Dickerson, Hudson Falls Camp No. 34; Loyal L. Davis, Glens Falls Camp No. 56; James A. Holden, Glens Falls Camp No. 56; George A. Parker, Glens Falls Camp No. 56; Nathan M. Willson, Jamestown Camp No. 3; Frank H. Wilcox, Jamestown Camp No. 3; Wm. B. Doty, Gen. Upton Camp No. 118; James A. Cruthers, Syracuse Camp No. 116; Fred D. Meeker, Syracuse Camp No. 116; Jacob Schwartz, Syracuse Camp No. 116; Charles H. Rafferty, Olcan Camp No. 198; Wm. L. Gillespie, Sheridan Camp No. 200; J. C. McClelland, Sheridan Camp No. 200; John J. Merrill, Sheridan Camp No. 200; Chas. M. Winchester, Sheridan Camp No. 200.

Ohio Division: T. G. Carlisle, West Millgrove Camp No. 42.

Pennsylvania Division: H. M. Lowry, Wm. E. Buchanan Camp No. 177; Chas. C. McLain, Wm. E. Buchanan Camp No. 177; A. P. Lowry, Wm. E. Buchanan Camp No. 177; W. M. Mahan, Wm. E. Buchanan Camp No. 177; John T. Anderson, Wm. E. Buchanan Camp No. 177; H. E. Ellsworth, Volunteer Camp No. 57; S. W. Newberry, Col. T. C. Harkness Camp No. 169; John Miller, Col. T. C. Harkness Camp No. 169; Walter D. Remir, Col. T. C. Harkness Camp No. 169; Mordecai Jones, Col. T. C. Harkness Camp No. 169; D. O. Freeman, Lieut. Ezra S. Griffin Camp No. 8.

#### PAST DIVISION COMMANDER.

George E. Cogshall, Division of Michigan.

H. Earl Cowdin, Division of Michigan.

IV. In pursuance of Section 2, Article 4 of the Constitution, the Commander-in-Chief announces that he will continue the plan of appointing Aides as established by his predecessors in office, and specifies the following requirements whereby Brothers may secure appointment as Commandery-in-Chief Aides:

Class "A"—For continued meritorious service. (Personal appointment of the Commander-in-Chief.)

Class "B"—For the presentation of applications and initiation of ten recruits in any three consecutive months' period.

Class "C"—For the presentation of applications and muster of fifteen recruits in any period of time.

Class "D"—For the performance of a distinctively worthy act as a member of the Order of the Sons of Veterans, directly in line with the principles and objects of the Order.

Class "E"—For all members who qualified as Aides during each of the past four years under the conditions prescribed by Past Commanders-in-Chief Bolton, McGuire, Grant and Sautter.

V. Authority was given for changing Form No. 44, Camp Chaplain's Report, and this form will be altered and ready for supply to the Divisions at an early date.

VI. The report of the Camp Patriotic Instructors must be made at close of this Calendar year and blanks for this purpose will be sent out by the Division Patriotic Instructors at the same time as the blanks for quarterly reports.



VII. The action taken at the Thirty-second Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief relative to the minimum of Camps and members that shall constitute a Division was rescinded and there will be in effect Section 2, Article 1, of Chapter 3, of the Constitution whereby Commander-in-Chief has power to annul and declare forfeited Charter of any Division which perforce of circumstances becomes reduced to less than the dignity of the required number of Camps. The particular attention of Division Commander of any Division whose number of Camps is less than ten, is particularly directed to this section and they are requested to increase both membership and number of Camps to a point compatible with the dignity of a Division.

VIII. The Division Commanders of such Divisions as hold their Division Encampments separate from the Encampments of the Grand Army of the Republic are requested to notify the Commander-in-Chief of the date of holding such Encampment with the view of arranging, if possible, a schedule whereby Commander-in-Chief may visit the greatest number of Division Encampments with the least possible expense.

IX. Divisions that have not submitted by-laws to this office for approval since the adoption of the new Constitution, are instructed to do so; likewise Camps whose by-laws have not been approved by the Division Commander since the adoption of the new Constitution, are instructed to send them to the Division Commander.

X. The Death Benefit Association is commended to all Camps which have not made use of this means of paying Death Benefits. Information concerning this Association may be obtained by correspondence with W. R. McGirr, National Secretary, Death Benefit Association, 2830 North 27th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

XI. By action of the Thirty-third Annual Encampment, it is prohibited that Past Division Commanders' badges shall be adorned with precious stones and the Past Division Commanders' and Past Commanders-in-Chief badges shall be strictly in accordance with the Constitution and Laws.

XII. The Commander-in-Chief would be pleased to receive a roster of all Divisions and if there are printed copies of the last Division Encampment, he would like to have a copy of them also.

XIII. Remember the 19th of November is the anniversary of the delivery of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. How fitting if the Camps of the Sons of Veterans would properly recognize the event by a Patriotic celebration. See letter elsewhere upon this subject.

XIV. All checks and remittances must be made payable to H. H. Hammer, National Secretary, and forwarded to Headquarters, Reading, Pa. Make no remittances payable to the Commander-in-Chief, or any other officer EXCEPT the National Secretary.

Requisitions MUST be accompanied by the remittance in payment therefor, otherwise said requisitions will not be filled.

XV. Reports of the Division Secretaries and Division Treasurers are due for quarter ending September 30th, NOT later than November 15th. Per capita tax is payable at the rate of 6¼c. Fees on new members in old Camps are payable to

the Commandery-in-Chief at 25c on each member. This fee need not be paid on NEW Camps; only on new members mustered in OLD or EXISTING Camps.

XVI. THIS WILL BE NOTICE THAT ALL TAX AND REPORTS MUST BE in the hands of the National Secretary, not later than November 15th, 1914. Failure to comply with this order deprive Divisions of the new password and countersign, in effect January 1st, 1915, and no Division will receive same until the tax and reports for quarter ending September, 1914, are received by the National Secretary.

#### STATEMENT No. 1.

XVII. Report of the National Secretary for period, August-September, 1914:

RECEIPTS.		
September 3, 1914, to balance.....		\$4064.06
Received for charter fees.....	\$ 12.50	
Supplies .....	235.18	
Total receipts .....		\$ 247.68
		<u>\$4311.74</u>

EXPENDITURES.		
By general expenses.....	\$1772.28	
Office expenses .....	66.83	
Commander-in-Chief's expenses .....	34.46	
Total expenditures .....		\$1873.57
September 30, 1914, balance.....		<u>\$2438.17</u>

#### ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

GENERAL EXPENSES.		
For subscription The Banner, September, 1914.	\$ 732.79	
Shipping supplies .....	4.49	
Bonds, National Officers.....	35.00	
Miscellaneous—Detroit Encampment Appropriation to Permanent Reserve Fund.....	1000.00	
		<u>\$1772.28</u>

OFFICE EXPENSES.		
For light, postage, express, stationery (inc. National Officers and Staff).....	\$ 66.83	
		<u>\$ 66.83</u>

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S EXPENSES.		
For postage, traveling, office, express.....	\$ 34.46	
		<u>\$ 34.46</u>
Total expenditures .....		\$1873.57
September 30, 1914, balance.....		<u>\$2438.17</u>

XVIII. New Camps have been instituted since last announcement as follows:

Date	No.	Location	No. Mem.
Aug. 28	53	Monroe, Wisconsin	17
Aug. 5	90	El Dorado, Kansas	21
Sept. 19	17	Georgetown, Kentucky	21

Charters for new Camps have been approved, in addition to the foregoing, as follows:

Sept. 14	175	New Milford, Pennsylvania	22
Sept. 14	176	Albion, Pennsylvania	51
By order of			

CHARLES F. SHERMAN,  
Commander-in-Chief.

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

### GENERAL ORDERS NO. XI. (Series of 1914)

HEADQUARTERS, COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,  
SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

Mount Vernon, N. Y., Nov. 2, 1914.

I. In pursuance of the authority given in the Constitution, Chapter 3, Article 1, Section 2; the Charter of the Division of Oregon is herewith declared forfeited on account of Camps and members having become reduced to less than the dignity of the required number, and all Camps in the Division of Oregon as formerly constituted are herewith attached to the Division of Washington. The officers of the former Division of Oregon will give all assistance in their power to the officers of the Division of Washington.

The Charter, books of record, supplies, etc., should be returned to the National Treasurer, J. Lewis Rake, of Reading, Pa.

II. For the purpose of organization work the territory now occupied by the Sons of Veterans is divided into three sections. The following Divisions will constitute Section 1:

Maine,  
Vermont,  
New Hampshire,  
Massachusetts,  
Rhode Island,  
Connecticut,  
New York,  
New Jersey,  
Pennsylvania, and  
Maryland.

This section will be under the direction of the Commander-in-Chief.

Section No. 2:

Ohio,  
Kentucky,  
Alabama and Tennessee,  
Missouri,  
Iowa,  
Kansas,



Nebraska,  
Colorado and Wyoming,  
California.

This section will be under the direction of the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, William F. Chambers, 519 Main Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Section No. 3:

Indiana,  
Illinois,  
Michigan,  
Wisconsin,  
Minnesota,  
Montana,  
Idaho,  
Washington.

This section will be under the direction of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Fred J. McMurtrie, Ford Building, Detroit, Michigan.

Both Senior and Junior Vice Commanders-in-Chief are hereby instructed to take up by correspondence the organization work in the several Divisions; offer their services to each Division Commander in their section and try in every way possible to make each Division show a gain from this time forth.

Brothers who are interested in the organization work are requested to communicate with the Commandery-in-Chief officer in direct charge of the section. This will enable each officer to give his attention to a smaller territory thus accomplishing more than otherwise would be the case.

III. The term of Past Commander-in-Chief Arthur B. Spink as a member of Committee on Military Affairs, as provided for in Chapter 5, of the Constitution, having expired, Past Commander-in-Chief George W. Pollitt, of New Jersey, is hereby appointed a member of said Committee for the term of five years. The Committee as now constituted is as follows:

Past Commander-in-Chief Charles K. Darling, Massachusetts, Chairman.

Past Commander-in-Chief E. R. Campbell, Maryland.  
Past Commander-in-Chief Frank L. Shepard, Illinois.  
Past Division Commander S. S. Horn, Pennsylvania.  
Past Commander-in-Chief George W. Pollitt, New Jersey.

IV. Past Commander-in-Chief J. L. Rake having declined appointment as member of Committee on Button-hole Decoration, Past Commander-in-Chief Fred E. Bolton, of Boston, Mass., is herewith appointed to fill the vacancy.

V. The following Brothers are hereby appointed Aides on staff of Commander-in-Chief:

Class A—

William M. Anderson and Walter A. Waterman, New York.  
Harry C. Cooley, Connecticut.  
I. Tracy Mills, New Jersey.

VI. The annual election of officers is near at hand and attention is directed to the Constitution, Chapter 2, Article 6. Section 1 and 5, particularly.

It seems unnecessary to ask that great care be taken in the

selection of your officers. But it means all the difference between success and failure. If you have a good treasurer, keep him in office, but if you have not a good treasurer choose the best Brother in your Camp for that office.

May no Brother seek or obtain the honor of being elected Commander unless he is willing to work hard for the upbuilding of the Order.

The use of the Ritual during services is *specifically prohibited*, therefore all the officers responsible for the ritualistic work must memorize their part. Have this in mind when choosing your officers.

Installation of Camp officers in connection with the Grand Army or other allied patriotic organization is commended.

VII. New Camps have been instituted since last announcement as follows:

Date	No.	Location	No. Mem.
May 21	156	Monticello, New York	20
Sept. 5	55	Bloomington, Ohio	42
Oct. 26	91	Onaga, Kansas	21

Applications have been approved for new Camps in addition to the foregoing, as follows:

Date	No.	Location	No. Ap.
Oct. 21		Horton, Kansas	29

VIII. Report of the National Secretary for the month of October, 1914:

#### STATEMENT No. 2.

##### RECEIPTS.

September 30, 1914, to balance.....	\$2438.17
Received for charter fees.....	\$ 7.50
Supplies .....	296.57
Total receipts .....	\$ 304.07
	<hr/>
	\$2742.24

##### EXPENDITURES.

By general expenses .....	\$864.72
Office expenses .....	17.63
Commander-in-Chief's expenses .....	62.17
Total expenditures .....	\$ 944.52
	<hr/>
Balance, October 31, 1914.....	\$1797.72

#### ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

##### GENERAL EXPENSES.

For stock and supplies.....	\$ 59.45
The Banner, October, 1914, subscription.....	741.94
Reserve .....	57.60
Shipping supplies .....	5.73
	<hr/>
	\$ 864.72
OFFICE EXPENSES.	
For light, postage, express, telegrams.....	\$ 17.63
	<hr/>
	\$ 17.63

## COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S EXPENSES.

For postage, telegrams, traveling, office, stenographer, express .....	\$ 62.17
	<hr/>
	\$ 62.17
Total expenditures .....	<hr/>
	\$ 944.52
Balance, October 31, 1914.....	<hr/>
	\$1797.72
By order of	

CHARLES F. SHERMAN,  
Commander-in-Chief.

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

*This and all other General Orders must be read at Camp meeting and filed.*

## GENERAL ORDERS NO. XII.

HEADQUARTERS, COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,  
SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

Mount Vernon, N. Y., Dec. 1, 1914.

General Orders No. 12,  
Series of 1914.

I. It is hereby ordered that all General Orders shall be read in full at the first meeting of the Camp subsequent to their receipt.

II. Because of an opinion given by National Counselor Coffin that the action of the National Encampment at Chattanooga, relating to the admission of members of Women's auxiliary organizations to the meetings of the Camp, was declared of no effect on account of disregarding the Constitution in making the change and said opinion having the approval of the Thirty-third National Encampment at Detroit, it is hereby officially declared for the benefit of the membership at large, that the law of the Sons of Veterans does not permit members of the several Women's auxiliary organizations to be present at meetings of the Sons of Veterans while the latter is formally in session. Division Commanders are hereby instructed to call this matter to the attention of the Camp Commanders in order that no further violation may occur.

III. If it is desired to take action whereby members of the several Women's auxiliary organizations may be admitted to the Camp meetings, it can only be done by suspending the section of the Constitution relating to amendments, or comply with the Constitutional requirements of giving notice to the Commander-in-Chief at least thirty days before the National Encampment is held, publishing it in The Banner and taking favorable action upon the same for three consecutive years.

IV. In view of the fact that most of the States have passed laws making it possible for every Union Veterans' grave to have a suitable headstone, inscribed with the soldier's record, Sons of Veterans are requested to ascertain if there are in the vicin-



ity of the Camp any such Veterans' graves without headstones, and if such is found to be the case, the Camp officers are instructed to proceed by conferring with the proper County or State officials as may be required, and see that before next Memorial Day suitable headstones are erected.

V. The attention of the membership is directed to the fact that the Junior Order has had the approval of the Commandery-in-Chief and any Camps desiring to organize a Junior Order may do so, but they are requested to communicate with Past Commander-in-Chief George W. Pollitt of Paterson, N. J., who is Chairman of the Committee charged with the responsibility of providing the necessary blanks. The Commander-in-Chief will be highly gratified if a number of Junior Orders are effected this year. Already a number of requests have been received at headquarters to have a number assigned.

VI. The Commander-in-Chief is desirous of having many representatives, and every Division should have a number, but in order that appointment as Commandery-in-Chief Aide may not be an empty honor, Brothers must accomplish something of unusual merit to receive appointment. The easiest way is by securing ten candidates in any three months, or fifteen candidates in any length of time, or organize a new Camp. It is hoped that under this plan the Commander-in-Chief will be represented by an Aide in every County and in every large City.

VII. In General Orders No. 9 the Aides to the Commander-in-Chief were requested to continue to act as such until relieved by General Orders, but if any have failed to qualify as an Aide under the provisions outlined in General Orders No. 10, they are hereby relieved, and at the end of December, 1914, will discontinue wearing on their membership badge, the Commandery-in-Chief or yellow ribbon and in lieu thereof will wear the ribbon their rank as member entitles them to.

VIII. Announcement is hereby made of the death of Past Division Commander R. A. Rawitzer, of Omaha, Nebraska.

IX. The attention of the members is called to the personal letter appearing elsewhere in this issue of The Banner. It has to do with the results as shown by the quarterly reports for the third quarter.

X. Christmas, the birthday of the Savior of mankind is too precious an occasion to pass by without showing in some way our token of regard for the old soldiers—"the boys of sixty-one." Camp and individual members are requested to ascertain if there are Union Veterans who would lack the usual Christmas gifts, and if any such are found, rest not until provision has been made so that the day will not be barren of joy to all such. In the words of Tiny Tim, "God bless us all, every-one." And now a Merry, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

XI. Patriotic Instructors' Reports: Camp Patriotic Instructors will promptly after December 31st. forward to each Division Patriotic Instructor, report of the Camp on Form 50. This form has been revised and the new should be used by all Camps. They can be secured from Division Headquarters on requisition Form 1.

Division Patriotic Instructors must promptly forward their reports on Form 51—to National Patriotic Instructor George W.

Penniman, Mattapan, Mass. These reports must be forwarded as soon as possible.

XII. Password and Countersign: A new password and countersign has been promulgated. This is effective January 1st, 1915. Divisions that have paid tax and forwarded reports to the National Secretary for quarter ending September 30th, 1914, have been supplied. Only Camps paying tax and forwarding reports for December quarter, 1914, can have this password and countersign.

XIII. Commissions for Officers: Attention has previously been called to the matter of Camp Commanders furnishing their Officers and Staff with Commissions. These are obtained from Division Headquarters on Form 1. All should comply with this.

XIV. Installing Officers' Reports: Installing Officers will promptly forward their reports to Division Headquarters, and it is hoped all Camps will be prepared for installation, by having their tax paid and their reports for quarter ending December, 1914, forwarded.

XV. Thirty-third Encampment Proceedings: The Proceedings of the Thirty-third Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, held at Detroit, have been promulgated to Divisions for Camps and members. A limited supply is on hand. Members desiring copy should apply to Division Headquarters therefor; unable to secure same from that source by forwarding postage to the amount of six (6) cents the National Secretary will supply same as far as possible.

#### STATEMENT No. 3.

XVI. Report of the National Secretary for month of November, 1914:

##### RECEIPTS.

October 31, 1914, to balance.....	\$1797.72
Received for per capita tax.....	\$3287.57
Charter fees .....	10.00
Supplies .....	195.65
Total receipts .....	<u>\$3493.22</u>
	\$5290.94

##### EXPENDITURES.

By general expenses.....	\$1404.23
Office expenses .....	182.99
Commander-in-Chief's expenses .....	29.27
Total expenditures .....	<u>\$1616.49</u>
Balance, November 30, 1914.....	\$3674.45

##### ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

##### GENERAL EXPENSES.

* For stock and supplies.....	\$ 128.00
The Banner, subscription, November, 1914....	741.97
Encampment — Printing and promulgating to Divisions, Journal of Proceedings, Encampment of 1914, Detroit, (\$409.24); Testi-	

monial Resolutions Past Commander-in-Chief Gardner, G. A. R., and expenses of Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter in presentation of same.....	476.89
Printing .....	25.50
Reserves .....	22.39
Shipping Supplies .....	9.48
	<hr/>
	\$1404.23

## OFFICE EXPENSES.

For light, postage, stationery National Officers, telegrams, express .....	\$ 101.43
Office equipment appropriation of Detroit Encampment (\$500.00)—for typewriter.....	81.56
	<hr/>
	\$ 182.99

## COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S EXPENSES.

For postage, telegrams, traveling, office, stenographer .....	\$ 29.27
	<hr/>
	\$ 29.27

Total expenditures .....	\$1616.49
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Balance, November 30, 1914.....	\$3674.45
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XVII. Applications for charters for new Camps have been approved since last announcement as follows, viz:

Date	No.	Location	No. Ap.
Nov. 2	178	Blairsville, Pennsylvania	29
Nov. 10	141	Takamah, Nebraska	24
Nov. 24	101	Bliss, New York	16
Nov. 25	170	Granville, New York	29

Camps have been instituted since last announcement as follows, viz:

Date	No.	Location	No. Mem.
Aug. 25	32	Thurmont, W. Va., Maryland	16
Oct. 28	174	Beaver, Pennsylvania	71
Oct. 9	175	New Milford, Pennsylvania	21
Oct. 13	176	Albion, Pennsylvania	45

## CAMPS DISBANDED AND SUSPENDED.

XVIII. Following Camps are shown to have been Disbanded and Suspended:

Camp No.	Division of Indiana—	Suspended Members
1	Hammond .....	10
5	Salamonia .....	10
20	Muncie .....	42
138	Portland .....	10
140	Peru .....	25
146	Jonesboro .....	12
199	Poseyville .....	23
204	Lowell .....	10
263	Sullivan .....	37
305	Elwood .....	12



Division of Iowa—		
5	Grundy Center .....	15
7	Sigourney .....	46
9	Perry .....	41
15	Magnolia .....	22
68	Central City .....	28
116	Rockwell City .....	20
Division of Kentucky—		
6	Henderson .....	6
16	Elizabethtown .....	10
Division of Maine—		
10	Lewiston .....	15
89	Waldoboro .....	19
91	Millinocket .....	34
93	Lisbon Falls .....	28
95	Princeton .....	15
Division of Maryland—		
11	Washington, D. C. ....	17
14	Oakland, Md. ....	23
23	Baltimore .....	23
Division of Minnesota—		
3	Austin, Minn. ....	57
7	Parker, S. D. ....	37
Division of Montana—		
8	Anaconda .....	14
Division of New York—		
69	Ellenville (disbanded) .....	20
174	Homer (disbanded) .....	18
184	Dundee (disbanded) .....	21
84	Frankfort .....	25
Division of Pennsylvania—		
75	Towanda (disbanded) .....	12
116	Elderton (disbanded) .....	5
151	Blanchard (disbanded) .....	24
70	State College .....	5
155	Apollo .....	17
319	Benton .....	5
1	Buenos Ayres, South America. ....	16
Division of Wisconsin—		
15	Bloomer .....	15
17	Ladysmith .....	21
20	River Falls .....	10
21	South Milwaukee .....	10
38	Kilbourn .....	7
39	Edgerton .....	24

By order of

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

CHARLES F. SHERMAN,  
Commander-in-Chief.

## GENERAL ORDERS NO. I.

HEADQUARTERS, COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,  
SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

Mount Vernon, N. Y., Jan 2, 1915.

General Orders No. 1,  
Series of 1915.

I. Per Capita tax at the rate of 6½ cents, and Reports of Division Secretaries and Treasurers for the quarter ending December 31st, 1914, MUST be forwarded to reach National Secretary not later than February 20, 1915.

It is presumed that this will be sufficient notice to secure all reports and tax promptly, and that it will not be necessary to resort to telegraphing and numerous communications to secure the tax and reports referred to.

II. Division Commanders and other officers are requested to make every effort possible to have their reports as free from losses as possible. If any Camps have failed to report; by letters, by personal visits or by details follow such Camps and save us from a loss.

III. It is learned that in some Divisions blank quarterly reports for Camps—Forms 27 and 28—are not sent out to Camps. These MUST be sent out to each and every Camp from Division Headquarters quarterly. They should be forwarded to all Camps early in December, March, June and September; and should be returned by all Camps, with their tax to Division Headquarters promptly at the close of each of those months designated.

Division Commanders are hereby ordered to give this their personal attention and see that this order is executed.

IV. An additional class of Commandery-in-Chief Aides is hereby announced to be known as Class E:

For the organization of a Camp, and upon the recommendation of the Division Commander.

V. The following additional appointments as Commandery-in-Chief Aides are hereby announced, they having qualified since the last General Order was issued:

Class E—

George H. Bemis, Pike, N. Y.

Bert H. Bentley, Glens Falls, N. Y.

Myron J. Dickinson, Hudson Falls, N. Y.

Chester T. Dolan, Turners Falls, Mass.

H. S. Siggelko, Madison, Wis.

John Young, Morgantown, W. Va.

Class D—

Isaac T. Jenks, New Haven, Conn.

VI. Robert B. Beath, Senior Past Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, died November 25th at his home in Philadelphia, Pa.

He was one of the most influential members of the Grand Army, and always a good friend to the Sons of Veterans. The sympathy of our membership is extended to the family of General Beath.

VII. Upon the initiative of L. A. Tift Camp No. 15, of Springfield, Mass., an effort is being made to properly celebrate

the fiftieth anniversary of Lincoln's second inauguration on the 4th of March, 1915. This matter has been referred to the Legislative Committee of which the National Counselor is the chairman, and the committee request all Camps to take action in reference to the matter approving the resolution, and communicate such action to their congressman and senator. Upon receipt of favorable advice from congressman and senator the same should be immediately forwarded to W. M. Coffin, National Counselor, 311 Federal Building, Cincinnati, Ohio.

It is hoped there will be a very generous response to this request.

VIII. The holding of contests in the Public Schools when patriotic essays are submitted and prizes awarded, is one of the most beneficial ways of extending the influence and prestige of the Sons of Veterans. This is the time of the year when the matter should be taken up, preferably under the direction of the Camp Patriotic Instructor.

IX. The recognition of Lincoln's Birthday, or the celebration of Union Defenders' Day is especially commended. The Sons of Veterans have for long been prominent in the celebration of the Birthday of the great Emancipator, and it is hoped that every Camp will find it possible to hold some kind of a celebration. A camp meeting, a public meeting, or a banquet will in a slight degree honor the memory of the greatest American, and will also give prominence to the Sons of Veterans. Let the exercises for 1915 be the best that have ever been held.

By a consistent and concerted effort, Lincoln's Birthday may to a certain extent be considered as the especial occasion when the Sons of Veterans shall honor the memory of Abraham Lincoln. While it is true that Lincoln belongs to all the people, yet his Birthday may be more appropriately celebrated by the Sons of Veterans.

And let us not forget February 22, the Birthday of him who also shares the highest pinnacle of distinction with Lincoln.

X. It is requested that the new officers justify the confidence reposed in them by making extra efforts to build up the membership in their Camp. Do not assume that your responsibility ends when you are installed. A good officer is an aggressive officer, and no Camp officer is giving the full measure of service required unless he is helping to put his Camp on a high plane of usefulness to the Grand Army of the Republic, and the community in which it is located. Let every Camp Commander consider that his Camp should gain at least ten per cent during the first quarter, and be satisfied with nothing less.

#### STATEMENT No 4.

XI. Report of the National Secretary for month of December, 1914:

RECEIPTS.		
November 30, 1914, to balance.....		\$3674.45
Received for per capita tax.....	\$ 29.55	
Charter fees .....	22.50	
Supplies .....	397.32	
Total receipts .....		\$ 449.37
		<hr/>
		\$4123.82



SEPTEMBER 30, 1914.

Camps	In Good Standing September 30, 1914.		Cash at Division Headquarters.	Cash in Camps.	Expended for Relief.
	Members				
10	221	\$	\$	\$	.
18	617	378.11	54.66	.	.
5	112	22.71	23.66	.	.
37	1965	128.99	2967.30	.	.
.	.	.	.	.	.
53	1920	249.50	.	.	.
18	848	144.65	.	.	.
11	330	65.98	.	.	.
41	1142	88.64	79.68	.	.
7	167	16.97	.	.	.
36	1532	588.64	682.39	19.69	.
13	537	55.58	690.84	.	.
153	6730	765.38	13600.15	271.95	.
21	782	102.19	378.75	176.25	.
15	537	109.73	294.72	.	.
22	829	332.69	185.58	.	.
3	66	.	.	.	.
5	89	220.55	.	.	.
36	1222	166.65	3206.15	.	.
31	1716	716.57	5913.68	718.55	.
173	7079	758.40	.	.	.
102	3831	216.13	.	.	.
...	A	.	.	.	.
205	13815	307.33	38308.66	7105.97	.
14	397	60.51	.	.	.
24	771	233.81	671.59	3.64	.
.	.	.	.	.	.
46	1513	162.83	.	.	.
1099	48768			\$8296.05	

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF NATIONAL SECRETARY OF DIVISION RETURNS FOR QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1914.

Division.	In Good Standing June 30, 1914.		GAIN				Total Gain.		Aggregate.		LOSS					Total Loss.		In Good Standing September 30, 1914.		Cash at Division Headquarters.	Cash in Camps.	Expended for Relief.	
			By Initiation.	By Transfer.	By Reinstatement.	By Disbanded.					By Death.	Honorable Discharge	By Transfer.	By suspension.									
	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Members	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Cash	Cash	Expended	
Alabama and Tennessee.....	10	222	...	...	...	29	...	29	10	251	...	...	...	30	...	30	10	221	\$	\$	\$		
California and Pacific .....	18	622	...	5	3	1	9	18	631	...	1	...	...	13	14	18	617	378.11	54.66	...	...		
Colorado and Wyoming .....	4	86	1	30	...	...	1	30	5	116	...	...	...	4	4	5	112	22.71	23.66	...	...		
Connecticut .....	37	1953	...	26	...	...	26	37	1979	...	1	2	1	10	14	37	1965	128.99	2967.30	...	...		
Idaho .....	9	190	...	...	...	...	9	9	190	...	...	...	9	190	9	190	...	...	...	...	...		
Illinois .....	52	1900	1	45	1	1	53	53	1953	...	2	1	...	30	33	53	1920	249.50	...	...	...		
Indiana .....	28	1061	...	7	...	...	7	28	1068	...	4	...	...	10	216	10	220	18	848	144.65	...		
Iowa .....	17	502	...	...	...	...	17	502	...	...	...	...	6	172	6	172	11	330	65.98	...	...		
Kansas .....	39	1084	2	58	...	2	58	41	1142	...	...	...	2	16	2	16	7	167	16.97	...	...		
Kentucky .....	8	161	1	22	...	1	22	9	183	...	3	...	1	5	140	5	144	36	1532	588.64	682.39		
Maine .....	41	1666	...	6	...	4	10	41	1676	...	...	...	3	72	3	73	13	537	55.58	690.84	...		
Maryland .....	14	552	...	55	...	3	58	16	610	...	14	9	9	64	...	96	153	6730	765.38	13600.15	271.95		
Massachusetts .....	152	6713	1	94	4	15	113	153	6826	...	...	...	...	8	...	8	21	782	102.19	378.75	176.25		
Michigan .....	20	630	1	160	...	1	160	21	790	...	1	...	1	2	103	2	105	15	537	109.73	294.72		
Minnesota .....	16	607	...	7	1	27	1	35	17	642	...	4	2	...	22	...	28	22	829	332.69	185.58		
Missouri .....	22	839	...	6	...	12	...	22	857	...	1	...	1	22	1	23	3	66	...	...	...		
Montana .....	4	89	...	...	...	...	...	4	89	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	89	220.55	...	...		
Nebraska .....	5	89	...	...	...	...	5	89	...	...	2	2	...	4	...	8	36	1222	166.65	3206.15	...		
New Hampshire .....	36	1215	...	12	...	3	15	36	1230	...	...	...	...	60	...	65	31	1716	716.57	5913.68	718.55		
New Jersey .....	30	1708	1	72	...	1	73	31	1781	...	5	...	...	170	4	249	173	7079	758.40	...	...		
New York .....	177	7162	...	154	1	11	166	177	7328	3	59	11	5	279	...	284	102	3831	215.13	...	...		
Ohio .....	101	3944	1	140	1	30	1	171	102	4115	...	...	...	3	67	3	67	205	13815	307.33	38308.66	7105.97	
Oregon .....	3	67	...	...	...	27	2	375	212	14422	3	41	17	4	2	4	543	7	607	205	13815	307.33	38308.66
Pennsylvania .....	210	14047	2	317	31	...	8	14	422	...	...	...	2	11	...	25	14	397	60.51	...	...		
Rhode Island .....	14	414	...	22	1	...	23	24	785	...	...	...	1	2	...	6	121	6	121	...	...	...	
Vermont .....	24	762	...	...	...	...	6	121	...	...	1	1	6	138	6	140	46	1513	162.83	...	...		
Washington .....	6	121	...	...	...	17	1	72	52	1653	...	...	...	58	2526	64	2750	1099	48768	...	...		
Wisconsin .....	51	1581	1	55	...	...	...	51	1581	...	6	100	67	35	22	58	2526	64	2750	1099	48768	...	
Total .....	1148	49987	14	1297	43	1	191	15	1531	1163	51518	6	100	67	35	22	58	2526	64	2750	1099	48768	\$8296.05

\* Not reported. A Transferred to Washington.



## EXPENDITURES.

By general expenses .....	\$1694.69	
Office expenses .....	285.61	
Commander-in-Chief's expenses .....	126.92	
Total expenditures .....		\$2107.22
Balance, December 31, 1914.....		\$2016.60

## ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

## GENERAL EXPENSES.

For stock and supplies.....	\$ 292.05	
The Banner, subscription, December, 1914....	732.48	
Printing—Circulars on Organization (for Divisions, for new camps) and promulgating same to Divisions.....	59.09	
Reserves .....	23.26	
Shipping supplies .....	12.81	
Salaries (3 months) National Secretary and National Treasurer .....	575.00	
		\$1694.69

## OFFICE EXPENSES.

For light, postage, stationery National Officers, telegrams, express, and rent (3 months, October-December, 1914, inc.) .....	\$ 102.85	
For "Office Equipment"—Appropriation of 33rd Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, typewriter cabinet, safe, cabinet, filing, etc... ..	155.85	
For "Appropriation (other than Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary, National Treasurer, and Chief-of-Staff), postage, National Officers" .....	26.91	
		\$ 285.61

## COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S EXPENSES.

For postage, telegrams, traveling, stenographer .....	\$ 126.92	
		\$ 126.92
Total expenditures .....		\$2107.22
Balance, December 31, 1914.....		\$2016.60

## XII. Camps have been instituted since last announcement as follows:

Date	No.	Location	No. Mem.
Dec. 9	141	Tekamah, Nebraska	27
Nov. 9	52	Marion, Indiana	30
Sept. 29	71	Marlboro, Ohio	34
Nov. 27	75	Beach City, Ohio	25
Nov. 30	6	Ecorse, Michigan	31
Oct. 22	57	Columbus Grove, Ohio	27
Nov. 27	74	Wellington, Ohio	27
Oct. 19	54	Ashland, Wisconsin	16



In addition to the foregoing, applications for charters for the institution of new Camps, have been approved as follows:

Date	No.	Location	No. Ap.
Dec. 17	116	Catasauqua, Pennsylvania	23
Dec. 30	20	Burton, S. C., Ala. & Tenn.	21

By order of

CHARLES F. SHERMAN,  
Commander-in-Chief.

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

#### GENERAL ORDERS NO. 11.

HEADQUARTERS, COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,  
SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

Mount Vernon, N. Y., Feb. 1, 1915.

General Orders No. 2,  
Series of 1915,

All at it.  
Always at it.  
Altogether at it.

I. Announcement is made of the death of Past Division Commander William A. Stevens of the Massachusetts Division, which occurred Tuesday, January 26, 1915. Brother Stevens was Commander of the Massachusetts Division in 1890-91 and endeared himself to all who knew him. His funeral was conducted by the Sons of Veterans at his home, Arlington Heights, Massachusetts, and the sympathy of our Order is extended to his family and the Massachusetts Division.

II. The following appointments as Aides to the Commander-in-Chief for having organized a new Camp are hereby made:

E. M. Lowe, Dennison, Ohio.  
C. H. McCowen, Alliance, Ohio.  
P. F. Yengling, Cleveland, Ohio.  
A. B. Stanbarger, Strasburg, Ohio.  
Milton Abbott, Maplewood, Ohio.  
R. H. Stevens, Mansfield, Ohio.  
C. Houghawout, Onaga, Kansas.  
Wm. W. Stevenson, New Castle, Pa.  
Appointment under Class A as follows:  
Edwin K. Gould, Rockland, Maine.

III. The Committee "to prepare a design of a recognition button" appointed in General Orders No. 10, Series of 1914, is requested to complete the work as soon as possible in order that their report may be acted upon at the various Division Encampments. Suggestions in reference to same may be sent to Fred E. Bolton, City Hall, Boston, Massachusetts.

IV. Attention is directed to the fact that dispensations for instituting new Camps, granted by former Commander-in-Chief, are no longer operative or in effect. Notwithstanding previous notice in this regard, some Division Commanders are still con-

tinuing to institute Camps under previous dispensations for this authority. It must cease.

V. From requisitions received it is evident that comparatively few retiring Camp Commanders have received the Past Commander's Iron Cross. These are supplied on requisitions to the National Secretary and every Past Camp Commander is entitled to have and wear same.

Requisitions for new Camps frequently fail to order the banners for stations in Camps. These should be supplied to all Camps and newly instituted Camps should always be furnished with same.

Official communications should have attached the seal of the Camp. Camp seals can be procured on requisition through regular channels. It is hoped all Camps not supplied therewith, will at once procure a seal.

VI. Circulars have been furnished to all Division Headquarters with a request to use them as inserts in all outgoing letters. By this means it is hoped to organize some new Camps. Division Commanders and Division Secretaries will greatly assist in the organizing work by distributing them as wisely as possible.

VII. It is not too much to expect the new Camp officers to learn their ritualistic work. It can be learned, it ought to be learned, and the effect when learned and delivered without the aid of the book is so much better that your Commander-in-Chief will not be satisfied with anything less.

VIII. Announcement of the following Division Encampments is hereby made:

Massachusetts at Boston, April 6-7.

Connecticut at New Britain, April 15-16.

Pennsylvania at Philadelphia, June 22-23.

Pennsylvania Brigade, S. V. Reserve, in camp June 19-26.

Illinois at Moline, June 1-3.

New York at Albany, June 23-24.

It is of the utmost importance that these Headquarters know at the earliest possible date where and when Division Encampments are to be held if the Commander-in-Chief is expected to be present and all Divisions that have not so notified this office are instructed to do so as soon as the date is known.

IX. To cement more closely the bonds of fraternity among all the allied patriotic bodies it is suggested that the Sons of Veterans meet at the same time and place as our parent organization, the Grand Army of the Republic.

X. Camps are requested to inaugurate prize essay contests among the grade pupils of the public schools. Let the topic be such as will require some research, and profit all who participate. The prize may be money, picture, art or medal; it may be given to the school or the pupil, or both. Under the direction of the Camp Patriotic Instructor let there be a general response to this request. There is barely time enough now to finish by Memorial Day so let action be taken at once.

XI. On the 6th of March, 1831, Philip H. Sheridan was born in the city of Albany; eighty-four years ago. His name is written very high on the scroll of fame, and Camps are re-



quested to give attention to this distinguished general when making programs for March.

XII. Members and officers of Camps are particularly requested to pay special attention to the use of the United States flag on all school houses. Don't assume it is there, or that some other brother is looking after it, but look for yourself. If not displayed every school day, make inquiry of the proper school official and by tactfulness secure this example of patriotism to encourage the youth.

XIII. So certain is your Commander-in-Chief of the beneficial effects to be derived from an Auxiliary that he is devoting this paragraph of General Orders to urge all Camps that have hitherto resisted such efforts to organize an Auxiliary at the earliest possible time. Every Camp should have one. Every Camp with one is a better Camp because of it. There is work enough for all, and the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary particularly and specifically belongs to the Sons of Veterans. They are our own Auxiliary, but their ministrations go wherever there is need. Their National President is Mrs. Bessie B. Bowser, 22 South Irvington Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana, who will gladly give all encouragement and put any Camp in touch with the proper persons to organize an Auxiliary.

XIV. During January your Commander-in-Chief was permitted to spend a week visiting the Camps in the Maine Division. Never in his connection with the Order has there been a more generous expression of good will and loyalty. He found the Division very active and with a singleness of purpose due to the energy and tactfulness of Commander Cobb. Large public meetings were held in Portland, Auburn, Bangor and Gardiner, and your Commander-in-Chief was nearly overwhelmed with the kindness of these brothers, particularly when at the closing meeting a beautiful silver loving cup was presented to him.

XV. The Ohio Division is to tender a reception on the 16th of March to the recently inaugurated governor of Ohio, Frank B. Willis, who is credited with the unique distinction of having membership in no other fraternity than the Sons of Veterans. It is expected to have many of the Commandery-in-Chief officers present upon this occasion.

XVI. The New Jersey Division has recently arranged to put an organizer in the field, and charter applications are being prepared at the rate of one a week. This is very encouraging to the Commander-in-Chief who desires to see New Jersey Division take much higher rank than seventh position.

The thanks of the Commander-in-Chief are herewith tendered to all Divisions and Division Commanders for the organizing work which is being conducted and it would be very gratifying if all Divisions would take up similar work.

#### STATEMENT No. 5.

XVII. Report of the National Secretary for month of January, 1915:

#### RECEIPTS.

December 31, 1914, to balance.....	\$2016.60
Received for per capita tax.....	\$126.80
Charter fees .....	40.00



Supplies .....	221.93	
Total receipts .....		\$ 388.73
		<u>\$2405.33</u>
EXPENDITURES.		
By general expenses .....	\$916.84	
Office expenses .....	107.08	
Commander-in-Chief's expenses .....	66.74	
Total expenditures .....		<u>\$1090.66</u>
Balance, January 31, 1915.....		\$1314.67

## ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

GENERAL EXPENSES.		
For stock and supplies.....	\$ 80.12	
The Banner, January, 1915, subscription.....	732.55	
Printing—Circularizing Camps .....	16.50	
Reserves .....	38.59	
Shipping supplies .....	8.68	
Miscellaneous .....	40.40	
		<u>\$ 916.84</u>

## OFFICE EXPENSES.

For light, twine, telegrams, postage, express, stationery (National Officers) .....	\$107.08	
		<u>\$ 107.08</u>

## COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S EXPENSES.

For postage, telegrams, traveling, stenographer.....	\$ 66.74	
		<u>\$ 66.74</u>
Total expenditures .....		<u>\$1090.66</u>
Balance, January 31, 1915.....		\$1314.67

XVIII. Following Camps have been instituted since last announcement:

Date	No.	Location	No. Mem.
Dec. 18	101	Bliss, New York	16
Dec. 4	131	Blairsville, Pennsylvania	67
Dec. 5	55	Superior, Wisconsin	18
Jan. 16	118	Hughesville, Pennsylvania	38
Dec. 14	89	Petersburg, Illinois	34
Jan. 15	3	Huntington, W. Va., Maryland	18
Dec. 16	179	Moscow, New York	17
Oct. 7	25	Wallingford, Vermont	15
Nov. 27	55	Renssalaer, Indiana	56
Dec. 26	2	South Haven, Michigan	85
Oct. 14	70	Bowerston, Ohio	46
Jan. 7	28	Hannibal, Missouri	36
Jan. 11	27	Oregon, Missouri	43
Jan. 21	76	Bellville, Ohio	20

Applications for charters for new Camps have also been approved, in addition to the foregoing, as follows:

Date	No.	Location	No. Ap.
Jan. 12	15	Morristown, New Jersey	29
Jan. 15		Stanton, Nebraska	22
Jan. 15		Fullertown, Nebraska	21
Jan. 18	6	Montizuma, Iowa	33
By order of			

CHARLES F. SHERMAN,  
Commander-in-Chief.

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

### GENERAL ORDERS NO. III.

HEADQUARTERS, COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,  
SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

Mount Vernon, N. Y., March 1, 1915.

General Orders No. 3,  
Series of 1915.

*"Nothing great was ever accomplished without enthusiasm."*

I. It is with sincere sorrow that announcement is made of the death of Brother William A. Personius, Past Division Commander of New York, which occurred at his home, Waverly, New York, February 3.

Brother Personius was elected Division Commander in 1907 and served with fidelity. His administration was marked by the large number of Camps organized. He was a prosperous merchant of Waverly. He leaves to mourn his loss, a widow and two children, besides all the members of Waverly Camp No. 88, of which he had long been a member.

II. Division Encampments will be held as follows:

New Hampshire at Concord, April 8-9.

Vermont at St. Albans, April 13-14.

Rhode Island at Providence, April 20.

Kansas at Hutchinson, May 11-12-13.

Missouri at Hannibal, May 12-13.

Indiana at Marion, May 27-28.

Illinois at Moline, June 1-3.

Maine at Bangor, June 9-10.

Maryland at Hagerstown, June 14-15.

Ohio at Mansfield, June 21-24.

New Jersey at Asbury Park, June 17-18.

III. Attention is directed to Article XI, Chapter 6 of the Constitution, General Rules and Regulations, providing for Bonds as applying to newly elected Division Commanders.

All Division Commanders, within 30 days after their election, must furnish a surety company bond in the sum of \$1,000 to run to "Charles F. Sherman, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Mount Vernon, New York." This must be complied with strictly and promptly.

Certificates of Election—Form 49—must be forwarded to the National Secretary immediately at the close of or during

a Division Encampment, duly attested with seal of the Division and signatures of officers thereon provided; upon receipt of which and the bond of the Division Commander—Commissions for officers designated, will be promptly issued.

IV. Brother A. J. Cloud, of San Francisco, Cal., is herewith appointed to represent the Sons of Veterans at a conference to be held in San Francisco, California, under the auspices of the Navy League of the United States.

V. The following brothers are hereby appointed Aides to the Commander-in-Chief:

Class B. C. S. Scott, San Francisco, Cal.

Class C. C. W. Tozer, San Francisco, Cal.

Class D. A. W. Cobb, Springfield, Mass.

VI. The Committee appointed to formulate a system of blanks for the orderly conduct of the Junior Camps have made their report to the Commander-in-Chief. The blanks suggested are similar to those in use in our Order changed only to meet the needs of the Junior Order.

The Juniors will be at all times under the control of the Camps, will be chartered by the Commandery-in-Chief, but numbered by the Division Commander. The age limit will be from twelve to eighteen, and they must join the Sons of Veterans as soon as they attain eighteen.

VII. The number of Camps organized during January was very gratifying to your Commander-in-Chief, who takes this opportunity of expressing the grateful appreciation of the membership at large for this evidence of growth. More Camps are needed. If this comes to the attention of any brother who wants to earn the undying gratitude of his Commander-in-Chief, let him go out and organize a new Camp and receive as a reward, the satisfaction of a duty performed and an appointment as Aide to the Commander-in-Chief.

VIII. The annual convention of the Death Benefit Association of the Sons of Veterans was held in Easton, Pa., February 22. The annual reports of all officers showed the organization to be in a prosperous condition with all death claims paid and an increasing amount in the reserve.

But it was apparent that the Camps have not taken the interest in this feature that they should. The gain of membership was considerably less than for previous years. Your Commander-in-Chief heartily commends the Death Benefit Association to all Camps and believes it is worthy of the support of our entire membership.

If information is desired write Brother W. R. McGirr, Secretary, 2830 North 27th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Auxiliaries are privileged to become members and many have availed themselves of the opportunity. Full death benefit is \$250 at a cost practically of one per cent.

IX. The Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment of the Sons of Veterans will occur at Washington, D. C., September 28, 29, 30.

This is the time recently selected by the Committee of the Grand Army having the matter in charge, and in accordance therewith the Sons of Veterans and the other allied patriotic bodies will convene at the same time and place.

The Headquarters of the Sons of Veterans will be at the



Shoreham Hotel, and the sessions of the Encampment will be in the same hotel.

The Shoreham Hotel are making the following rates, European plan:

- Single room, without bath, \$2.50 per day.
- Single room and bath, \$3.50-\$5 per day.
- Double room and bath, \$4 and up per day.
- Rooms with twin beds and bath, \$6-\$7 per day.

In later orders a list of hotels in Washington will be provided, but it is urged that reservations be made at the earliest possible date for there will be an unprecedented demand for accommodations.

The Shoreham Hotel is one of the most desirable in Washington and the prices they make are very favorable, with positively no increase because of the Encampment.

X. Of late there have been quite a number of inquiries as to the non-receipt of The Banner. Every member of the Sons of Veterans may and should have The Banner each month. The Order wants the individual member to receive it, and the publisher of The Banner wants the member to get it. If any failure results someone is to blame. In the first place the secretary of the Camp should have a complete roster of the Camp with correct street address of every member, and this should be forwarded through the Division Secretary to the publishers. If the trouble continues a letter giving full name, address and Camp should be sent to the Division Commander and if this does not rectify the trouble write to the National Secretary.

There can be no legitimate excuse for not receiving The Banner for successive issues.

XI. April 9th will be the fiftieth anniversary of the surrender of Lee to Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia. This was the most significant event occurring after the firing on Fort Sumter four years previously, and marked the practical closing of the War of the Rebellion. And the most significant feature of this great historical event was the magnanimity of the peerless leader of the Union soldiers who extended every courtesy to his former foes, and had no place in his great heart for malice or hatred.

Fifty years have passed. Fifty years of peace, prosperity, and plenty, during which time much of the bitterness engendered by the war has ceased, most of the participants are no longer here, and those who remain can at least give those who were their enemies credit for being honest in their convictions.

It remains for us to emphasize the closing words of Lincoln's second inaugural "to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations."

The proper recognition of this half century of freedom from internal strife is most heartily commended.

#### STATEMENT No. 6.

XII. Report of the National Secretary for month of February, 1915:

#### RECEIPTS.

January 31, 1915, to balance.....	\$1314.67
Received for per capita tax.....	\$2308.04

Charter fees .....	22.50
Supplies .....	407.42
Total receipts .....	<u>\$2737.96</u>
	\$4052.63

## EXPENDITURES.

By general expenses .....	\$ 880.87
Office expenses .....	37.23
Office expenses, other than Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary, National Treasurer, Chief-of-Staff .....	2.00
Commander-in-Chief's expenses .....	<u>131.68</u>
Total expenditures .....	<u>\$1051.68</u>
Balance, February 28, 1915.....	\$3000.95

## ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

## GENERAL EXPENSES.

For stock and supplies.....	\$ 3.00
The Banner, subscription, February, 1915.....	733.39
Reserve (Military Department) .....	89.99
Shipping supplies .....	14.61
Miscellaneous—National Patriotic Instructor..	<u>39.88</u>
	\$ 880.87

## OFFICE EXPENSES.

For light, postage, telegrams, stationery.....	\$ 37.23
	<u>\$ 37.23</u>
Office expenses — Appropriation other than Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary, National Treasurer, Chief-of-Staff .....	\$ 2.00
	<u>\$ 2.00</u>

## COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S EXPENSES.

For postage, telegrams, traveling, stenographer, miscellaneous .....	\$ 131.58
	<u>\$ 131.58</u>
Total expenditures .....	<u>\$1051.68</u>
Balance, February 28, 1915.....	\$3000.95

XIII. Following Camps have been instituted since last announcement:

Date	No.	Location	No. Mem.
Dec. 1	170	Granville, New York	57
Jan. 4	116	Catasauqua, Pennsylvania	32
Jan. 27	20	Burton, S. C., Ala. & Tenn.	23
Feb. 11	143	Fullerton, Nebraska	32
Feb. 16	145	Stanton, Nebraska	16
Feb. 9	142	Bennett, Nebraska	29
Feb. 3	6	Montezuma, Iowa	42



Nov. 23	75	Towanda, Pennsylvania	52
Feb. 1	2	Fort Morgan, Col., Col. & Wyo.	26
Feb. 18	55	Wausau, Wisconsin	20

Applications for charters for Camps have been approved in addition to the foregoing as follows:

Date	No.	Location	No. Ap.
Feb. 6	39	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	77
Feb. 8	24	Madison, New Jersey	15
Feb. 18		Lincoln, Nebraska	20
Feb. 19		Tyrone, Okla., Kansas	21
Feb. 27		Garnett, Kansas	28

XIV. Following Camps by Divisions noted, have been reported suspended and disbanded, in reports from the Divisions designated respectively, for the quarter ending December, 1914:

Division of Maryland suspends Camps Nos. 14, Oakland, 10 members; 32, Thurmont, 16 members.

Division of Massachusetts suspends Camp No. 8, Salem, 30 members.

Division of Minnesota suspends Camps Nos. 3, Austin, 57 members; 4, Barnesville, 23 members; 65, Aitkin, 15 members.

Division of New Jersey disbanded Camp No. 7, Vineland, 8 members.

Division of New York suspends Camps Nos. 144, Canastota, 12 members; 177, Watkins, 26 members; 196, Canaseraga, 22 members.

Division of Pennsylvania suspends Camps Nos. 39, Hollidaysburg, 28 members; 63, Catawissa, 14 members; 73, Steelton, 17 members; 130, Moscow, 22 members; 131, Barnesboro, 17 members; 257, Conshohocken, 13 members; 270, Bloomsburg, 10 members.

Division of Wisconsin suspends Camps Nos. 50, Argyle, 15 members; 51, Richland Center, 15 members.

By order of

CHARLES F. SHERMAN,  
Commander-in-Chief.

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

#### GENERAL ORDERS NO. IV.

HEADQUARTERS, COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,  
SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

Mount Vernon, N. Y., April 1, 1915.

General Orders No. 4,  
Series of 1915.

#### IF YOU ARE GOING TO JOIN, JOIN NOW.

I. May the ambition of every member of the Sons of Veterans be to secure at least one new member before Memorial Day. Let this be your offering to the cause in which we are all so deeply interested.



II. The following Aides to the Commander-in-Chief are hereby appointed:

Class A—

C. B. Zeek, Bandon, Oregon.  
Harry M. Platner, Rockford, Illinois.

Class B—

C. Leslie Severs, Camp 299, Philadelphia, Pa.  
H. M. Beegle, Johnstown, Pa.  
E. C. Moran, Rockland, Maine.  
Oscar G. Burns, Rockland, Maine.  
F. H. Hoyt, Nashua, N. H.

Class D—

Frank A. Stone, Pike, N. Y.

Class E—

Harry S. Vise, Fairfield, Maine.  
C. W. Pooler, Fairfield, Maine.  
George W. Palmer, Eau Claire, Wis.  
Fred T. Soule, Rhode Island.

III. Dates and places for holding Division Encampments are herewith announced:

California & Pacific, San Jose, Cal., May 11-14.  
Colorado & Wyoming, La Junta, Col., June 9-11.  
Idaho, Sandpoint, June 9-10.  
Iowa, Sioux City, June 8-10.  
Michigan, Kalamazoo, June 16-17.  
Minnesota, St. Paul, week of June 6.  
Montana, Billings, May 12-15.

IV. The Nebraska Division held their annual Encampment at Columbus, February 16-17, and elected R. G. Strother, Division Commander. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly. Division Secretary, H. B. Reed, Columbus; Division Treasurer, E. P. Dussell, Columbus.

V. The report of the Committee to prepare a button hole decoration or insignia has been received and will be found in full, together with cuts, following these General Orders. This report should be brought up at each Division Encampment and action in favor of, or against should be taken at that time.

VI. The report of the Committee to prepare a set of rules for the orderly conduct of the Junior Order has been made and will be found following these General Orders. A pass word and countersign for the Juniors has been promulgated and may be had of the National Secretary upon request through Division Headquarters. This will be in effect until July 1st when a new one will be furnished.

VII. From this notice Division Commanders, Secretaries and Treasurers will see that Reports and per capita tax for the quarter ending March 31st, 1915, are to be in the hands of the National Secretary not later than May 20th, as on that date the books and accounts for said quarter will be closed.

Per capita tax will be paid at the rate of SIX CENTS and checks and money orders MUST BE MADE PAYABLE TO H. H. HAMMER, National Secretary, and NO ONE ELSE.

New Password and Countersign effective July 1st will be sent upon receipt of per capita tax and reports.

VIII. Letters by the Commander-in-Chief to all Aides on the staff of Commander-in-Chief Palmer of the G. A. R. and to all Posts of the G. A. R. throughout the country have been promulgated or are in course of promulgation. The response thereto in many instances are most cordial and show a spirit of fraternity, interest and sympathy with our Order that is very gratifying and of much interest. Division Officers and Camp Officers are requested to foster and aid in developing and increasing this spirit and interest, and to do all in their power through and with the Grand Army Posts and members to recruit new members and organize new Camps for the Sons of Veterans.

IX. Attention is directed, and for the last time in these General Orders, to the requirements of the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, that a surety bond must be filed within thirty days after the election of newly-elected Division Commanders. These bonds must be in the sum of one thousand dollars and run to Charles F. Sherman, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Mount Vernon, N. Y. Commissions will be issued upon receipt of and approval of the bonds. Failure to file bond within thirty days will necessitate removal of the Division Commander at fault.

X. Anniversaries occurring in May are:

May 1-4, 1863, Battle of Chancellorsville.

May 5-7, 1864, Battle of the Wilderness.

May 8-9, 1864, Battle of Spottsylvania.

May 12-16, 1864, Battle of Drury's Bluff.

May 19-20, 1863, Assault on Vicksburg.

May 31, 1862, Battle of Fair Oaks.

May 30, 1868, First Memorial Day.

All of these events may appeal to some and some of them to all. Let there be a recognition of each significant occurrence.

XI. The attention of our entire membership is directed to the fitting observance of Memorial Day. It is the one day in all the year that Sons of Veterans should ever hold in the highest esteem, and honor not only the dead but also the living. Do not keep the alabaster boxes of your love and tenderness sealed up until your heroes are dead. Fill their lives with sweetness. The kind words you mean to say when they are gone, say before they go. Do not keep all your flowers for their caskets, but send some to brighten their lives now. Flowers on the coffin cast no fragrance backward over life's weary way. A red carnation worn jauntily by a dear old veteran is worth more than a big wreath on his coffin.

XII. Mothers' Day, May 9.—Honor the best Mother—your Mother, on this day. Wear a white carnation, token of innocence. Remember that no praise that includes only the veterans is sufficient but must also include the mothers as well.

It is reported that Abraham Lincoln paid this tribute to his mother, "All I am or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel mother." Noble sentiment. If he did not say it, it was worthy of the great man. Nothing could be finer. If your mother is still spared to you thank God, and try to make her days on earth altogether happy.



# CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF NATIONAL SECRETARY OF DIVISION

Division.	In Good Standing September 30, 1914.		GAIN						Total Gain.	Aggregate.	LOSS				
			By Initiation.		By Transfer.	By Reinstatement.		By Disbanded.			By Death.	Honorable Discharge.			
			Camps	Members		Camps	Members						Camps	Members	
Alabama & Tennessee.	10	221	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	221	...	...	...	...	...
California & Pacific...	18	617	...	25	3	...	4	...	32	18	649	...	...	...	4
Colorado & Wyoming...	5	112	...	21	...	...	...	...	21	5	133	...	...	...	...
Connecticut	37	1965	...	45	3	...	2	...	50	37	2015	...	...	...	...
Idaho	9	189	...	4	...	...	...	...	4	9	193	...	...	...	...
Illinois	53	1920	1	112	...	...	16	1	128	54	2048	...	...	...	3
Indiana	18	848	2	98	2	4	79	6	179	24	1027	...	...	...	2
Iowa	11	330	1	43	...	1	40	2	83	12	413	...	...	...	...
Kansas	41	1142	...	6	11	...	...	...	17	41	1159	...	...	...	...
Kentucky	7	167	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	167	...	...	...	...
Maine	36	1532	...	45	...	2	51	2	96	38	1628	...	...	...	1
Maryland	13	537	...	7	...	3	39	3	46	16	583	...	...	...	2
Massachusetts	153	6730	...	137	12	...	24	...	173	153	6903	...	...	...	10
Michigan	21	782	2	128	...	...	...	2	128	23	910	...	...	...	4
Minnesota	15	537	...	7	1	1	57	1	65	16	602	...	...	...	1
Missouri	22	829	...	9	...	...	3	...	12	22	841	...	...	...	1
Montana	3	66	...	7	...	1	15	1	22	4	88	...	...	...	...
Nebraska	5	89	1	27	...	...	...	1	27	6	116	...	...	...	...
New Hampshire	36	1222	...	10	1	...	...	...	11	36	1233	...	...	...	2
New Jersey	31	1716	...	31	...	...	7	...	38	31	1754	1	8	3	...
New York	173	7079	3	257	2	...	18	3	277	176	7356	...	...	...	14
Ohio	102	3831	5	309	1	...	63	5	373	107	4204	...	...	...	9
Pennsylvania	205	13815	5	518	38	...	30	5	586	210	14401	...	...	...	32
Rhode Island	14	397	...	15	2	...	2	...	19	14	416	...	...	...	2
Vermont	24	771	1	24	...	...	...	1	24	25	795	...	...	...	1
Washington	...	...	...	10	...	10	214	10	224	10	224	...	...	...	...
Wisconsin	46	1513	2	67	...	3	61	5	128	51	1641	...	...	...	1
Totals	1108	48967	23	1962	76	25	725	48	2763	1156	51720	1	8	99	...

\* Kansas—Previously reported 1 Camp in excess—no actual suspension of Camp.  
In good standing Dec. 31, 1914, 1136 camps, 49627 members; in good standing Sep



# CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF NATIONAL SECRETARY OF DIVISION RETURNS FOR QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1914.

Division.	In Good Standing September 30, 1914.		GAIN				Total Gain.		Aggregate.		LOSS						In Good Standing December 31, 1914.		Received for Per Capita Tax.	Cash on Hand at Division Headquarters.	Cash on Hand in Camp Treasuries.	Expended for Relief.	No. Members or Their Families Relieved.	No. Veterans or Their Families Relieved.				
			By Initiation.		By Transfer.						By Reinstatement.		By Dishanded.		By Death.										Honorable Discharge		By suspension.	
	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Members	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Members	Members	Members	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members		
Alabama & Tennessee.	10	221	...	...	...	...	...	10	221	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	10	220	\$ 14.30	\$ 8.68	\$ 100.00	...	...	...	...			
California & Pacific...	18	617	...	25	...	...	4	32	18	649	...	...	4	4	1	52	61	18	588	43.24	454.31	87.06	...	...	...			
Colorado & Wyoming...	5	112	...	21	...	...	...	21	5	133	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	5	122	9.07	30.13	19.07	4.00	...	...			
Connecticut	37	1965	...	45	...	...	2	50	37	2015	...	...	7	3	2	23	35	37	1980	137.42	253.94	3245.42	923.69	...	...			
Idaho	9	189	...	4	...	...	...	4	9	193	...	...	...	...	...	2	9	9	191	13.16	22.55	...	...	...	...			
Illinois	53	1920	1	112	...	...	16	128	54	2018	...	...	3	1	2	136	142	51	1906	135.65	401.70	...	...	...	...			
Indiana	18	848	2	98	2	4	79	6	179	24	1027	...	2	1	...	40	43	24	981	67.62	250.22	...	8	7	...			
Iowa	11	330	1	43	...	1	40	2	83	13	413	...	...	...	27	27	13	386	25.21	20.96	...	...	...	...				
Kansas	41	1142	...	6	11	...	...	17	41	1159	...	...	...	...	1	18	1	140	1141	72.75	230.09	163.34	...	...	...			
Kentucky	7	167	...	...	...	...	...	7	167	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	13	7	154	10.01	30.08	...	...	...	...			
Maine	36	1532	...	45	...	2	51	2	96	38	1628	...	1	3	...	42	46	38	1582	114.47	536.78	706.00	30	...	...			
Maryland	13	537	...	7	...	3	39	3	46	16	583	...	2	...	2	40	14	539	38.87	69.65	552.03	75.75	...	...	...			
Massachusetts	153	6730	...	137	12	...	24	173	153	6903	...	10	19	9	1	212	152	6653	461.30	1002.18	11730.70	482.04	...	...	...			
Michigan	21	782	2	128	...	...	...	2	128	23	910	...	4	2	...	29	35	23	875	51.56	85.46	531.10	231.35	...	...	...		
Minnesota	15	537	...	7	1	1	57	1	65	16	602	...	1	1	1	3	34	22	807	54.32	207.34	170.45	...	...	...			
Missouri	22	829	...	9	...	...	3	12	22	841	...	...	1	...	...	33	34	22	807	7.21	40.51	11.91	...	...	...			
Montana	3	66	...	7	...	1	15	1	22	4	88	...	...	...	...	11	11	4	77	5.10	193.30	...	...	...	...			
Nebraska	5	89	1	27	...	...	...	1	27	6	116	...	...	...	...	6	30	36	1203	80.18	200.66	3230.60	...	...	...			
New Hampshire	36	1222	...	10	1	...	...	11	36	1233	...	...	2	1	2	25	30	36	1203	117.34	654.44	5700.69	665.60	12	8			
New Jersey	31	1716	...	31	...	...	7	38	31	1754	1	8	3	2	...	41	1	54	30	1700	484.79	881.65	...	...	...			
New York	173	7079	3	257	2	...	18	3	277	176	7356	...	14	7	4	5	283	3	308	173	7048	288.00	326.34	...	...	...		
Ohio	102	3831	5	309	1	...	63	5	373	107	4204	...	9	...	...	118	128	107	4076	932.71	379.60	35177.66	8225.38	69	2			
Pennsylvania	205	13815	5	518	38	...	30	5	586	210	14401	...	32	3	13	7	523	7	571	203	13830	28.45	79.65	...	...	...		
Rhode Island	14	397	...	15	2	...	2	...	19	14	416	...	2	1	1	...	19	23	14	393	51.52	291.16	563.11	13.01	...	...		
Vermont	24	771	1	24	...	...	...	1	24	25	795	...	1	2	2	...	8	10	224	26.27	184.79	...	...	...	...			
Washington	...	...	...	10	...	10	214	10	224	10	224	...	...	...	...	81	2	84	49	1557	106.35	184.79	...	...	...			
Wisconsin	46	1513	2	67	...	3	61	5	128	51	1641	...	1	2	...	2	20	2093	1136	49627	\$2415.99	\$6993.93	\$62471.20	\$10673.76	89	17		
Totals	1108	48957	23	1962	76	25	725	48	2763	1156	51720	1	8	99	52	40	19	1894	20	2093	1136	49627	\$2415.99	\$6993.93	\$62471.20	\$10673.76	89	17

Gain 28 camps. 670 members.

\* Kansas—Previously reported 1 Camp in excess—no actual suspension of Camp.

In good standing Dec. 31, 1914, 1136 camps, 49627 members; in good standing Sept. 30, 1914, 1108 camps, 48957 members. Gain, 28 camps, 670 members.

XIII. New Camps have been instituted since last announcement as follows:

Date	No.	Location	No. Mem.
Jan. 12	15	Morristown, New Jersey	23
Feb. 12	39	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	107
Feb. 3	24	Madison, New Jersey	17
Feb. 23	4	Tyrone, Okla., Kansas	17
Mar. 9	94	Garnett, Kansas	19
Feb. 23	25	Bridgton, Maine	24
Feb. 24	180	Ypsilanti, Michigan	27
Mar. 11	57	Marshfield, Wisconsin	28
Mar. 6	3	Rockland, Rhode Island	17
Feb. 26	152	Knightstown, Indiana	32

Applications for charters for Camps have been approved in addition to the foregoing, as follows:

Date	No.	Location	No. Ap.
Mar. 20	427	Richmond, Ohio	28
Mar. 20	70	Porterville, Pennsylvania	27
Mar. 20		Clinton, Maine	15
Mar. 24		Sherman, Maine	54
Mar. 31		Castine, Maine	29

#### STATEMENT NO. 7.

XIV. Report of the National Secretary for month of March, 1915:

#### RECEIPTS.

February 28, 1915, to balance.....	\$3000.95
Received for per capita tax.....	\$ 993.91
Charter fees .....	17.50
Supplies .....	594.02
Total receipts .....	<u>\$1605.43</u>
	\$4606.38

#### EXPENDITURES.

By general expenses .....	\$1656.87
Office expenses .....	239.01
Commander-in-Chief's expenses .....	100.77
Total expenditures .....	<u>\$1996.65</u>
Balance, March 31, 1915.....	\$2609.73

#### ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

##### GENERAL EXPENSES.

For stock and supplies.....	\$ 250.00
The Banner, March, 1915, subscription.....	736.96
Printing .....	56.85
Shipping supplies .....	16.36
Reserve (Military Department).....	18.70
Salaries .....	575.00
Miscellaneous .....	3.00
	<u>\$1656.87</u>



## OFFICE EXPENSES.

For light, postage (including letters of Commander-in-Chief to G. A. R. Posts, Officials of G. A. R. Department, etc.), stationery, rent (January-March, 1915, inc.), express ..... \$ 229.27

\$ 229.27

For postage for officers other than Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary, National Treasurer, Chief-of-Staff ..... \$ 9.74

\$ 9.74

## COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S EXPENSES.

For postage, telegrams, traveling, stenographer ..... \$ 100.77

\$ 100.77

Total expenditures ..... \$1996.65

Balance, March 31, 1915..... \$2609.73

By order of

CHARLES F. SHERMAN,  
Commander-in-Chief.

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

## GENERAL ORDERS NO. V.

HEADQUARTERS, COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,  
SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

Mount Vernon, N. Y., May 1, 1915.

General Orders No. 5,  
Series of 1915.

*"What concerneth every man is not whether he fail or succeed, but that he do HIS DUTY."*

I. Memorial Day is near at hand. Every brother is requested to do his share to make this day peculiar to the honored veterans. Remember that as you fulfill your obligations some other brother may be performing the same sacred duties over the grave of your father, and we are all united in a holy work.

Memorial Day should be observed for it is the least we can do to show our gratitude to our Nation's Defenders.

II. All Camp Chaplains are hereby instructed to make out a full and complete report of the day's observance on the blank provided for that purpose, being particular to mention anything other than the usual routine in order that it may be known. Send report to Division Chaplain within three days after Memorial Day.

III. Per capita tax for quarters ending March 31 and June 30 is six (6) cents.



Reports and tax for quarter ending March 31 is now due and must be in the hands of National Secretary Hammer by May 20, as the books for said quarter will be closed on that date.

IV. Flag Day—June 14th—the one hundred and thirty-eighth anniversary of the nativity of the "Star Spangled Banner" is a day that Sons of Veterans are reminded to recognize. We honor ourselves by honoring the flag and the day. No more beautiful emblem floats to the breeze than our own. We love it with all ardor. Many are willing to die for it, but thank God that is not exacted of us now, regardless of how many human souls are being sacrificed on the altars of war, but let us all live for it. We glory in the protection it affords us, and our lives should be as free from sin as our beloved banner is free from any stain.

As we receive it from our honored fathers, let us transmit it to our children with no stripes erased, no star obscured.

Your flag, and my flag,  
And how it floats today  
Over your land, and my land,  
And half the world away."

V. Attention of our members is directed to a pamphlet entitled "Our Flag and Its Uses," compiled by Mrs. Elizabeth Robbins Berry of Boston, and circulated by the National Association of Patriotic Instructors with headquarters in that city. This pamphlet contains much information that should be known by every member of our Order. Every Camp Patriotic Instructor should have a copy. It would enable them to give much information that would be for the benefit of the Order.

VI. The National Association of Patriotic Instructors of which Comrade John B. Lewis is President, is doing a very fine work. It has already attracted favorable attention from libraries and bodies that desire to get authentic information along patriotic lines. If any Camp or Division Patriotic Instructor wants to know how to make his department more effective he should become a member of this organization. It is destined to become the clearing house for patriotic organizations, and is worthy of the united support of the Sons of Veterans.

VII. The following brothers are herewith appointed Aides on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief. They will be respected and obeyed accordingly:

Class A—

W. P. Wilcox, Emporia, Kan.

Class B—

M. S. Phillips, New Castle, Pa.

H. L. Loring, Shrewsbury, Mass.

Lucius A. Derby, Lowell, Mass.

E. L. Berry, Columbus, Ohio.

W. E. Moore, Johnstown, Pa.

Class E—

Charles G. McMahon, Livonia, N. Y.

J. M. Grimes, Montezuma, Ia.

George L. Dobie, Bradford, Pa.

M. C. Zahniser, Mercer, Pa.

W. G. Magnin, Philadelphia, Pa.  
 W. W. Stevenson, New Castle, Pa.  
 Wm. L. Hascher, Philadelphia, Pa.  
 John D. Hall, Muncy, Pa.  
 Charles S. Adams, Allentown, Pa.  
 W. P. Bird, Williamsport, Pa.  
 Richard W. Watson, Indiana, Pa.  
 H. M. Melhuish, Montrose, Pa.  
 A. L. Swap, Albion, Pa.  
 C. L. Van Scoten, Montrose, Pa.  
 Wm. S. Anderson, Beaver, Pa.

VIII. Along the line of reward;—Appointment as Commander-in-Chief Aide is a most distinguished recognition, and there should be many brothers seeking to obtain this honor. All that is needed is to secure ten candidates within three consecutive months, or fifteen candidates during the administration of your Commander-in-Chief. From the small number of appointments made it is very evident that many brothers have not claimed the reward they have earned. Particularly is this true when a new Camp is instituted. It is hoped that many brothers will try to earn appointment, and may success crown their efforts.

IX. Some important anniversaries during June:

2-4, Battle of Cold Harbor, 1864.  
 2, Birth of Gen. Phil Kearney, 1815.  
 13, Birth of Gen. Winfield Scott, 1786.  
 13-15, Battle of Winchester, 1863.  
 15-19, Battle of Petersburg, 1864.  
 17, Battle of Bunker Hill, 1775.  
 19, Battle between Kearsarge and Alabama, 1864.  
 27, Battle of Gaines Mills, 1862.

X. All Divisions are requested to take action at Division Encampments on the report of the "Committee to prepare a button-hole decoration." The Committee have produced something which it is hoped will be adopted at the Washington Encampment and last as long as the Order of Sons of Veterans. The proper procedure at Division Encampments would be to instruct the delegation to the National Encampment as to the approval or otherwise of the Committee's recommendation.

XI. Attention is directed to the reports of Camp Patriotic Instructors. These should have been made at the end of 1914, thus enabling Division Patriotic Instructors to make their consolidated reports before Division Encampments. The reports of all Division Patriotic Instructors should be in the hands of National Patriotic Instructor George W. Penniman, of Mattapan, Mass., on or before the first of July.

XII. Division Encampments have been held in the following Divisions, resulting in the election of the following brothers:  
 Nebraska—Commander, R. G. Strother, Columbus; Secretary, H. B. Reed, Columbus.

Massachusetts—Commander, Guy Richardson, Boston; Secretary, Harry Weiler, Boston.

New Hampshire—Commander, L. B. Whittemore, Nashua; Secretary, Frank H. Challis, Nashua.



Vermont—Commander, Arthur W. Robinson, Barre; Secretary, Elmer E. Perry, Barre.

Connecticut—Commander, W. H. Hart, Stratford; Secretary, I. T. Jenks, New Haven.

Rhode Island—Commander, Louis H. Knox, Warwick; Secretary, Charles H. Young, Providence.

XIII. Your Commander-in-Chief was present at the Encampment of the Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, and Rhode Island Divisions. He was highly gratified at the evidence of prosperity manifested upon all occasions, and the spirit of fraternal co-operation among all the allied patriotic bodies. They all look to the Grand Army of the Republic as their leader and vie one with another in their efforts to be of real service to the parent organization.

From the splendid spirit exhibited upon all occasions, there can be no doubt but that the work of the Grand Army will be perpetuated. The Woman's Relief Corps, the Sons of Veterans, the Daughters of Veterans, the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary and the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic are working along their several lines without competition and all will help to solve the problem "After the Grand Army of the Republic, what?" Commander-in-Chief David J. Palmer was in evidence at every one of these meetings, and gave a splendid illustration of a man full of manly vigor. He asked no favors because of his age, and stood the strenuous two weeks like a man in the prime of life. His many speeches made a deep impression and the Sons of Veterans are proud to be associated even in a minor capacity with such an honored organization as the Grand Army of the Republic.

XIV. Organization.—There is no national organization department, and probably there will not be as long as we maintain our present plan of Division organizations. But notwithstanding the lack of such a department your Commander-in-Chief has tried in every way possible to supplement the work of the various Divisions. In all cases every inquiry or request to form a Camp has been referred to the Commander of the Division, and it is hoped and expected that as a result of a series of letters distributed well over the United States that all Divisions will profit by the formation of some new Camps. Occasionally there are some officers of Divisions who have done nothing, and yet resent any effort being made by others to help. This is the wrong spirit and can result in no good to the Order. Let us all give an exhibition of self-sacrifice and devotion to a worthy cause. We want more members, and we want more Camps. We want more workers who will get members and Camps, and your Commander-in-Chief appeals to the entire brotherhood to support him in the effort he is making.

XV. New Camps have been instituted since last announcement as follows:

Date	No.	Location	No. Mem.
Mar. 25	96	Clinton, Maine	23
Apr. 6	97	Castine, Maine	24
Mar. 31	15	Fortville, Indiana	20
Mar. 12	22	Greenwich, Connecticut	28
Mar. 31	31	Bristol, Connecticut	66



Mar. 26	28	Washington, New Jersey	15
Mar. 25	30	Hamburg, New Jersey	16
Mar. 23	31	Boonton, New Jersey	22
Mar. 26	58	Grand Rapids, Wisconsin	15
Apr. 9	115	Versailles, New York	17
Apr. 16	59	Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin	20

Applications have been approved for charters for new Camps, also as follows:

Date	No.	Location	No. Ap.
Apr. 9		Andrews, Iowa	20
Apr. 17		Herington, Kansas	27
Apr. 20		Knoxville, Iowa	36
Apr. 20	115	Mercer, Pennsylvania	52
Apr. 22		Patten, Maine	29
Apr. 26	73	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	43
Apr. 26		Delta, Iowa	21

#### STATEMENT NO. 8.

XVI. Report of the National Secretary for month of April, 1915:

##### RECEIPTS.

March 31, 1915, to balance.....	\$2609.73
Received for per capita tax.....	\$ 170.40
Charter fees .....	47.50
Supplies .....	605.75
Total receipts .....	\$ 823.65
	<u>\$3433.38</u>

##### EXPENDITURES.

By general expenses.....	\$1214.51
Office expenses .....	107.79
Commander-in-Chief's expenses .....	176.24
Total expenditures .....	\$1498.54
Balance, April 30, 1915.....	\$1934.84

##### ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

##### GENERAL EXPENSES.

For stock and supplies.....	\$ 395.21
The Banner, April, 1915, subscription.....	741.79
Printing .....	38.53
Reserve .....	19.41
Shipping supplies .....	19.57
	<u>\$1214.51</u>

##### OFFICE EXPENSES.

For light, twine, postage, telegrams, stationery, miscellaneous (insurance on stock and supplies) .....	\$ 57.29
Office equipment — Appropriation 33rd Encampment .....	50.50
	<u>\$ 107.79</u>

\$ 107.79

## COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S EXPENSES.

For postage, telegrams, traveling, office, stenographer .....	\$ 176.24
	<u>\$ 176.24</u>
Total expenditures .....	<u>\$1498.54</u>
Balance, April 30, 1915.....	<u>\$1934.84</u>
By order of	

CHARLES F. SHERMAN,  
Commander-in-Chief.

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

## GENERAL ORDERS NO. VI.

HEADQUARTERS, COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,  
SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

Mount Vernon, N. Y., June 4, 1915.

General Orders No. 6,  
Series of 1915.

CONFIDENCE,  
COURAGE,  
RESOURCEFULNESS,  
AGGRESSIVENESS,  
COMPEL  
SUCCESS.

I. The Thirty-fourth National Encampment of the Sons of Veterans will be held in conjunction with the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic and all other allied patriotic bodies in the city of Washington, D. C., on the 28th, 29th and 30th of September.

The Headquarters of the Commandery-in-Chief will be at the Shoreham Hotel, and it is requested that all Divisions, so far as possible, make their headquarters in this hotel.

In accordance with the action of the Grand Army at Rochester a tender of the Sons of Veterans to act as escort has been made, and it is expected that every Son of a Veteran who attends will lend his presence to this occasion. Five hundred members would be only an insignificant number, and yet it would be highly appreciated by your officers.

II. Any member of the Order is qualified to attend the National Encampment though only accredited representatives have the privilege of voting.

It is expected that the attendance at this National Encampment will be the largest in the history of the Order, and every Camp Commander owes it to himself to attend. The honored comrades of the Grand Army will never be seen to better advantage than at the fiftieth anniversary of the close of the War of the Rebellion.

So brother Son of a Veteran, if your financial affairs will permit make this pilgrimage to our National Capital in September.

III. W. K. Sickles, Division Commander of the Washington and Oregon Division, having failed to perform the duties appertaining to his office; having failed to comply with the instructions of the Commander-in-Chief, and having failed to call a Division Encampment in accordance with the Constitution, the said W. K. Sickles has been suspended from office and relieved of the command of the Division and Brother A. H. Lyon, Junior Vice Division Commander of Fort George Wright, Washington, is appointed Acting Division Commander.

Acting Commander Lyon will arrange for holding an annual encampment of the Washington and Oregon Division in accordance with the Constitution and the Laws of the Order; said Encampment to be held previous to July 1st, 1915.

All property in the possession of W. K. Sickles must be turned over to Division Secretary F. C. Shipley, who is authorized and empowered to receipt for the same.

IV. The discipline proceedings conducted in S. F. DuPont Camp No. 168, Brooklyn, N. Y., against Adolf Hoefling, a member of the said camp, is hereby approved, and the sentence of expulsion pronounced by said Camp on April 21st, against said Adolf Hoefling is hereby confirmed.

*And it is therefore hereby ordered:* That said Adolf Hoefling be, and he hereby is, expelled from membership in the Sons of Veterans, United States of America, and from the date of this order henceforth is hereby precluded from the enjoyment of all rights and privileges appertaining to such membership.

V. By the time this General Order is in the hands of the members many of our Camps will have held their last meeting until after the Summer recess. During the months of July and August there is usually a lessening of activity along the lines of Sons of Veterans' work. And while your Commander-in-Chief finds no fault with the plan, he requests that all of the work be cared for by committees, and that in no case shall the members of our Order or the honored Comrades of the Grand Army be neglected.

The angel of death will not cease his visitations to the veterans, so be prepared to perform the last ministrations in a fitting manner.

VI. Comrade Joseph B. Griswold, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, departed this life in March, 1915. He was elected at Detroit and gave promise of a year of great usefulness to the Order, but he, like thousands of the veterans, has been cut down, and now is but a memory. Thus does time ravage the ranks of our parent body.

He will be sincerely missed for he was a man of sterling worth, a loyal citizen, and an honored soldier and comrade.

VII. Special attention is directed to the Constitutional requirements for changing the laws of our Order.

It is mandatory that all proposed changes be submitted in writing to the Commander-in-Chief stating explicitly what is desired changed, and the same must be published in General Orders preceding the National Encampment.

No attention will be given to any proposed change that does not comply with the strict letter of the law.



VIII. One hundred and thirty-nine years ago there was born on this continent a new nation, dedicated to a government of the people, for the people and by the people.

Its growth has exceeded that of any other nation in a similar length of time.

On the Fourth of July we celebrate our Nation's natal day. Let us all be truly grateful for the privilege of being citizens of the United States, and if opportunity is presented to Camps or members to have a part in a Fourth of July program, give an exhibition of patriotism that shall tend to make all men better.

#### IX. WORK WILL TELL.

No man ever achieved any worth-while ambition for good business in this or any other organization by "milk and water" hopes and resolutions—by sitting around and foolishly waiting for the "good luck" that never comes—or by chasing shadows of enrollments that exist only at the rainbow's end.

It is work alone that compels success and builds up our great patriotic Order—good, hard, honest, intelligent work.

Then let us have more of it.

Everybody work.

X. The following brothers are herewith appointed Aides to the Commander-in-Chief in accordance with General Order previously issued:

#### Class A—

A. L. Gibson, Cleveland, Ohio.

#### Class B—

B. B. Bray, Hutchinson, Kansas.

Charles Thompson, Philadelphia, Pa.

F. W. Boutwell, Topeka, Kansas.

D. A. Cleveland, Elyria, Ohio.

Mose Lyman, Elyria, Ohio.

J. D. Hall, Cleveland, Ohio.

R. H. Everts, Cleveland, Ohio.

James N. Smith, Mount Carmel, Pa.

#### Class D—

L. W. McComb, Stoughton, Wis.

#### Class E—

Otto F. Berner, Antigo, Wis.

W. L. Van Horn, Fargo, N. D.

P. B. Warfield, Buffalo, N. Y.

C. A. Whittlesey, Akron, Ohio.

L. S. Barnes, Xenia, Ohio.

H. E. Fruchey, Columbus Grove, Ohio.

J. Edgar Sherry, Springfield, Ohio.

A. B. Stanbarger, Strasburg, Ohio.

F. W. Swanger, New London, Ohio.

E. M. Lowe, Dennison, Ohio.

C. H. Stevens, Mansfield, Ohio.

J. F. Smith, Chetek, Wis.

These appointments are made not only for what has been done and as a reward for such service, but more particularly because it is expected that they will continue their aggressive

work, and assist materially in building up the membership of the Sons of Veterans.

XI. Division Encampments have been held in the following Divisions. Officers as follows have been elected:

Kentucky—Division Commander, Alexander Hamilton, Newport, Ky.; Division Secretary, Charles E. Stebbins, 159 W. 4th St., Covington, Ky.

Kansas—Division Commander, Fred A. Kessler, Ellsworth, Kansas; Division Secretary, J. M. Wilson, Ellsworth, Kansas.

Missouri—Division Commander, Charles A. Dorsey, 3020 Brooklyn Ave., Kansas City, Mo.; Division Secretary, W. L. Bobe, 5021 Alabama Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

Montana—Division Commander, Jos. W. Whritenour, 18 So. Benton Ave., Helena, Mont.; Division Secretary, Earle Roberts, Y. M. C. A., Helena, Mont.

Indiana—Division Commander, A. W. McDaniel, Valparaiso, Ind.; Division Secretary, H. A. Luckey, Indianapolis, Ind.

Illinois—Division Commander, William L. Barnum, Jr., 105 W. Monroe St., Chicago; Division Secretary, A. A. Boyer, Dwight.

XII. Newly elected Division Commanders have thirty (30) days in which to file bond; said bond must be a surety company to be approved by the Commander-in-Chief; must be in the sum of \$1,000 and made to run to "Charles F. Sherman, Mount Vernon, N. Y., Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A."

XIII. Immediately after installation of newly elected Division officers report of same will be made on Form 49 in duplicate to the National Secretary. This report **MUST** be forwarded at once.

XIV. The new password and countersign in effect July 1st, 1915, has been promulgated to all Divisions paying tax and forwarding reports for quarter ending March 31st, 1915. This password and countersign will only be given to Camps paying tax and forwarding reports for quarter ending June 30th, 1915. This must be sent to such Divisions with receipt for tax to such Camps paying tax and sending reports to Divisions Headquarters for the June quarter; and given only to members of Camps in **GOOD STANDING** June 30th, 1915.

XV. Attention is again directed to the fact that: All money orders, checks and drafts **MUST** be made payable to H. H. Hammer, National Secretary, and **SENT** to Reading, Pa.

XVI. Camp Chaplains will immediately send report to Division Chaplain; if this report has not been forwarded yet, upon receipt of this General Order all such reports must be forwarded at once. There is no reason for any further delay.

XVII. Division Chaplains will **AT ONCE** consolidate their returns and make **IMMEDIATE** report to National Chaplain, Rev. Ernest L. Benson, No. 1237 Spaight St., Madison, Wisconsin. Let this be sufficient notice for immediate report to be made to the National Chaplain.

XVIII. New Camps have been instituted as follows:

Date	No.	Location	No. Mem.
Apr. 1	70	Portersville, Pennsylvania	17
May 6	30	Sherman Mills, Maine	33
Apr. 28	2	Andrews, Iowa	16
May 12	20	Knoxville, Iowa	51
May 7	98	Patten, Maine	29
May 6	6	Longmont, Col., Col. & Wyo.	32
May 10	99	Pembroke, Maine	26
Apr. 3	207	Geneseo, New York	32
Apr. 26	60	Augusta, Wisconsin	20
Feb. 22	292	Cedarsville, Ohio	39
Mar. 23	90	Richwood, Ohio	21
Jan. 30	96	Niles, Ohio	68
May 24	35	Livingston, New Jersey	15
May 7	42	Woodbridge, New Jersey	15
May 5	208	Tonawanda, New York	33
Apr. 27	23	Wilnot, Ohio	30
May 5	60	Belvidere, Illinois	122
May 7	45	Galena, Illinois	33
May 8	88	Clayton, Illinois	24
Feb. 25	7	Newton, New Jersey	15
Apr. 17	95	West Union, Ohio	56
May 21	87	Bunker Hill, Illinois	23
May 25	100	Canaan, Maine	20

Applications have been approved for charters for new Camps in addition to the foregoing, as follows:

Date	No.	Location	No. Ap.
May 11		Gladwin, Michigan	19
May 20		Monticello, Illinois	26
May 20		Winchester, Massachusetts	19
May 24	40	Somerville, New Jersey	20
May 24	9	Union, Michigan	29
May 25		Pawker City, Kansas	28
May 27		Sioux City, Iowa	24

XIX. Designation of Camps, by Divisions, disbanded and suspended, quarter ending March 31, 1915:

Indiana—Camp No. 54, Hebron, suspended with 20 members.

Maryland—Camp No. 14, Oakland, Md., suspended with 10 members.

Massachusetts—Camp No. 119, Billerica, disbanded with 18 members.

Ohio—Camp No. 20, Cardington, disbanded with 10 members; 22, London, disbanded with 10 members; 35, Mineral City, disbanded with 10 members; 47, Lebanon, disbanded with 13 members; 65, Marion, disbanded with 10 members; 72, Dexter, disbanded with 10 members; 77, Dexter City, disbanded with 10 members; 112, Bainbridge, disbanded with 20 members; 136, Wilmington, disbanded with 20 members; 167, Oak Hill, disbanded with 20 members; 498, Broadwell, disbanded with 10 members.

Pennsylvania—Camp No. 152, Hillsdale, disbanded with 21 members.

Vermont—Camp No. 5, Jeffersonville, suspended with 15 members.



Washington—Camp No. 2, Lents, Oregon, suspended with 12 members; Camp No. 4, Portland, Oregon, suspended with 21 members.

# STATEMENT No. 9.

XX. Report of the National Secretary for month of May, 1915:

## RECEIPTS.

April 30, 1915, to balance.....	\$1934.84
Received for per capita tax.....	\$3115.47
Charter fees .....	60.00
Supplies .....	614.25
Total receipts .....	<u>\$3789.72</u>
	\$5724.56

## EXPENDITURES.

By general expenses.....	\$1315.28
Office expenses .....	31.22
Commander-in-Chief's expenses .....	225.98
Total expenditures .....	<u>\$1572.48</u>
Balance, May 31, 1915.....	\$4152.08

## ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

### GENERAL EXPENSES.

For stock and supplies.....	\$ 497.61
The Banner, subscription, May, 1915.....	742.44
Printing .....	3.50
Reserve .....	49.60
Shipping supplies .....	22.13
	<u>\$1315.28</u>

### OFFICE EXPENSES.

For light, twine, postage, telegrams, stationery..	\$ 31.22
	<u>\$ 31.22</u>

### COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S EXPENSES.

For postage, telegrams, traveling, office, stenographer .....	\$ 225.98
	<u>\$ 225.98</u>
Total expenditures .....	<u>\$1572.48</u>
Balance, May 31, 1915.....	\$4152.08

By order of

CHARLES F. SHERMAN,  
Commander-in-Chief.

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

MARCH 31, 1915.

	Cash on Hand at Division Headquarters.	Cash on Hand in Camp Treasuries.	Expended for Relief.	No. Members or Their Families Relieved.	No. Veterans or Their Families Relieved.
1	\$ 8.66	\$ 97.41	\$.....	..	..
3	51.64	37.97	.....	..	..
8	149.10	3495.30	57.76	..	..
7	10.78	.....	.....	..	..
6	467.22	.....	.....	..	..
2	579.02	.....	.....	..	..
7	19.59	.....	.....	..	..
4	208.42	174.20	.....	..	..
8	22.85	.....	.....	..	..
9	756.31	883.18	42.04	..	..
2	119.12	356.06	.....	..	..
2	1609.50	12190.41	425.72	12	2
0	133.22	316.74	385.37	..	..
2	192.56	489.63	2.25	..	..
6	273.04	295.50	.....	..	..
4	60.80	44.56	.....	..	..
0	116.28	.....	.....	..	..
1	140.63	777.64	21.50	4	..
4	563.91	5951.58	1367.10	1	2
9	928.81	.....	.....	..	..
0	215.40	.....	.....	..	..
1	953.12	34041.00	8180.53	..	..
0	99.70	.....	.....	..	..
9	299.96	763.22	14.96	3	..
0	.....	.....	.....	..	..
0	9.03	.....	.....	..	..
5	\$7967.79	\$59914.40	\$10505.23	20	4



# CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF NATIONAL SECRETARY OF DIVISION RETURNS FOR QUARTER ENDING MARCH 31, 1915.

Division.	In Good Standing December 31, 1914.		GAIN				Total Gain.		Aggregate.		LOSS						Total Loss.		In Good Standing March 31, 1915.		Received for Per Capita Tax.	Cash on Hand at Division Headquarters.	Cash on Hand in Camp Treasuries.	Expended for Relief.	No. Members or Their Families Relieved.	No. Veterans or Their Families Relieved.		
			By Initiation.	By Transfer.	By Reinstatement.	By Disbanded.					By Death.	Honorable Discharge.	By Transfer.	By suspension.														
	Camps	Members					Camps	Members	Members	Camps					Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members			
Alabama & Tennessee.	10	220	1	26			1	26	11	246						24		24	11	222	\$ 13.01	\$ 8.66	\$ 97.41					
California	18	588							18	588					18	588	18	588	6	158	10.43	51.64	37.97					
Colorado & Wyoming.	5	132	1	36			1	36	6	168						10		37	39	2091	128.58	149.10	3495.30	57.76				
Connecticut	37	1980	2	148			2	148	39	2128			2	2	1	32		10	9	181	11.77	10.78						
Idaho	9	191							9	191						10		32	54	1934	126.66	467.22						
Illinois	54	1906		54			6	60	54	1966			1	1	1	29		60	26	1005	62.12	579.02						
Indiana	24	984	2	66	1	1	14	3	81	27	1065			2	1	58	1	30	16	443	28.97	19.59						
Iowa	13	386	2	76		1	11	3	87	16	473			1		29		22	43	1227	60.04	208.42	174.20					
Kansas	40	1141	3	100	8		3	108	43	1249						22		1	7	153	9.18	22.85						
Kentucky	7	154						7	154							1		31	42	1830	141.19	756.31	883.18	42.04				
Maine	38	1582	2	204	2	2	73	4	279	42	1861			4	1	25		41	42	1830	141.19	756.31	883.18	42.04				
Maryland	14	539	1	37		1	25	2	62	16	601					24	1	24	15	577	39.62	119.12	356.06					
Massachusetts	152	6653		294	4		15	313	152	6966	1	18	13	22	13	71	1	137	151	6829	467.82	1609.50	12190.41	425.72	12	2		
Michigan	23	875	1	34		1	28	2	62	25	937					1		1	25	936	63.30	133.22	316.74	385.37				
Minnesota	13	489		12				12	13	501				1		26		27	13	474	30.72	192.56	489.63	2.25				
Missouri	22	807	2	101			4	2	105	24	912			1	1	55		61	24	851	50.25	273.04	295.50					
Montana	4	77		16		1	15	1	31	5	108					18		18	5	90	10.24	60.89	44.56					
Nebraska	6	110	4	205			4	205	10	315								10	315	6.60	116.28							
New Hampshire	36	1203		49	1		8	58	36	1261			3	7	2	29		41	36	1220	89.41	140.63	777.64	21.50	4			
New Jersey	30	1700	6	164		2	6	166	36	1766			5	1	1	24		31	36	1835	113.44	563.91	5951.58	1367.10	1	2		
New York	173	7048	3	281	17	1	36	4	334	177	7382			17	24	299		352	177	7030	450.09	928.81						
Ohio	107	4076	4	429	2		32	4	463	111	4539	11	143	5	3	1	177	11	329	100	4210	291.40	215.40					
Pennsylvania	203	13830	3	534	35		40	3	609	206	14439	1	21	16	12	10	537	1	596	205	13843	891.04	953.12	3404.00	8180.53			
Rhode Island	14	393	1	38	1		4	1	43	15	436			1		35	1	39	24	761	52.79	299.96	763.22	14.96	3			
Vermont	25	782		18				18	25	800			2	2		2	46	2	46	8	185	11.00						
Washington	10	224		5		2		7	10	231						50		60	52	1624	102.60							
Wisconsin	49	1557	3	107	2		18	3	127	52	1684			3	7													
TOTAL	1136	49627	41	3034	73	8	333	49	3440	1185	53067	13	182	74	86	49	23	2225	36	2616	1149	50451	\$3299.58	\$7967.79	\$59914.40	\$10505.23	20	4

\* California and Pacific—No reports and no tax. \* Kansas—No actual loss—to correct previous error.



## Numerical Standing of Divisions, December 31, 1914.

1. Pennsylvania .....	13830
2. New York .....	7048
3. Massachusetts .....	6653
4. Ohio .....	4076
5. Connecticut .....	1980
6. Illinois .....	1906
7. New Jersey .....	1700
8. Maine .....	1582
9. Wisconsin .....	1557
10. New Hampshire .....	1203
11. Kansas .....	1141
12. Indiana .....	984
13. Michigan .....	875
14. Missouri .....	807
15. Vermont .....	782
16. Cal. and Pac.....	588
17. Maryland .....	539
18. Minnesota .....	489
19. Rhode Island .....	393
20. Iowa .....	386
21. Washington .....	224
22. Ala. and Tenn.....	220
23. Idaho .....	191
24. Kentucky .....	154
25. Col. and Wyo.....	132
26. Nebraska .....	110
27. Montana .....	77

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## Numerical Standing of Divisions, March 31, 1915.

1. Pennsylvania .....	13843
2. New York .....	7030
3. Massachusetts .....	6829
4. Ohio .....	4210
5. Connecticut .....	2091
6. Illinois .....	1934
7. New Jersey .....	1835
8. Maine .....	1830
9. Wisconsin .....	1624
10. Kansas .....	1227
11. New Hampshire .....	1220
12. Indiana .....	1005
13. Michigan .....	936
14. Missouri .....	851
15. Vermont .....	761
16. Maryland .....	577
17. Minnesota .....	474
18. Iowa .....	443
19. Rhode Island .....	427
20. Nebraska .....	315
21. Ala. and Tenn.....	222
22. Washington .....	185
23. Idaho .....	181
24. Col. and Wyo.....	158
25. Kentucky .....	153
26. Montana .....	90
27. Cal. and Pac. (no report)	

## Gains and Losses — Quarter Ending March 31, 1915.

Division	Gain	Loss
Ala. and Tenn.....	2	
Cal. & Pac. (no rpt).		
Col. and Wyo.....	36	10
Connecticut .....	148	37
Idaho .....		10
Illinois .....	60	32
Indiana .....	81	60
Iowa .....	87	30
Kansas .....	108	22
Kentucky .....		1
Maine .....	279	31
Maryland .....	62	24
Massachusetts .....	313	137
Michigan .....	62	1
Minnesota .....	12	27
Missouri .....	105	61
Montana .....	31	18
Nebraska .....	205	
New Hampshire .....	58	41
New Jersey .....	166	31
New York .....	334	352
Ohio .....	463	329

## Standing of Divisions — According to Per Cent of Gains and Losses—Quarter Ending March 31, 1915.

Gains—	
Col. and Wyo.....	.19
Nebraska .....	.18
Montana .....	.17
Maine .....	.15
Iowa .....	.14
Rhode Island .....	.08
Kansas .....	.07
Maryland .....	.07
New Jersey .....	.07
Michigan .....	.06
Connecticut .....	.05
Missouri .....	.05
Wisconsin .....	.04
Ohio .....	.03
Indiana .....	.02
Massachusetts .....	.02
Illinois .....	.01
New Hampshire .....	.01
Ala. and Tenn.....	.009
Pennsylvania .....	.0009

Gains and Losses — Quarter Ending March 31, 1915.			Standing of Division — Ac- cording to Per Cent of Gains and Losses — Quarter Ending March 31, 1915.	
Division	Gain	Loss	Losses—	
Pennsylvania .....	609	596	New York .....	.002
Rhode Island .....	43	9	Kentucky .....	.006
Vermont .....	18	39	Vermont .....	.02
Washington .....	7	46	Minnesota .....	.03
Wisconsin .....	127	60	Idaho .....	.05
			Washington .....	.17
			Cal. and Pac. (no report)	

## GENERAL ORDERS NO. VII.

HEADQUARTERS, COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,  
SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

Mount Vernon, N. Y., July 1, 1915.

General Orders No. 7,  
Series of 1915.

WORK—REAL WORK—WILL ALWAYS TELL IN  
THE RESULTS. YOU CAN'T GET AWAY FROM IT.

I. The Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., is hereby ordered to convene at the Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D. C., at 10 o'clock a. m. of Tuesday, September 28th, 1915, in accordance with the Constitution, Rules and Regulations governing same.

All members of the Encampment must be in good standing in the respective Camps; all Camps and all Divisions must be in good standing, with all indebtedness paid—of tax, supplies, etc., and all reports of Division Patriotic Instructors, Division Chaplains, Division Secretaries and Division Treasurers must be in the respective Departments governed by the officers thereof, not later than August 20th, 1915.

Form 49, procured on requisition form 1½ from the National Secretary, requires a Certification setting forth that the members of the Commandery-in-Chief are in good standing in their respective Camps and Divisions and this form must be filed promptly with the National Secretary.

II. The Council-in-Chief is hereby ordered to convene at the Temporary Headquarters of the Commandery-in-Chief, at the Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D. C., Monday, September 27th, 1915, at 1 o'clock p. m. for the transaction of such business as may be necessary, and for the audit of the books and accounts of the National Secretary and National Treasurer.

III. Per capita tax at the rate of six (6) cents per member, and reports of the Division Secretary and Division Treasurer of each and every Division, for the quarter ending June 30th, 1915, MUST be in the hands of the National Secretary NOT LATER than August 20th. This will be personal notice to every Division Commander, Division Secretary and Division Treasurer, that this must be positively observed. The books on



tax and reports will be closed August 20th. It is hoped every Division will be prompt in complying with this order and that all Division Commanders and Secretaries and Treasurers will aid in the necessity and promptness of this request.

Checks and money orders and all remittances of any and ALL kinds MUST be made payable to H. H. Hammer, National Secretary, and forwarded to Reading, Pa.

IV. Attention is directed to the Constitution, Rules and Regulations to the effect that any Division not making reports to the National Secretary for quarter ending June, 1915, and having all indebtedness for per capita tax and supplies paid; and to the National Patriotic Instructor and to the National Chaplain, cannot have representation in the Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief at Washington, D. C., September 28th to 30th, 1915. Therefore it is required that all Divisions have these respective reports in the hands of the National officers designated, NOT LATER than AUGUST 20th, 1915. This is absolutely necessary owing to the fact that all reports to the said Encampment MUST BE PRINTED and presented in that form to the said Encampment. Prompt compliance with the foregoing needs no further request or emphasis.

V. A number of Divisions are delinquent with Certificates of Elections—Form 49—which must be forwarded in duplicate to the National Secretary. Attention has been called to this matter before in General Orders—with seemingly no regard for same.

VI. Division Patriotic Instructors that have failed thus far to file or forward their consolidated report will do so immediately and see that same is in the hands of National Patriotic Instructor George W. Penniman, Mattapan, Mass.

Division Chaplains will forward their consolidated reports to National Chaplain, Rev. Ernest L. Benson, No. 1237 Spaight St., Madison, Wisconsin, immediately. Do not delay this report.

VII. Every Division Commander MUST file a surety company bond, approved by the Commander-in-Chief, in the sum of \$1,000 not later than thirty days after election. This bond must be made to "Charles F. Sherman, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Mount Vernon, N. Y." The Constitution, Rules and Regulations relating to bonds, will be strictly enforced and neglect to comply with this provision, will necessitate a vacancy, which the Commander-in-Chief earnestly hopes will not be required. File bond promptly.

VIII. All reports of institutions of new camps, reports of mustering officers, organizers of new camps, must be reported on Form 23, and forwarded to the National Secretary NOT LATER than August 20th, so that full and complete returns may be had and reported to the Commandery-in-Chief Encampment.

IX. According to the Constitution, all Division Encampments must have been held by the first of July, and your Commander-in-Chief assumes that all Divisions have complied with the law, but he is as yet without information from a number of Divisions, but assuming that The Banner will be read by all, more particularly the newly elected Division Commanders, he takes this opportunity of felicitating them upon their preference.



Brother Commander, it is hoped that your selection for the high and honorable office you now hold was due solely to the superior merit and ability which it was presumed you possess. See to it that your administration is marked with zeal, fidelity and energy. Let there be a renewed interest in the work to the end that your Division may attain unto a higher position.

X. Your Commander-in-Chief was able to visit the Division Encampments of seventeen Divisions and sent his personal representative to several others that he was prevented from attending. The three months' work, though very strenuous, was much appreciated because of the opportunity of meeting with so many of the Brothers throughout the United States. In nearly all cases the few who had been conspicuous for their zeal and fidelity for many years were very much in evidence, and it is a fact that were it not for these faithful stand-bys our order would be materially weaker. These Past Division Commanders have and ought to have a dominant influence in the affairs of the Divisions. The judgment of your Commander-in-Chief is that their influence is nearly always for the good of the Division and they are usually to be relied upon.

XI. Your Commander-in-Chief is particularly grateful for the opportunity not only of attending the Encampments of the Sons of Veterans and in many cases the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, but is particularly grateful for the opportunity of many times addressing the Grand Army of the Republic, the Woman's Relief Corps; the Daughters of Veterans and the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic. All of these several organizations are working together, shoulder to shoulder, elbow to elbow, endeavoring to create a proper spirit of patriotic responsibility, and together they form a mighty host. Also the privilege of addressing large audiences at campfires, and presenting the merits of these allied organizations to a class of people who otherwise would not be informed as to our work is not to be considered lightly.

XII. Special attention is called to the section of the Constitution which makes it mandatory for any proposed changes in the Constitution to be published in The Banner and in accordance therewith it is hereby directed that all proposed changes must be in the hands of the Commander-in-Chief by the first of August in order to be published in The Banner for that month. If it is desired to change the law whereby members of the several allied organizations composed of women may attend the meetings of the Sons of Veterans, it can be done by presenting notices of the desired change, publishing the same in The Banner, and having the approval of the National Encampment.

XIII. From time to time the Commander-in-Chief has been pleased to appoint worthy Brothers as Aides and bestowed upon all such Brothers the yellow ribbon of the Commandery-in-Chief and engrossed certificate of appointment. It is presumed that these Brothers will manifest special interest in the Sons of Veterans upon all occasions.

The Commander-in-Chief has noted in many cases that Brothers appointed by his predecessors still wear the ribbon which should be worn only during the administration of the one

making the appointment. It ought not to be necessary to remind a Brother that he is setting a bad example by continuing to wear a ribbon on his membership badge indicating a rank he does not possess.

XIV. The following additional appointments as Aides to the Commander-in-Chief are herewith announced:

Class A—

Robert E. Quinn, Troy, N. Y.  
Edward A. Van Voast, Troy, N. Y.  
William O. Cobb, Gardiner, Maine.  
M. S. Phillips, New Castle, Pa.  
W. P. Lorch, New York City.

Class B—

Ned Withers, Ashland, Wis.

Class E—

J. Walter Weeks, Castine, Me.  
Austin L. Frost, Perry, Me.  
E. R. Woodbury, Patten, Me.  
W. W. Woodbury, Patten, Me.  
W. S. Caldwell, Sherman Mills, Me.  
J. E. Weeman, Bridgton, Me.  
O. L. Ham, Bridgton, Me.  
W. E. Powers, Bridgton, Me.  
Willis W. Keane, Canaan, Me.  
G. W. Burkhead, Sioux City, Ia.

XV. Since last General Orders the following Division officers have been elected:

Alabama and Tennessee—Commander, I. A. Millar, Ensley, Ala.; Secretary, M. D. Friedman, Birmingham, Ala.; Treasurer, Valentine Gilb, Jr., Birmingham, Ala.

Colorado and Wyoming—Commander, L. B. Battles, Boulder, Colo.; Secretary-Treasurer, R. A. Mann, Boulder, Colo.

Iowa—Commander, W. L. Kerr, Fort Dodge, Iowa; Secretary-Treasurer, G. F. Taylor, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Maine—Commander, Olin P. Ayer, Auburn, Maine; Secretary-Treasurer, E. K. Gould, Rockland, Maine.

Montana—Commander, J. W. Whritenour, Helena, Mont.; Secretary-Treasurer, Earle Roberts, Helena, Mont.

Minnesota—Commander, L. Benshoof, Detroit, Minn.; Secretary-Treasurer, J. L. Ketlen, Detroit, Minn.

Wisconsin—Commander, L. W. McComb, Jr., Stoughton, Wis.; Secretary-Treasurer, C. H. Hudson, Madison, Wis.

Maryland—Commander, R. F. Miller, Baltimore, Md.; Secretary-Treasurer, F. E. Cross, Washington, D. C.

New Jersey—Commander, John A. Corcoran, Gloucester, N. J.; Secretary-Treasurer, John L. Reeger, Trenton, N. J.

New York—Commander, Franz Sigel, New York, N. Y.; Secretary, W. S. Beilby, Rochester, N. Y.

Pennsylvania—Commander, W. D. McBryar, Ellizabeth, Pa.; Secretary, W. B. McNulty, Philadelphia, Pa.



XVI. Camps have been instituted and chartered since last announcement as follows:

Date	No.	Location	No. Mem.
Mar. 30	144	Lincoln, Nebraska	121
Apr. 10	427	Richmond, Ohio	24
May 6	73	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	37
May 25	85	Monticello, Illinois	32
May 25	153	Winchester, Massachusetts	20
May 7	95	Cawker City, Kansas	28
June 3	8	Sioux City, Iowa	45
May 26	82	Elizabeth, Illinois	34
May 20	84	Warren, Illinois	31
May 24	86	Robinson, Illinois	25
May 24	176	Mount Morris, Illinois	16
May 27	81	Homer, Illinois	28
Apr. 1	97	Clyde, Ohio	44
June 12	4	Clarksburg, W. Va., Maryland	27
Apr. 9	61	Waupaca, Wisconsin	15
Apr. 28	92	Vaughnsville, Ohio	43
Jan. 1	11	St. Petersburg, Fla., Ala. & Tenn.	15
May 21	98	Bellevue, Ohio	27
May 12	143	Sandusky, Ohio	43
June 12	81	Norwalk, Ohio	21
Apr. 16	99	Castalia, Ohio	32
May 15	138	Shiloh, Ohio	39
June 1	315	Rock Island, Illinois	26

Applications have been approved for charters for new Camps in addition to the foregoing, as follows:

Date	No.	Location	No. Ap.
June 1	155	Lynnfield, Massachusetts	17
June 7		Praque, Okla., Kansas	24
June 8	63	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	29
June 10		Greeley, Colo., Col. & Wyo.	27
June 30		Memphis, Tenn., Ala. & Tenn.	

#### STATEMENT No. 10.

XVII. Report of the National Secretary for month of June, 1915:

##### RECEIPTS.

May 31, 1915, to balance.....		\$4152.08
Received for per capita tax.....	\$ 13.61	
Charter fees .....	52.50	
Supplies .....	528.67	
Total receipts .....		\$ 594.78

\$4746.86

##### EXPENDITURES.

By general expenses .....	\$1495.70	
Office expenses .....	109.14	
Commander-in-Chief's expenses .....	307.02	
Total expenditures .....		\$1911.86
Balance, June 30, 1915.....		\$2835.00



## ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

## GENERAL EXPENSES.

For stock and supplies.....	\$ 43.20
The Banner, June, 1915, subscription.....	753.01
Reserve .....	64.03
Printing .....	5.50
Shipping supplies .....	19.69
Salaries .....	575.00
Miscellaneous .....	35.27
	<hr/>
	\$1495.70

## OFFICE EXPENSES.

For light, postage, stationery, telegrams, rent (April-June, 1915, inc.).....	\$ 109.14
	<hr/>
	\$ 109.14

## COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S EXPENSES.

For postage, telegrams, traveling, office.....	\$ 307.02
	<hr/>
	\$ 307.02

Total expenditures .....	<hr/>	\$1911.86
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Balance, June 30, 1915.....		\$2835.00
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By order of

CHARLES F. SHERMAN,  
Commander-in-Chief.

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

## GENERAL ORDERS NO. VIII.

HEADQUARTERS, COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,  
SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

Mount Vernon, N. Y., August 1, 1915.

General Orders No. 8.  
Series of 1915.

## "EVENTUALLY—WHY NOT NOW?"

I. The following appointments as Commandery-in-Chief  
Aides are hereby announced:

Class B—V. A. Lyon, Spokane, Wash.

Class C—Walter C. Hall, Bridgeport, Conn.

Class E—George P. Thomas, Batavia, N. Y.; F. M. Norcross,  
Memphis, Tenn.; W. F. Locke, Bellingham, Wash.

II. Temporary headquarters of the Commandery-in-Chief  
will be at the Hotel Shoreham, H Street, Northwest, and 15th  
Street, Washington, D. C., September 25-30, and all meetings of  
the Sons of Veterans will be held in this hotel. It is hoped that  
all Divisions will at least have their headquarters in this hotel.  
The accommodations are such that all who desire to be located  
at headquarter's hotel can be cared for, providing application  
is made in sufficient time.

Apply direct to the hotel for reservation, stating you are members of Sons of Veterans.

III. Division Commanders are ordered to immediately close all outstanding charter lists, and forward mustering and installing officers' reports for the institution of all camps not previously completed.

IV. All officers of the Commandery-in-Chief who have reports to be made at the National Encampment are hereby instructed to have such reports in the hands of the Commander-in-Chief not later than August 20.

V. Detailed program for the National Encampment will be published in September General Orders.

VI. Your Commander-in-Chief is without any specific information as to rates. This matter is in the hands of the Committee of the Grand Army of the Republic.

VII. Full list of Division Commanders, Secretaries and Treasurers is printed in this issue of The Banner.

VIII. Attention is directed to a list of hotels, and their rates which is now published in The Banner for the first time. Also a list of boarding and rooming places, together with their rates.

IX. Attention is directed to an article concerning the Thirty-fourth National Encampment of the Sons of Veterans to be held in Washington, D. C., September 28, 29 and 30, which appears elsewhere in this issue of The Banner.

X. Proposed amendments to the Constitution cannot be acted upon at the Thirty-fourth National Encampment unless they are received by the Commander-in-Chief at least 30 days previous to the opening of the Encampment. In accordance therewith, no amendments will be considered unless received at these headquarters, on or before August 28th.

XI. The Committee on Constitution, appointed pursuant to action of the Thirty-third National Encampment at Detroit, has made its report and the same is published in full in this issue of The Banner.

This is a matter of vital importance to the membership consequently all members are advised to study this report carefully and be prepared to act intelligently when the same comes before the Thirty-fourth National Encampment at Washington.

XII. The following amendments to the Constitution have been sent to the Commander-in-Chief, and are herewith published in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution.

That the matter now contained in Article 4, Chapter 1, be designated and known as 'Section 1, with the title, "Active Membership."

That Article 4, Chapter 1, be further amended by a new section as follows:

"Section 2.—Honorary Membership.

"All soldiers, sailors, or marines who were regularly mustered and served honorably in, and who were honorably discharged from the Army and Navy of the



United States of America during the War of the Rebellion of 1861-65."

Amend Section 3, Article 2, Chapter 2, by striking out the words "Twenty-five cents of which amount shall be paid to the Commandery-in-Chief, and forwarded through Division headquarters with the quarterly report."

Amendment to Section 1, Chapter 5, add the following: "With the exception that Camps may maintain a firing squad not exceeding twelve men, and two sergeants, uniformed in accordance with Article 16, Chapter 6, provided they do not parade on any other occasion than the funeral of a veteran, or on Memorial Day."

Section 1 A, Chapter 5.

"It shall be the duty of Division Commanders to enforce observances of Section 1, and upon presentation of proper proof of violation thereof, to recommend the revocation of the charter of the offending camp."

A new section to be known as "Section 2, Article 16, Chapter 6," as follows:

"It shall be the duty of Division Commanders to enforce the observance of Section 1 and the various subdivisions thereof, and upon presentation of proper proofs of violation thereof, to recommend the revocation of the charter of the offending camp."

A new section to be known as "Section 2, Article 21, Chapter 6," as follows:

"Members of the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, the Woman's Relief Corps, the Daughters of Veterans, the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, and the Army Nurses, when in good standing in their respective organizations, may be admitted to the sessions of the camp."

That Article 5, of Chapter III, of the Constitution be amended by adding thereto a new Section to be designated as Section 8, and to be and to read as follows:

"Sec. 8. The Commander-in-Chief shall have power to suspend, pending investigation, any Division Commander for failure to perform the duties of his office, or for any violation of obligations or of the Constitution and Laws of the Order. At the time of any such suspension, the Commander-in-Chief shall appoint an Investigating Committee, to be composed of three members of the Order in good standing, which Committee shall investigate the complaint and file their report in the premises with the National Secretary within thirty days from the date of their appointment. If the report of the Investigating Committee sustains the complaint, the Commander-in-Chief shall have the power to remove permanently the Division Commander so complained of, and to declare vacant his office."

Amend the Ritual by the substitution in the welcome to the Veterans as found on page 8 of the Ritual, as follows:



"Comrades of the War of the Rebellion, defenders and preservers of the Union, we welcome you. Your presence here is an honor to this camp. In your known loyalty in the past, as proved by your acts and lives in war and peace, we feel confident that you will continue loyal—never revealing any of the business which you may witness. Again we welcome you."

Substitute the same matter on page 60 of the Ritual, using the words "Encampment" instead of "Camp."

Amend the Ritual by adding after the words "War of the Rebellion" as found on page 8 the following:

"Members of the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, Woman's Relief Corps, Ladies of the Grand Army, Daughters of Veterans, or Army Nurses."

#### C. AND L. RECOMMENDATIONS.

Aspinwall, Pa., July 29, 1915.

Mr. Charles F. Sherman, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,  
U. S. A.

Dear Sir and Brother:—

In his report to the Thirty-third Annual Encampment, held at Detroit, Mich., September 1 to 3, 1914, Commander-in-Chief Sautter, under the caption, "Proposed Revision in Method of Reporting Members," made certain recommendations to be found on Pages 20 and 21 of the Proceedings of said Encampment. In general these recommendations had for their purpose the abolishment of the suspension of members and the substitution of semi-annual for quarterly reports. In regular order this portion of the report was referred to the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations, and said Committee recommended as follows:

"The recommendations of the Commander-in-Chief, marked A, B, C, D, E and F, on page 12 of his report are hereby concurred in, in so far as pertains to the appointment of a committee, which committee shall consider said recommendations and draft such legislation as it may deem advisable covering the subject-matter of said recommendations; and recommend that if, after consideration, it believes that any such legislation is wise, it shall prepare the same in the usual form for constitutional amendments and shall cause the same to be duly published and presented to the next annual meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief in the manner provided by law for amendments to the C. R. & R."

This recommendation was unanimously adopted, and in conformity with this action, the undersigned committee was appointed by you in General Orders No. 10, Series of 1914.

In considering the subject and in the recommendations which follow providing for changes in the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, we have added one as being co-related to the question of the substitution of semi-annual for quarterly reports and which provides for the election of officers and their installa-

tion in March and April, respectively, instead of in December and January, as at present provided for.

We respectfully recommend the following changes in the Constitution, Rules and Regulations governing the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., covering the recommendations separately under the three heads above named:

*First.*—To provide for the abolishment of the suspension of members.

Page 8, Chapter II, Article III, Section 3—Strike out the entire Section and insert a new Section reading as follows:

*"Sec. 3. Any member of a Camp who is one year in arrears in the payment of his dues may, by a vote of the Camp, be dropped. If in arrears in the payment of his dues for two years, his name shall, without further action by the Camp, be dropped from the Roll, and he shall be notified of this action by the Secretary.*

*"Until his name is dropped from the Roll, the Camp shall be subject to per capita tax on such member.*

*"A dropped member may be again admitted into the Order in the same manner as a new member: provided, however, he shall pay one year's dues to the Camp from which he was dropped, if such Camp is still in existence."*

Page 45, Chapter VI, Article II, Section 3, Line 1—Strike out the words "suspended or," so that this Section shall read as follows:

*"A member may be dropped for the non-payment of fines in the same manner and form as provided for in the case of the non-payment of dues."*

*Second.*—To provide for semi-annual instead of quarterly reports.

Page 5, Chapter II, Article I, Section 4, Line 3—Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual;" Lines 4 and 5—Strike out the words "one" and "or more" and insert the word "two" following the word "for," so that this Section shall read as follows:

*"A Division Commander may suspend delinquent Camps, at his discretion, for failure to make semi-annual report. All Camps which have failed for two years to make reports or pay per capita tax, shall be considered disbanded, and the charters thereof revoked."*

Page 7, Chapter II, Article II, Section 3, Line 6—Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual;" so that this Section shall read as follows:

*"Each application for membership must be accompanied with a fee of not less than one dollar, twenty-five cents of which amount shall be paid to the Commandery-in-Chief and forwarded through Division Headquarters with the semi-annual report."*

Page 9, Chapter II, Article IV, Section 1, Line 4—Strike out the word "quarter" and insert "Three months;" so that this Section shall read as follows:



"Regular and special meetings of Camps shall be held as provided by their respective By-Laws. Camps shall meet not less than once each *three months*."

Page 13, Chapter II, Article VII, Section 4 (a), Line 5—Strike out the word "quarter" and insert "designated semi-annual period;" Line 7—Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual;" so that this Section shall read as follows:

"The Secretary shall attest with the seal of the Camp, all orders, circulars, and other documents issued by the Commander and after the last regular meeting of the Camp in each *designated semi-annual period*, make out on blanks furnished by the Division Secretary, duplicate *semi-annual* reports, one copy of which shall be forwarded, together with the per capita tax due from the Camp, to Division Headquarters, on or before the 10th day of the following month, the other copy to be placed on file in the Camp. He shall draw all requisitions upon the Treasurer for the expenditure of money, upon the order of the Camp, and submit the same to the Commander for his approval, keeping a book for that purpose."

Page 16, Chapter II, Article VII, Section 9. Line 18—Strike out the word "quarter" and insert "designated semi-annual period;" so that the last sentence of this Section shall read as follows:

"The Camp Council shall, at the end of each *designated semi-annual period*, render a full and complete report in writing, showing its transactions and the financial condition of the Camp."

Page 20, Chapter III, Article I, Section 2 (b), Line 3—Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert the word "semi-annual;" so that this paragraph of Section 2 shall read as follows:

"The Commander-in-Chief shall have power to suspend any Division for failure to make *semi-annual* reports or for the non-payment of per capita tax."

Page 20, Chapter III, Article II, Section 1 (second), Lines 6 and 7 on page 21—Strike out the words "quarter next preceding the Encampment," and insert "September semi-annual period;" so that this paragraph of Section 1 shall read as follows:

"Delegates elected by ballot by the several Camps of the Divisions as follows: One delegate for each Camp, whatever its membership, and additional delegates, in the ratio of one for every fifty members, or major fraction thereof, based upon the report of the *September semi-annual period*."

Page 25, Chapter III, Article VI, Section 3, Lines 14 and 15—Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual;" so that the fourth sentence of this Section shall read as follows:

"He shall prepare and promptly submit to the Division Commander *semi-annual* and all other reports, required by the Commandery-in-Chief."

Page 38, Chapter IV, Article VI, Section 3, Line 16—Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual;" Line 17—After the word "Order" insert "This report to include all Camps suspended by the various Divisions and the number of members in such Camps as reported in the last semi-annual reports submitted;" so that the third sentence of this Section shall read as follows:

"He shall make a monthly report of the financial standing of the Commandery-in-Chief and a *semi-annual* report of the financial and numerical strength of the Order, *this report to include all Camps suspended by the various Divisions and the number of members in such Camps as reported in the last semi-annual reports submitted.* and cause the same to be published in general orders in the official organ of the Order."

Page 47, Chapter VI, Article VII, Line 1—Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual;" Line 3—Strike out the words "January" and "July;" Second paragraph, Line 2—Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual;" Insert the following additional paragraph: "The semi-annual periods provided for shall be from April 1st to September 30th, inclusive, and from October 1st to March 31st, inclusive;" so that this Section shall read as follows:

"The Camp Secretary shall make *semi-annual* reports to the Division Secretary, on the first days of April and October upon the forms prescribed by the Commandery-in-Chief. The Division Secretary within thirty days thereafter shall make a consolidated report to the Division Commander, and a copy of same shall be forwarded to the National Secretary, together with the amount due for per capita tax.

"The Camp Treasurer shall also make a *semi-annual* report to the Division Secretary.

*"The semi-annual periods provided for shall be from April 1st to September 30th, inclusive, and from October 1st to March 31st, inclusive."*

Page 52, Chapter VI, Article XIII, Lines 3 and 4—Strike out the words "in good standing at the end of each quarter" and insert "at the end of each semi-annual period;" Line 5—Strike out the word "four" and insert "two;" Page 53, Line 2—Strike out the words "January" and "July;" Line 5—Strike out the word "quarter" and insert "semi-annual period;" so that this Article shall read as follows:

"The Commandery-in-Chief shall assess a per capita tax, not exceeding forty cents per annum, on each member reported *at the end of each semi-annual period.* Such tax shall be payable in *two* equal installments and forwarded by the Division Treasurer to the National Secretary on or before the last days of April and October, provided that neither Camps nor Divisions shall be required to pay per capita tax on any member for the semi-annual period in which he was initiated."

Page 73, Chapter VI, Article XXIII, Lines 4 and 5—Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual;" so that these lines shall read as follows:



"50 Form 5 Membership Cards—Semi-Annual."

Page 73, Chapter VI, Article XXIII, Line 17—Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual;" so that Lines 17 and 18 shall read as follows:

"3 Form 13 Camp Council's Semi-Annual Reports."

Page 74, Chapter VI, Article XXIII, Line 22—Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual;" so that Lines 21 and 22 shall read as follows:

"1 Form 27D Duplicate Book, Camp Secretary's  
Semi-Annual Reports."

Page 75, Chapter VI, Article XXIII, Line 2—Strike out the word "quarterly" and insert "semi-annual;" so that Lines 1, 2 and 3 shall read as follows:

"1 Form 28D Duplicate Book, Camp Treasurer's  
Semi-Annual Reports."

*Third.*—To provide for the election of Camp officers in March and their installation in April, instead of in December and January.

Page 10, Chapter II, Article VI, Section 1, Line 2—Strike out the word "and;" Line 3—Following the word "Council" insert "and Delegates and Alternates to the Division Encampment;" Line 4—Strike out the word "December" and insert "March;" Strike out all of paragraph (a) and insert an additional paragraph reading "They shall take office the first stated meeting in April;" so that the section, as amended, shall read as follows:

"The Camp Commander, Senior and Junior Vice  
Camp Commanders, Camp Council and *Delegates and  
Alternates to the Division Encampment* shall be elected  
by ballot, on the first stated meeting in March. If, from  
any cause, such election is not held at said stated meet-  
ing, then such election must be held at the next regular  
meeting of the Camp. If there be but one nominee for  
an office, the Camp may elect by a viva voce vote.

*"They shall take office the first stated meeting in  
April."*

We would respectfully ask that this report be published in The Banner, in order to convey to the membership, as required by the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, the necessary notice of the proposed changes.

Fraternally yours,

(Signed) JOHN E. SAUTTER, Chairman,  
MILTON E. GIBBS,  
W. H. RUSSELL,

*Committee.*

XIII. Camps have been instituted since last announcement as follows:

Date	No.	Location	No. Mem.
Dec. 29	6	San Francisco, Cal. and Pac.	51
May 27	155	Lynnfield, Massachusetts	15

July 24	1	Praque, Okla., Kansas	28
July 15	7	Greeley, Col. & Wyo.	19
May 11	3	Tower City, N. D., Minnesota	16
July 7	1	Abilene, Kansas	41
June 25	64	Watertown, Wisconsin	21
May 30	2	Marshfield, Ore., Washington	81
June 10	80	Canal Dover, Ohio	77
Apr. 23	93	Massillon, Ohio	35
June 11	63	Portage, Wisconsin	15
June 15	209	Cohoes, New York	30
June 23	151	Montoursville, Pennsylvania	24
July 27	130	Doylestown, Pennsylvania	18
July 26	10	Memphis, Tenn., Ala. & Tenn.	15
July 29	134	Wapello, Iowa	20

Applications for charter were approved, also, in addition to the foregoing for new Camps, as follows:

Date	No.	Location	No. Ap.
July 10	69	St. Charles, Iowa	35
July 12		Stayton, Ore., Washington	15
July 14	3	Bellingham, Washington	53
July 19	5	Parkersburg, W. Va., Maryland	28
July 21		Erie, Kansas	27
July 22		Angola, New York	25
July 23		Delta, Pennsylvania	58
July 30		Apple River, Illinois	26

## STATEMENT No. 11.

## XIV. Report of the National Secretary for month of July, 1915:

## RECEIPTS.

June 30, 1915, to balance.....	\$2835.00
Received for per capita tax.....	\$ 41.34
Charter fees .....	47.50
Supplies .....	306.45
To total receipts.....	\$ 395.29
	<u>\$3230.29</u>

## EXPENDITURES.

By general expenses .....	\$878.47
Office expenses .....	36.16
Commander-in-Chief's expenses .....	56.88
By total expenditures.....	\$ 971.51
Balance, July 31, 1915.....	<u>\$2258.78</u>

## ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

## GENERAL EXPENSES.

For stock and supplies.....	\$ 36.75
The Banner, subscription, July, 1915.....	753.30
Encampment .....	59.79
Reserve (Military Department) .....	19.64
Shipping supplies .....	<u>8.99</u>

\$ 878.47



## OFFICE EXPENSES.

For postage, express, stationery, telegrams, mailing tubes, etc. ....	\$ 36.16
Office expenses—other than Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary, National Treasurer and Chief-of-Staff .....	2.56
	<hr/>
	\$ 36.16
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S EXPENSES.	
For postage, telegrams, traveling, office, stenog- rapher .....	\$ 56.88
	<hr/>
	\$ 56.88
Total expenditures .....	\$ 971.51
	<hr/>
Balance, July 31, 1915.....	\$2258.78
By order of	

CHARLES F. SHERMAN,  
Commander-in-Chief.

Attest:  
H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

## GENERAL ORDERS NO. IX.

HEADQUARTERS, COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,  
SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

Mount Vernon, N. Y., Sept. 1, 1915.

General Orders No. 9,  
Series of 1915.

*Difficulties are stumbling blocks which we are to  
use for stepping stones.*

I. The Thirty-fourth Annual Encampment of the Sons of Veterans will be held in Washington, D. C., the week of September 27th. The Council-in-Chief will meet Monday, September 27, at one o'clock p. m. and audit the books of the Secretary and Treasurer.

II. Headquarters of the Commandery-in-Chief will be established at the Hotel Shoreham, H St., and 15th St., N. W., Washington, D. C., on Monday, September 27th, and continue throughout the week.

III. All sessions of the Commandery-in-Chief will be held in the Hotel Shoreham. The opening session will be held Tuesday at ten o'clock a. m. and another session Tuesday afternoon. Wednesday a. m. the parade of the Grand Army of the Republic and Wednesday afternoon at three o'clock a session of the Commandery-in-Chief. Thursday morning session and if necessary another on Thursday afternoon.

IV. The Sons of Veterans have the honor of acting as official escort to the veterans in the parade, and led by our Reserve we must make a showing commensurate with our growth.

V. All details concerning the participation of the Sons of Veterans in the parade are referred to Chief-of-Staff Edwin M. Amies.

VI. Numerous social features will mark this Encampment. Particular attention is directed to the reception to be given in the rotunda of the Capitol Wednesday evening when our Sons of Veterans Auxiliary and the Woman's Relief Corps will tender a reception to the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army and other allied organizations.

VII. Tuesday evening a public meeting will be held in the Census Building when it is expected the President of the United States will extend the Nation's welcome to the veterans and visitors. The chief executive of each organization will respond briefly.

VIII. Any desiring accommodation in Washington during the Encampment at other than hotels may obtain the necessary information by writing W. S. Crown, Chairman Public Comfort Committee, 1329 G Street, N. W.

IX. The following appointments as Commandery-in-Chief Aides are herewith announced:

Class B—William Schoenleber, Philadelphia, Pa.

Class E—William Kirk, Parkersburg, West Virginia; F. H. Kincaid, Crafton, West Virginia; O. G. Long, Minot, North Dakota.

X. (a) The Commander of the Idaho Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., has tendered his resignation to the Commander-in-Chief, and the same is hereby accepted as of date of August 24th.

(b) All camps of Sons of Veterans in the State of Idaho are hereby attached to and made part of the Division of Montana, with Joseph W. Whritenour, of Helena, Montana, in command.

(c) All officers of the former Division of Idaho are hereby ordered to turn over to Commander Joseph W. Whritenour all property in their possessions, who is by these presents authorized to receipt for same. Such cash balance as was reported in the last quarterly report of the Idaho Division will be used by Commander Whritenour in paying the per capita tax of the brothers transferred.

(d) The Division so consolidated shall hereafter be known as Division of Montana & Idaho.

XI. The following amendment to the Constitution has been furnished to the Commander-in-Chief and is hereby published in accordance with the constitution: Strike out chapter one, article one, section one, third paragraph, the following: "Except in Cities of 100,000 inhabitants or more when thirty applicants shall be required."

XII. From Pennsylvania Division request to place in the ritual a sign of recognition and a sign of distress.

Also to provide in the constitution for a rank strap to be worn by District Aides while serving as such.

XIII. The reports of the several Divisions have all been received and show a very commendable gain. The thanks of



the Commander-in-Chief are hereby tendered to all Divisions which have shown a gain for the last quarter.

XIV. In making this the last General Order of this administration your Commander-in-Chief takes the opportunity of expressing his appreciation for the many courtesies extended during the year. The work is growing bigger each year, the duties become more exacting, and yet the number of willing workers does not seem to increase proportionately. A spirit of self-sacrifice is needed.

We all need to emulate the service of the Fathers. Our ambition should be to greatly increase our members and camps. Let all who would share in this wonderful movement begin at the fountain head, the camp.

XV. It is the desire of your Commander-in-Chief to deliver the organization to whomsoever you shall by your suffrage elect as his successor, in a stronger and more substantial condition than when he assumed office, and he asks the full measure of your loyalty to his successor.

Let it be a generous portion you have for him.

XVI. Camps have been instituted and charters issued as follows:

Date	No.	Location	No. Mem.
Apr. 30	115	Mercer, Pennsylvania	63
May 18	8	Gladwin, Michigan	33
May 27	9	Union, Michigan	58
June 10	63	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	30
Aug. 13	5	Parkersburg, W. Va., Maryland	23
Aug. 19	2	Erie, Kansas	54
Aug. 19	178	Delta, Pennsylvania	42
July 15	106	Leroy, New York	38
Aug. 12	6	Grafton, W. Va., Maryland	21
Aug. 12	98	Washington, Indiana	23
Apr. 20	62	Chetek, Wisconsin	39

Applications for charters for new Camps have been approved as follows:

Date	No.	Location	No. Ap.
Aug. 23	3	Dodge City, Kansas	29
Aug. 24	69	South Paris, Maine	20
Aug. 31	152	Lewistown, Pennsylvania	28
Aug. 31	180	Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania	29

#### STATEMENT No. 12.

XVII. Report of the National Secretary for month of August, 1915:

#### RECEIPTS.

July 31, 1915, to balance.....	\$2258.78
Received for per capita tax.....	\$3507.85
Charter fees .....	20.00
Supplies .....	452.92
Total receipts .....	\$3980.77

## EXPENDITURES.

By general expenses .....	\$1289.97
Office expenses .....	49.82
Commander-in-Chief's expenses .....	50.73
Total expenditures .....	\$1390.52
	<u>\$6239.55</u>
Balance, August 31, 1915.....	\$4849.03

## ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

## GENERAL EXPENSES.

For stock and supplies.....	\$ 36.50
The Banner, subscription, August, 1915.....	753.22
Encampment .....	153.60
Reserve .....	36.53
Shipping supplies .....	10.12
Miscellaneous, Badge for (Past) Commander-in-Chief .....	300.00
	<u>\$1289.97</u>

## OFFICE EXPENSES.

For light, postage, telegrams, express, stationery .....	\$ 49.82
	<u>\$ 49.82</u>

## COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S EXPENSES.

For postage, telegrams, traveling, stenographer .....	\$ 50.73
	<u>\$ 50.73</u>
Total expenditures .....	\$1390.52
Balance, August 31, 1915.....	\$4849.03
By order of	

CHARLES F. SHERMAN,  
Commander-in-Chief.

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

## Numerical Standing of Divisions, March 31, 1915.

1. Pennsylvania .....	13843
2. New York .....	7030
3. Massachusetts .....	6829
4. Ohio .....	4210
5. Connecticut .....	2091
6. Illinois .....	1934
7. New Jersey .....	1835
8. Maine .....	1830
9. Wisconsin .....	1624
10. Kansas .....	1227
11. New Hampshire ....	1220

## Numerical Standing of Divisions, June 30, 1915.

1. Pennsylvania .....	14197
2. New York .....	7069
3. Massachusetts .....	6973
4. Ohio .....	4806
5. Illinois .....	2412
6. Connecticut .....	2146
7. Maine .....	2072
8. New Jersey .....	1887
9. Wisconsin .....	1589
10. Kansas .....	1296
11. New Hampshire ....	1214



## Numerical Standing of Divisions, March 31, 1915.

12. Indiana .....	1005
13. Michigan .....	936
14. Missouri .....	851
15. Vermont .....	761
16. Cal. and Pac.....	648
17. Maryland .....	577
18. Minnesota .....	474
19. Iowa .....	443
20. Rhode Island .....	427
21. Nebraska .....	315
22. Ala. and Tenn.....	222
23. Washington .....	185
24. Idaho .....	181
25. Col. and Wyo.....	158
26. Kentucky .....	153
27. Montana .....	90

## Gains and Losses — Quarter Ending June 30, 1915.

Division	Gain	Loss
Ala. and Tenn.....	18	
Cal. and Pac.....	5	
Col. and Wyo.....	46	
Connecticut .....	55	
Idaho .....		5
Illinois .....	478	
Indiana .....	17	
Iowa .....	131	
Kansas .....	69	
Kentucky .....	1	
Maine .....	242	
Maryland .....	40	
Massachusetts .....	144	
Michigan .....	166	
Minnesota .....	81	
Missouri .....		3
Montana (no gain, no loss)		
Nebraska (no gain, no loss)		
New Hampshire .....		6
New Jersey .....	52	
New York .....	39	
Ohio .....	596	
Pennsylvania .....	354	
Rhode Island .....	11	
Vermont .....	24	
Washington .....	24	
Wisconsin .....		35

## Numerical Standing of Divisions, June 30, 1915.

12. Michigan .....	1102
13. Indiana .....	1022
14. Missouri .....	848
15. Vermont .....	785
16. Cal. and Pac.....	653
17. Maryland .....	617
18. Iowa .....	574
19. Minnesota .....	555
20. Rhode Island .....	438
21. Nebraska .....	315
22. Washington .....	209
23. Ala. and Tenn.....	204
24. Col. and Wyo.....	204
25. Idaho .....	176
26. Kentucky .....	154
27. Montana .....	90

## Standing of Divisions — According to Per Cent of Gains and Losses — Quarter Ending June 30, 1915.

Gains—	
Colorado and Wyoming	.29
Iowa .....	.29
Illinois .....	.24
Michigan .....	.17
Minnesota .....	.17
Ohio .....	.14
Maine .....	.13
Washington .....	.12
Maryland .....	.06
Kansas .....	.05
Vermont .....	.03
Connecticut .....	.02
Massachusetts .....	.02
New Jersey .....	.02
Pennsylvania .....	.02
Rhode Island .....	.02
Indiana .....	.01
Cal. and Pac.....	.007
Kentucky .....	.006
New York .....	.005
Losses—	
Missouri .....	.003
New Hampshire .....	.004
Idaho .....	.02
Wisconsin .....	.02
Ala. and Tenn.....	.08

ENDING JUNE 30, 1915.

	Cash on Hand at Division Headquarters.	Cash on Hand in Camp Treasuries.	Expended for Relief.	No. Members or Their Families Relieved.	No. Veterans or Their Families Relieved.
3.00	\$ 8.76	\$ 100.00	\$.....	..	..
3.01	56.53	187.52	.....	..	..
1.31	32.61	8.17	.....	..	..
0.71	142.34	3250.06	24.50	..	..
0.65	5.62	.....	.....	..	..
8.72	361.46	.....	.....	..	..
2.16	486.30	.....	.....	..	..
0.99	6.58	.....	.....	..	..
3.07	121.78	106.02	.....	..	..
9.43	7.75	.....	.....	..	..
3.17	353.55	770.29	62.18	..	..
3.99	139.08	404.14	41.05	..	..
5.40	1360.03	12289.77	262.90	9	4
3.80	223.79	539.18	493.27	..	..
0.87	144.41	357.72	5.00	..	..
5.39	138.26	276.23	.....	..	..
5.40	55.49	.....	.....	..	..
3.90	164.66	.....	.....	..	..
3.34	155.95	602.67	22.30	..	..
5.49	438.40	5687.86	856.00	..	..
5.71	890.17	.....	.....	..	..
5.81	184.76	.....	.....	..	..
3.66	573.26	33666.88	7426.62	..	..
0.08	53.44	.....	.....	..	..
5.20	222.89	599.68	4.50	..	..
7.22	.....	.....	.....	..	..
7.24	160.52	.....	.....	..	..
5.75	\$6488.39	\$58846.19	\$9198.32	9	4



# NATIONAL SECRETARY'S CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF RETURNS FROM DIVISIONS FOR QUARTER ENDING JUNE 30, 1915.

Division.	In Good Standing March 31, 1915.		GAIN				Total Gain.		Aggregate.		LOSS							Total Loss.		In Good Standing June 30, 1915.		Received for Per Capita Tax.	Cash on Hand at Division Headquarters.	Cash on Hand in Camp Treasuries.	Expended for Relief.	No. Members or Their Families Relieved.	No. Veterans or Their Families Relieved.		
			By Initiation.		By Transfer.						By Reinstatement.		By Disbanded.		By Death.		Honorable Discharge											By Transfer.	
	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Members	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members							Camps	Members
Ala. and Tenn.....	11	222	...	4	...	...	...	4	11	226	...	...	...	...	...	22	...	22	11	204	\$ 13.00	\$ 8.76	\$ 100.00	...	...	...	...		
Cal. and Pac.....	19	648	...	4	...	...	10	14	19	662	...	...	1	...	...	8	...	9	19	653	43.01	56.53	187.52	...	...	...	...		
Colo. and Wyo.....	6	158	1	38	...	...	10	1	7	206	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	7	204	11.31	32.61	8.17	...	...	...	...		
Connecticut .....	39	2091	...	113	2	...	3	118	39	2209	...	...	8	1	1	53	...	63	39	2146	150.71	142.34	3250.06	24.50	...	...	...		
Idaho .....	9	181	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	181	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	5	9	176	9.65	5.62	...	...	...	...	...		
Illinois .....	54	1934	12	580	1	...	33	12	66	2548	1	38	1	4	3	90	...	3	156	63	2412	138.72	361.46	...	...	...	...		
Indiana .....	26	1005	...	68	...	3	34	3	29	1107	...	...	2	...	2	83	...	2	25	27	1022	82.16	486.30	...	...	...	...		
Iowa .....	16	443	2	69	...	4	65	6	22	577	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	22	574	10.99	6.58	...	...	...	...	...		
Kansas .....	43	1227	...	91	...	...	17	108	43	1335	1	28	...	...	...	11	...	1	39	1296	96.07	121.78	106.02	...	...	...	...		
Kentucky .....	7	153	...	1	...	...	...	1	7	154	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	154	9.43	7.75	...	...	...	...	...		
Maine .....	42	1830	5	295	2	...	5	5	302	47	2132	...	...	5	1	1	53	...	60	47	2072	143.17	353.55	770.29	62.18	...	...	...	
Maryland .....	15	577	1	73	...	...	10	1	83	16	660	...	...	...	1	1	42	...	1	43	15	617	39.09	139.08	404.14	41.05	...	...	...
Massachusetts .....	151	6829	2	278	6	...	19	2	303	153	7132	...	...	13	19	11	116	...	159	153	6973	465.40	1360.03	12289.77	539.18	493.27	...	9	4
Michigan .....	25	936	2	119	...	...	47	2	166	27	1102	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	1102	68.80	223.79	539.18	...	...	...	...	...	
Minnesota .....	13	474	1	32	1	1	66	2	93	15	567	...	...	3	1	1	7	...	12	15	555	40.87	144.41	357.72	5.00	...	...	...	
Missouri .....	24	851	...	22	...	...	4	26	24	877	...	...	2	...	2	25	...	29	24	848	55.39	138.26	276.23	...	...	...	...	...	
Montana .....	5	90	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	90	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	90	5.40	55.49	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Nebraska .....	10	315	...	...	...	...	...	10	10	315	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	315	18.90	164.60	...	...	...	...	...	...	
New Hampshire .....	36	1220	...	34	1	...	...	35	36	1255	...	...	4	1	...	36	...	41	36	1214	73.31	155.95	602.67	22.30	...	...	...	...	
New Jersey .....	36	1835	2	93	...	...	10	2	103	38	1938	...	...	4	...	47	...	51	38	1887	125.49	438.40	5687.86	856.00	...	...	...	...	
New York .....	177	7030	3	229	4	2	65	5	298	182	7328	...	...	12	7	13	226	1	259	182	7069	456.71	890.17	...	...	...	...	...	
Ohio .....	100	4210	12	748	7	1	37	13	792	113	5002	...	...	5	3	3	185	...	196	113	4806	315.81	184.76	...	...	...	...	...	
Pennsylvania .....	205	13843	5	586	18	...	38	5	642	210	14485	...	...	21	4	3	260	...	288	210	14197	923.66	573.26	33666.88	7426.62	...	...	...	...
Rhode Island .....	15	427	...	20	...	...	...	20	15	447	...	...	1	2	...	6	...	33	25	785	53.20	222.89	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Vermont .....	24	761	...	29	1	1	27	1	57	25	818	...	...	3	2	1	27	...	1	28	8	209	17.22	...	...	...	...	...	
Washington .....	8	185	...	31	...	1	21	1	52	9	237	...	...	...	6	1	22	...	2	56	1589	97.24	160.52	...	...	...	...	...	
Wisconsin .....	52	1624	6	184	1	...	9	6	57	1818	...	...	2	1	...	2	226	...	2	229	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Total .....	1168	51099	54	2741	44	13	524	67	4309	12355	55408	2	66	87	47	45	81555	1	10	1801	1225	53607	\$3526.75	\$6488.39	\$58846.19	\$9198.32	9	4	

## CIRCULAR LETTERS

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### VETERAN'S NIGHT.

The nineteenth of November, 1914, will be the fifty-first anniversary of the dedication of the National Cemetery at Gettysburg, and the delivery of the famous Lincoln Gettysburg Address.

In order that the event may be properly recognized it is suggested that the 19th of November be celebrated by every Camp as Veterans' Night.

To that end every Camp Commander is requested to call this matter to the attention of the Camp and outline a plan for entertaining every veteran within the vicinity of the Camp. If it is not possible to take up the matter at Camp meeting on account of time, appoint a Committee and proceed to plan the biggest and best meeting that ever has been held under the auspices of your Camp. A supper for the Veterans served by the Auxillary before the program would ensure the presence of many more than otherwise. Follow the supper by one or two short crisp talks, and then give the "Boys of '61" a chance to relate their experience. You won't need any outside talent. Secure the use of autos for such as are feeble, but get them there and take them home. For some it will be the last time they will ever meet their comrades on this side of the eternal bivouac. We owe it to them to have a special meeting in their honor once every year, and no more appropriate time than an anniversary of so much importance. Think of the moral effect of such a celebration if every Camp participated. It would be out ranked only by Memorial and Union Defender's Day. The Division and Commandery-in-Chief officers will render such a movement all assistance in their power. The National Patriotic Instructor is prepared to suggest the best possible program, and now the matter is in the hands of our members.

Fraternally yours,

CHARLES F. SHERMAN,  
Commander-in-Chief.

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### OFFICIAL CIRCULAR NO. 2.

Mount Vernon, N. Y., Dec. 1, 1914.

*To the Members of the Sons of Veterans—*  
Brothers:—

"The heights by great men reached and kept  
Were not attained by sudden flight,  
But they, while their Companions slept,  
Were toiling upward in the night."

—Lowell.



With this issue of The Banner are included the results of the several Divisions for the quarter ending September 30, 1914.

As your Commander-in-Chief read the figures provided by National Secretary Hammer he had a feeling of depression because the suspensions are in excess of the gains.

And Brothers, remember that the way we treat suspensions is equivalent to a loss as soon as reported "suspended." But this is not right, and a Brother suspended is a member and should be so considered until he is dropped. Our suspended member is in a state of purgatory for he is neither among the living nor has he been received into that kingdom where only dead ones are acknowledged as of any consequence. The Committee to whom the matter of changing our law to eliminate suspensions has a large field for their activities and it is hoped they will suggest the means whereby future administrations will not be embarrassed by this question.

But to return, our Divisions naturally fall into one of two classes, viz: Those which have gained and those which have lost.

Your Division is in one of these classes, and if it is among those which have lost, every member of such Division is morally responsible. No need to excuse yourself and say "I am not to blame" for my Brother you are to blame, and I want to tell you that if we are going to make the Sons of Veterans what its founders hoped it would become, and what we, its present members believe it should become, it will not be brought about by going up in the Winter and down in the Summer.

But only by going up, up, every quarter, all the time, will we really accomplish anything.

The fluctuations of our membership remind me of the boy who appeared at school very late and when asked by his teacher as to the cause of his tardiness replied that as it was very slippery he had gone back two steps for each step forward. The teacher thought she had him in a tight place for she asked him how under such circumstances he got there at all, and the boy was equal to the occasion for he replied, "I turned around and went backward."

But about that responsibility; if you are your Father's son, if you are the son of a Union Veteran, if you have even a faint trace of your Father's spunk, if you are proud to be a soldier's son, if you want to show your appreciation of the Father's sacrifices, then why don't you prove to the world at large and the Sons of Veterans in particular that your heritage is worthily bestowed.

Are you doing your part? Have you secured one new member this quarter? Just one? Look in the column showing the number of new members secured in your Division. Pitifully small isn't it?

Two problems confront your officers. The first—getting new members; second, keeping those we have. And this is your problem just as much as it is your officers.

Will you do something for your Commander-in-Chief? Get an application for membership and present it at the first meeting in 1915. Then as soon as the person whose application you brought in has been initiated, will you write me, stating you have got your man, give me his name and address and both will hear from me.

If it takes a thousand letters during January I shall count it a labor of love and a thousand would not be too large a number to expect. Here is a practical way for you to manifest your love for the Order, and if you do not feel satisfied with your Division's standing tell your Division Commander you want to do your part to improve it.

Remember we have the confidence of the Grand Army to an extent never known before, but the demands of the parent organization are likely to increase faster than our membership.

Fraternally and loyally yours,

CHARLES F. SHERMAN,  
Commander-in-Chief.

#### Numerical Standings of the Divisions, June 30, 1914.

1. Pennsylvania .....	14047
2. New York .....	7162
3. Massachusetts .....	6713
4. Ohio .....	3944
5. Connecticut .....	1953
6. Illinois .....	1900
7. New Jersey .....	1708
8. Maine .....	1666
9. Wisconsin .....	1581
10. New Hampshire .....	1215
11. Kansas .....	1084
12. Indiana .....	1061
13. Missouri .....	839
14. Vermont .....	762
15. Michigan .....	630
16. California .....	622
17. Minnesota .....	607
18. Maryland .....	552
19. Iowa .....	502
20. Rhode Island .....	414
21. Ala. and Tenn.....	222
22. Idaho .....	190
23. Washington .....	199
24. Kentucky .....	161
25. Montana .....	89
26. Nebraska .....	89
27. Col. and Wyo.....	86

#### Numerical Standings of the Divisions, Sept. 30, 1914.

1. Pennsylvania .....	13815
2. New York .....	7079
3. Massachusetts .....	6730
4. Ohio .....	3831
5. Connecticut .....	1965
6. Illinois .....	1920
7. New Jersey .....	1716
8. Maine .....	1532
9. Wisconsin .....	1513
10. New Hampshire .....	1222
11. Kansas .....	1142
12. Indiana .....	848
13. Missouri .....	829
14. Michigan .....	782
15. Vermont .....	771
16. California .....	617
17. Maryland .....	537
18. Minnesota .....	537
19. Rhode Island .....	397
20. Iowa .....	330
21. Kentucky .....	167
22. Col. and Wyo.....	112

#### Gains and Losses of All Divisions Reporting.

Gains Losses	
Ala. & Tenn. (no rpt).	
Cal. and Pac.....	9 14
Col. and Wyo.....	30 4
Connecticut .....	26 14
Illinois .....	53 33
Indiana .....	7 220
Iowa .....	none 172
Idaho (no report)..	
Kansas .....	58 none

#### Standing of the Divisions According to Per Cent of Losses and Gains.

Gains—	
Colorado and Wyoming	.30
Michigan .....	.24
Kansas .....	.05
Kentucky .....	.037
Illinois .....	.01
Vermont .....	.01
Connecticut.....	.006
New Hampshire .....	.005



Gains and Losses of All Divisions Reporting.		Standing of the Divisions According to Per Cent of Losses and Gains.	
	Gains Losses		
Kentucky .....	22 16	New Jersey .....	.004
Maine .....	10 144	Massachusetts .....	.002
Maryland .....	58 73		
Massachusetts .....	113 96	Losses—	
Michigan .....	160 8	California .....	.008
Minnesota .....	35 105	New York .....	.001
Missouri .....	18 28	Missouri .....	.012
Montana (no report)		Pennsylvania .....	.016
Nebraska (no report)		Maryland .....	.03
New Hampshire ....	15 8	Ohio .....	.03
New Jersey .....	73 65	Rhode Island .....	.04
New York .....	166 249	Wisconsin .....	.04
Ohio .....	171 284	Maine .....	.08
Pennsylvania .....	375 607	Minnesota .....	.11
Rhode Island .....	8 25	Indiana .....	.20
Vermont .....	23 14	Iowa .....	.34
Washington (no rpt)			
Wisconsin .....	72 140		

## OFFICIAL CIRCULAR NO. 3.

Mount Vernon, N. Y., March 1, 1915.

*To the Members of the Sons of Veterans—*

Brothers:—

There is published at this time the several tables showing the numerical standing of the Divisions for the quarter ending September 30, 1914, and December 31, 1914; also the total gains and losses of all Divisions, and then a table showing the percentage of losses and gain. The numerical standing for the two quarters show a slight change. Michigan has gone up from 14th to 13th position, and Washington takes 21st place, forcing the remaining Divisions one place lower. The third table showing the gains and losses is interesting and it will certainly repay a little time. Just look at that gain column and see the total accessions to a Division for three months, from the first of October to the last of December. The largest gain was in the state of Pennsylvania, followed by Ohio and New York. But glance over that second column and see the losses, and Brothers, it is right here that we are weakest. We have gained enough members since the organization of the Sons of Veterans to have compared favorably with any fraternal, patriotic organization, but our losses have been so large that much of our energy is wasted, or at least used trying to save what we have gotten.

Study the last column, with its percentage of gains and losses. Notice that Washington on account of having been entirely suspended, shows the largest percentage of gain, but your Commander-in-Chief is very grateful for all of the gains which have been made by the various Divisions and he takes this opportunity of extending his grateful appreciation to the Division officers for the splendid work of the last quarter, wherein we are able to show a total membership on the 31st of December of 49,627, with 1,136 Camps.

Now, when this is read the first quarter of 1915 will have come to a close and I am confident that we are going to show a report of over 50,000, but I am going to ask for a greater increase for the second quarter of 1915. Fifty-five thousand should be our mark for June 30th. Division Commanders who are about to go out of office should exert themselves to the utmost to accomplish this much to be desired result. The Brothers who are expecting to be Division Commanders should be prepared to engage at once in an organizing campaign and we should have the largest results ever attained.

Let every man be a "Booster." A substantial gain of members in the Camps now organized, supplemented by the usual number of Camps to be instituted will be the means of achieving what we so much desire. Remember the Grand Army of the Republic is watching us. Remember also, a critical public is watching us, and we are being judged by our performances. Let there be no occasion for criticism; rather may we merit the praise of our fathers and the public.

Brothers, one and all, your Commander-in-Chief salutes you; and thanks you for the splendid results and asks you to continue.

Fraternally and loyally yours,

CHARLES F. SHERMAN,

Commander-in-Chief.

#### Numerical Standing of Divisions, September 30, 1914.

1. Pennsylvania .....	13815
2. New York .....	7079
3. Massachusetts .....	6730
4. Ohio .....	3831
5. Connecticut .....	1965
6. Illinois .....	1920
7. New Jersey .....	1716
8. Maine .....	1532
9. Wisconsin .....	1513
10. New Hampshire .....	1222
11. Kansas .....	1142
12. Indiana .....	848
13. Missouri .....	829
14. Michigan .....	782
15. Vermont .....	771
16. Cal. and Pac. ....	617
17. Maryland .....	537
18. Minnesota .....	537
19. Rhode Island .....	397
20. Iowa .....	330
21. Ala. and Tenn. ....	221
22. Idaho .....	189
23. Kentucky .....	167
24. Cal. and Wyo. ....	112
25. Nebraska .....	89
26. Montana .....	66
Washington (no report)	

#### Numerical Standing of Divisions, December 31, 1914.

1. Pennsylvania .....	13830
2. New York .....	7048
3. Massachusetts .....	6653
4. Ohio .....	4076
5. Connecticut .....	1980
6. Illinois .....	1906
7. New Jersey .....	1700
8. Maine .....	1582
9. Wisconsin .....	1557
10. New Hampshire .....	1203
11. Kansas .....	1141
12. Indiana .....	984
13. Michigan .....	875
14. Missouri .....	807
15. Vermont .....	782
16. Cal. and Pac. ....	588
17. Maryland .....	539
18. Minnesota .....	489
19. Rhode Island .....	393
20. Iowa .....	386
21. Washington .....	224
22. Ala. and Tenn. ....	220
23. Idaho .....	191
24. Kentucky .....	154
25. Cal. and Wyo. ....	132
26. Nebraska .....	110
27. Montana .....	77



Gains and Losses—All Divisions Reporting—Quarter Ending December 31, 1914.

	Gain	Loss
Ala. and Tenn.....	1	
Cal. and Pac. ....	32	61
Col. and Wyo. ....	21	1
Connecticut .....	50	35
Idaho .....	4	2
Illinois .....	128	142
Indiana .....	179	43
Iowa .....	83	27
Kansas .....	17	18
Kentucky .....		13
Maine .....	96	46
Maryland .....	46	44
Massachusetts .....	173	250
Michigan .....	128	35
Minnesota .....	65	113
Missouri .....	12	34
Montana .....	22	11
Nebraska .....	27	6
New Hampshire ...	11	30
New Jersey .....	38	54
New York .....	277	308
Ohio .....	373	128
Pennsylvania .....	586	571
Rhode Island .....	19	23
Vermont .....	24	13
Washington (rein.)	224	
Wisconsin .....	128	81

Standing of Divisions—According to Per Cent of Gains and Losses—Quarter Ending December 31, 1914.

Gains—	
Washington .....	1.85
Nebraska .....	.23
Iowa .....	.21
Colorado and Wyoming	.16
Indiana .....	.16
Montana .....	.16
Michigan .....	.11
Ohio .....	.06
Maine .....	.03
Wisconsin .....	.02
Idaho .....	.01
Vermont .....	.01
Connecticut .....	.007
Maryland .....	.003
Pennsylvania .....	.001
Losses—	
New York .....	.004
Alabama and Tennessee	.004
Illinois .....	.007
Kansas .....	.008
New Jersey .....	.009
New Hampshire .....	.01
Massachusetts .....	.01
Missouri .....	.02
California and Pacific..	.04
Kentucky .....	.07
Minnesota .....	.08

### MEMORIAL DAY.

"Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget—lest we forget!"

Shall it be said that the American people are not grateful? Soon we shall have opportunity to demonstrate to the world whether we are grateful or otherwise, whether our memory is short or long, whether we fully appreciate the sacrifices of our Fathers. For Memorial Day—Decoration Day—is almost here.

May thirtieth—and what a wealth of memory rolls before us. We look back, and we see the "boys of '61" with the bloom of youth upon their cheek, with the abandonment usual to the care free age, but with a heart that always beats in unison to loyalty.

We see them come from the farm, from the shop, from the store, city boys and country boys, side by side, all vying in their eagerness to serve their country.

Every loyal state sends a full quota, and with the blare of trumpets and roll of drum they march away. Where to? Only the God of Nations can answer; anywhere, everywhere, wherever there is work to be done. More and more frequent become the calls for our best manhood until more than two and

a half million of the very best that any age has ever produced were enlisted under the starry banner, "Old Glory," and for a leader, Abraham Lincoln guided them through the long and perilous night of four years. Of this vast army more than one million and a half were eighteen or less—mere boys, but who shall say but that their service was not the equal of any people of any age? Boys they were when they went out, but once in a baptism of fire and their nature became as that of a man possessed of all the noble attributes to which man aspires.

And did they come back? Well may we ask this question. Alas, many of them fell on the field of battle, and their life blood enriched the soil and the body went to the mother earth from whence it came. The waters, rivers and bays were crimsoned by the blood of the sailor boys who fought as gallantly and oft victoriously as did the boys on land. But oh, the host of them who came not back; who no more answered the roll-call; who participated in no more engagements; who suffered no more from fatigue, from wounds, from prison hells, but in transcendent majesty peopled the Heaven above where they await the coming of the balance of their comrades.

More than one hundred thousand of our "boys in blue" were killed in action or died from wounds,—and of this number many of them sleep in graves with nothing to tell who they are and whence they came. But the others, those who survived, came home to be a blessing and benediction for the fifty years that have passed. Gradually they are answering "here" no more. They are joining the majority in the ranks of the celestial army. And as they leave us a feeling of inexpressible sadness comes to us, for there is no one to take the place that becomes vacant, no one to fill the niche in our country's history that has been theirs for fifty years. And soon, naught will remain but the memory of their deeds, the love that we bore them, and the sentiment they inspired. Our nation's heroes we call them, and we hold in grateful appreciation their service, their devotion and what they accomplished.

But let us not forget that among our Country's heroes were the women of '61-'65, and their deeds are just as worthy of commemoration though they do not stand out with mountain peak prominence. It was the sacrificing spirit of the wives and mothers who urged husbands and sons to respond to the call, and we know now that the greater heroism was shown by the women of war times. Oh, how gloomy their life was. How little they had to encourage; how little to sustain them during the long watches of the night. They suffered in mind and body, and in countless instances the only answer to their prayer to send their boy back to them was when he came back to be laid in the family plot of the little church yard, and they struggled on through the years with that great sorrow fastened to their heart. Many were the wives with the children hovering around, who learned that the dearly loved husband and father had met his summons and went to a soldier's death with only the angels of Heaven to sing a requiem at his funeral. The courage of women is a favorite theme for writers of prose and poetry, but no matter what man may say in praise of women for the part they had in the successful completion of the mighty task confronting our Nation, they cannot overstate the services of the



women of '61-'65. God bless them, everyone, and a double portion of his blessing be on such as remain.

We have now reached fifty years since the War of the Rebellion. This year the most significant of all the years that have passed since the close of the war, for it marks just a half century, therefore Memorial Day possesses a greater significance. Another reason is that since a similar occasion last year more than twelve thousand members of the Grand Army of the Republic have been translated to the Heavenly home, and not less than twenty thousand veterans have departed for that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler ever returns. Every veteran's grave should be a shrine, whereon we should delight to heap the beautiful.

To the Sons of Veterans this duty is becoming more a special privilege, and it seems as though no word from the Commander-in-Chief was needed. But even though it be superfluous, he urges Camps and individual members to participate in Memorial Day more generally than ever before. First, make a tender of your services to the Grand Army. Say you are willing to do anything. Nothing connected with this beautiful service can be menial. Second, do whatever the Grand Army prefer to have you do. Third, participate in some private or public memorial exercises. Fourth, recognize the day as sacred, not secular. Set an example that all may be impressed with your sincerity.

The greatest opportunity that can come to you is to be asked to represent your Camp at the Memorial exercises in the public schools, Friday, May 29. On that day with our beloved flag over the school, and a member of the Grand Army in uniform as an inspiration beside you, speak to the children and if your life is full of patriotism you will create in their young minds a deep and abiding love for our country. And remember, my brother, that what you say at such a time squares with what you do the other 364 days in the year.

May the Father in Heaven look upon this work with favor, may every representative speak as though his lips had been touched by the very coals from the altar of Patriotism. A critical world is looking at us and judging us by a fine standard. May we not fail.

CHARLES F. SHERMAN,  
Commander-in-Chief.

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#### ATTENTION!

Mount Vernon, N. Y., August 2, 1915.

*To the Division Commanders:—*

Brothers, there has been laid upon you a great responsibility, that of leading the Sons of Veterans of your state. This position is of so much importance that I am constrained to ask you to be particularly zealous in working for the best interests of our organizations. It is my earnest desire that each Division Commander elected in 1915 shall resolve that he will turn his Division over to his successor in 1916 with a larger membership and with a better membership than when he assumed com-

mand. Look about for weak places. There are, no doubt, a number of such in every Division. Endeavor to strengthen these weak places. If necessary, make a personal visit, or if that is not possible send a Division Officer. Then look over the field for openings for new camps. There are places in every state where new camps could be instituted; all that is required is to make an effort. I know some of you have already assisted in instituting a number of new camps, and yet the list is not exhausted. Will you give to this matter just that same personal attention that you would give to your own business? Don't wait for Fall. Don't say that after the harvest is over we will get to work, but get to work right now, even though the thermometer is 90 in the shade.

Know your Camp Commanders; correspond with them; try to send some communication to them of a personal character each month at least. Many camps droop and die because they think no one higher up cares about them. Be prepared to attend to all of the business of your Division without delay. If you have problems, let me help you with their solution.

From reports recently received it would seem as though most Divisions had allowed their supplies to be reduced to a very low point. This is not wise. Look over your stock list and try to keep on hand a sufficient supply of everything, so that camps may obtain what they need without delay. While the number of new camps and new members this year is equal to that of previous years, yet the sales of supplies are materially less.

Why not write a letter to every Past Division Commander of your Division urging such an one to attend the National Encampment at Washington.

I trust that you will be as successful in this work as you fully expected when you were installed; and you will be, if you begin right now.

Fraternally yours,

CHARLES F. SHERMAN,  
Commander-in-Chief.



## ENCAMPMENT ROLL

THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT, COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,  
SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A., WASHINGTON, D. C.,  
SEPTEMBER 28-30, 1915.

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- \*Fred. J. McMurtrie, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief,  
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- \*Clifford E. Batchelor, Council-in-Chief, Ansonia, Conn.
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	Wm. G. Helm,	3164 Iowa Ave., St. Louis, Mo.



Delegates,	*Joseph A. Michel, 510 Chemical Bldg., St. Louis, Mo.
	*A. J. Albrecht, 919 King's Highway Boulevard, St. Louis, Mo.
	*E. H. Loyd, Corby-Forsee Bldg., St. Joseph, Mo.
Alternates,	Jacob Ruedi, 3419 Oregon Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
	Gus H. Lilleman, 3701 Gravois Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
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 C. T. Russell, Elizabeth, Pa.  
 Alternates, \*Wm. Lauler, 41 Bouquet St., Pittsburg, Pa.  
 A. Seyfert, c/o Clarence B. Hackman, 1835 Cedar St., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 H. Obdyke, c/o Alfred W. Benson, 1534 Ritner St., Philadelphia, Pa.  
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 Wm. Read, 3943 Haverford, Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.  
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1408 N. Fawn St., Philadelphia, Pa.  
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\*George Richards, 2139 N. 3rd St., Philadelphia, Pa.  
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