

PROCEEDINGS

C. W. CHIEF

S. V. U. S. A

1923-25

PROCEEDINGS

**Forty-Fourth
Annual Encampment**

**COMMANDERY - IN - CHIEF
SONS OF VETERANS
U. S. A.**



**Held at
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN
Vocational School Auditorium
August 31 to September 3
1925**



WM. M. COFFIN
Commander-in-Chief 1924-1925



EDWIN C. IRELLAN
Commander-in-Chief 1925-1926

COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF ENCAMPMENTS

No.	Year.	Date.	Place.	State.
1st	1882	Oct. 18	Pittsburgh	Pennsylvania
2nd	1883	Aug. 6-7	Columbus	Ohio
3rd	1884	Aug. 27-30	Philadelphia	Pennsylvania
4th	1885	Sept. 17-18	Grand Rapids	Michigan
5th	1886	Sept. 1-2	Buffalo	New York
6th	1887	Aug. 17-19	Des Moines	Iowa
7th	1888	Aug. 15-17	Wheeling	West Virginia
8th	1889	Sept. 10-13	Paterson	New Jersey
9th	1890	Aug. 26-29	St. Joseph	Missouri
10th	1891	Aug. 24-29	Minneapolis	Minnesota
11th	1892	Aug. 8-12	Helena	Montana
12th	1893	Aug. 15-18	Cincinnati	Ohio
13th	1894	Aug. 20-23	Davenport	Iowa
14th	1895	Sept. 16-18	Knoxville	Tennessee
15th	1896	Sept. 8-10	Louisville	Kentucky
16th	1897	Sept. 9-11	Indianapolis	Indiana
17th	1898	Sept. 12-14	Omaha	Nebraska
18th	1899	Sept. 7-9	Detroit	Michigan
19th	1900	Sept. 11-13	Syracuse	New York
20th	1901	Sept. 17-18	Providence	Rhode Island
21st	1902	Oct. 7-9	Washington	D. C.
22nd	1903	Sept. 15-17	Atlantic City	New Jersey
23rd	1904	Aug. 17-19	Boston	Massachusetts
24th	1905	Sept. 18-20	Gettysburg	Pennsylvania
25th	1906	Aug. 21-23	Peoria	Illinois
26th	1907	Aug. 20-21	Dayton	Ohio
27th	1908	Aug. 25-27	Niagara Falls	New York
28th	1909	Aug. 24-26	Washington	D. C.
29th	1910	Sept. 20-22	Atlantic City	New Jersey
30th	1911	Aug. 22-25	Rochester	New York
31st	1912	Aug. 27-29	St. Louis	Missouri
32nd	1913	Sept. 16-18	Chattanooga	Tennessee
33rd	1914	Sept. 1-3	Detroit	Michigan
34th	1915	Sept. 28-30	Washington	D. C.
35th	1916	Aug. 30-31	Kansas City	Missouri
36th	1917	Aug. 22-23	Boston	Massachusetts
37th	1918	Aug. 20-21	Niagara Falls	New York
38th	1919	Sept. 9-11	Columbus	Ohio
39th	1920	Sept. 22-24	Indianapolis	Indiana
40th	1921	Sept. 27-29	Indianapolis	Indiana
41st	1922	Sept. 26-28	Des Moines	Iowa
42nd	1923	Sept. 4-5-6	Milwaukee	Wisconsin
43rd	1924	Aug. 12-14	Boston	Massachusetts
44th	1925	Sept. 1-3	Grand Rapids	Michigan

PAST COMMANDERS-IN-CHIEF

Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Elected.	Name.	Division	Address.	Deceased
1881	*Harry T. Rowley	Pennsylvania		
1882	*Harry T. Rowley	Pennsylvania		
1883	*Frank P. Merrill	Maine		July 8, 1909
1884	*Harry W. Arnold	Pennsylvania		
1885	*Walter S. Payne	Ohio		October 19, 1901
1886	*Walter S. Payne	Ohio		October 19, 1901
1887	*George B. Abbott	Illinois		June 14, 1917
1888	*George B. Abbott	Illinois		June 14, 1917
1889	*Charles F. Griffin	Indiana		December 21, 1902
1890	*Leland J. Webb	Kansas		February 23, 1893
1891	*Bartow S. Weeks	New York		February 3, 1922
1892	†Marvin E. Hall	Michigan	Hillsdale, Mich.	
1893	Joseph B. Maccabe	Massachusetts	32 Central Square, East Boston, Mass.	
1894	*William E. Bundy	Ohio		August 16, 1903
1895	William H. Russell	Kansas	La Crosse, Kansas	
1896	*James Lewis Rake	Pennsylvania		January 19, 1920
1897	Charles K. Darling	Massachusetts	Boston, Mass.	
1898	*Frank L. Shepard	Illinois		December 15, 1921
1899	*A. W. Jones	Ohio		October 6, 1918
1900	*Edgar W. Alexander	Pennsylvania		November 24, 1912
1901	Edward R. Campbell	Maryland	Clermont, Florida	
1902	*Frank Martin	Indiana		February 7, 1912
1903	*Arthur B. Spink	Rhode Island		November 3, 1915
1904	*William G. Dustin	Illinois		February 14, 1918
1905	Harley V. Speelman	Ohio	1652 Hobart St., N. W., Washington, D. C.	
1906	*Edwin M. Amies	Pennsylvania		November 26, 1920
1907	Ralph Sheldon	New York	Lyons, N. Y.	
1908	Edgar Allan, Jr.	Maryland	Richmond, Va.	
1909	*George W. Pollitt	New Jersey		March 20, 1921
1910	Fred. E. Bolton	Massachusetts	City Hall, Boston, Mass.	
1911	Newton J. McGuire	Indiana	1001 Peoples' State Bank Bldg., Indianapolis, Ind.	
1912	Ralph M. Grant	Connecticut	Sage-Allen Bldg., Hartford, Conn.	
1913	John E. Sautter	Pennsylvania	405 Hampton Ave., Wilkensburg, Penna.	
1914	Charles F. Sherman	New York	46 South 4th Ave., Mt. Vernon, N. Y.	
1915	A. E. B. Stephens	Ohio	Bodman Bldg., Cincinnati, Ohio	
1916	William T. Church	Illinois	108 So. La Salle St., Chicago, Ill.	
1917	Fred. T. F. Johnson	Maryland	McGill Bldg., Washington, D. C.	
1918	*Francis Callahan	Pennsylvania		September 11, 1925
1919	Harry D. Sisson	Massachusetts	Pittsfield, Mass.	
1920	Pelham A. Barrows	Nebraska	5715 S. Figueroa St., Los Angeles, Calif.	
1921	Clifford Ireland	Illinois	Jefferson Building, Peoria, Illinois	
1922	Frank Shellhouse	Indiana	Spink-Arms Hotel, Indianapolis, Ind.	
1923	Samuel S. Horn	Pennsylvania	P. O. Box 51, Easton, Pa.	
1924	Wm. M. Coffin	Ohio	3755 Hyde Park Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio	

Sons of Veterans

1881	†*Alfred Cope	Pennsylvania	
1882	†*Alfred Cope	Pennsylvania	
1883	†Edwin Earp	Massachusetts	Lynn, Massachusetts
1884	†Edwin Earp	Massachusetts	Lynn, Massachusetts
1884	†Louis M. Wagner	Pennsylvania	422 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
1885	†Louis M. Wagner		
1886	†Louis M. Wagner		

The Post System

1889-90	†George W. Marks	New York	Brooklyn, New York
1890	†*George T. Brown	New York	

Honor Conferred by Commandery-in-Chief

1883	*A. P. Davis	Pennsylvania	May 1, 1899
1899	*R. M. J. Reed	Pennsylvania	June 10, 1922

PAST GRAND DIVISION COMMANDERS

Frank H. Challis.....296 Manchester St., Manchester, N. H.
E. Howard GilkeyColumbus, Ohio

CONSTITUTIONAL LIFE MEMBERS

O. B. Brown Dayton, Ohio
Charles A. Bookwalter Indianapolis, Ind.

†Conferred by Commandery-in-Chief.

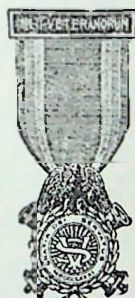
*Deceased.

•Not a member.

PROCEEDINGS

Forty-Fourth
Annual Encampment

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



Held at
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN
Vocational School Auditorium
August 31 to September 3
1925

THE BANNER PRINT, DWIGHT, ILL.

ENCAMPMENT ROLL

Forty-fourth Annual Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Grand Rapids, Mich., Sept. 1-3, 1925

COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF OFFICERS.

***Present.**

- *Commander-in-Chief William M. Coffin,
3755 Hyde Park Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio
 - *Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Charles P. Hall,
209 Oak Hall Bldg., Pawtucket, R. I.
 - *Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief G. C. Markle,
135 North Meridian St., Winchester, Ind.
 - *Council-in-Chief Park F. Yengling,
Bassett Road, Bay Village, Ohio
 - *Council-in-Chief William H. Cressey, Cumberland Mills, Maine
 - *Council-in-Chief Herbert D. Williams,
201 Mercer St., Trenton, N. J.
 - *National Patriotic Instructor Theodore C. Cazcau,
434 Mercantile Bldg., Rochester, N. Y.
 - *National Chaplain Francis C. Hawthorne,
1227 West 49th St., Los Angeles, Cal.
 - *National Secretary-Treasurer H. H. Hammer,
Colonial Trust Bldg., Reading, Pa.
 - *National Counselor George B. Holmes,
441 West 102nd Place, Chicago, Ill.
-

PAST COMMANDERS-IN-CHIEF:

SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| Joseph B. Maccabe, | 32 Central Square, East Boston, Mass. |
| *William H. Russell, | La Crosse, Kan. |
| Charles K. Darling, | Boston, Mass. |
| Edward R. Campbell, | Clermont, Florida |
| *Harley V. Speelman, | 1652 Hobart St., N. W., Washington, D. C. |
| *Ralph Sheldon, | Lyons, N. Y. |
| Edgar Allan, Jr., | Richmond, Va. |
| Fred E. Bolton, | City Hall, Boston, Mass. |
| *Newton J. McGuire, | 1001 Peoples' State Bank Bldg., Indianapolis, Ind. |

*Ralph M. Grant,
 *John E. Sautter,
 *Charles F. Sherman,
 *A. E. B. Stephens,
 *Wm. T. Church,
 *Fred T. F. Johnson,
 Francis Callahan,
 *Harry D. Sisson,
 Pelham A. Barrows,

Sage-Allen Bldg., Hartford, Conn.
 405 Hampton Ave., Wilkinsburg, Pa.
 46 South 4th Ave., Mt. Vernon, N. Y.
 Bodman Bldg., Cincinnati, Ohio
 108 S. La Salle St., Chicago, Ill.
 McGill Bldg., Washington, D. C.
 Yeadon, Dela. Co., Pa.
 Pittsfield, Mass.

Clifford Ireland,
 *Frank Shellhouse,
 *Samuel S. Horn,

236 N. Templeton Ave., Huntington Park, Cal.
 Jefferson Bldg., Peoria, Ill.
 Spink-Arms Hotel, Indianapolis, Ind.
 P. O. Box 51, Easton, Pa.

SONS OF VETERANS.

Edwin Earp,
 Louis M. Wagner,

Lynn, Mass.
 422 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

PAST GRAND DIVISION COMMANDERS.

Frank H. Challis,
 E. Howard Gilkey,

296 Manchester St., Manchester, N. H.
 Columbus, Ohio

CONSTITUTIONAL LIFE MEMBERS.

O. B. Brown,
 Charles A. Bookwalter,

Dayton, Ohio
 Indianapolis, Ind.

Divisions

ALABAMA & TENNESSEE.

Com.,	Frank M. Lane,	91 Illinois Ave., Memphis, Tenn.
Past Com.,	M. D. Friedman,	1237 So. 21st St., Birmingham, Ala.
	R. W. Biese,	Chattanooga, Tenn.
	Wm. R. Cooper,	Knoxville, Tenn.
	Valentine Gilb, Jr.,	Box 146, Birmingham, Ala.
	Edgar R. Carter,	Cincinnati, Ohio
	Leon W. Friedman,	Birmingham, Ala.
	Orville H. Hall,	Atlanta, Ga.
	Ivan A. Miller,	Ensley, Ala.
	John F. Ehrhart,	1729 Second Ave., Birmingham, Ala.
	Joseph H. Larimore,	Athens, Ala.
	W. A. J. Moore,	Malone, Florida
	A. Ellwyn Ballard,	Birmingham, Ala.
	*Henry M. Austin,	
		7044 Mary Ave., N. W., Seattle, Wash.
	Horace E. Shaw,	Birmingham, Ala.
	Sylvester A. Arrico,	Los Angeles, Calif.
	John Tinker,	Chattanooga, Tenn.
	Clark E. Bradford,	Chattanooga, Tenn.
	Frank M. Lane,	91 Illinois Ave., Memphis, Tenn.

Charles L. Stapleton,
714 N. 22nd St., Birmingham, Ala.
Frederick M. Norcross,
1020 Overton Park Ave., Memphis, Tenn.
Victor P. Philippi,
12 N. Idlewild Ave., Memphis, Tenn.
George P. Schlocker, 726 Looney St., Memphis, Tenn.
James E. Henderson, 686 Keel Ave., Memphis, Tenn.
Robert F. Ashworth, Birmingham, Ala.
Harry Spears, 621 Bank of Commerce & Trust Bldg.,
Memphis, Tenn.
Delegates, S. A. Pickering, Memphis, Tenn.
Alternates, V. A. Burgess, Memphis, Tenn.

CALIFORNIA & PACIFIC.

Com., *D. B. Bowley, 2550 Pine St., San Francisco, Cal.
Past Com., Louis P. de P. Callahan,
414 Firmin St., Los Angeles, Cal.
Edward C. Robinson, Court House, Oakland, Cal.
E. W. Conant, San Jose, Cal.
Fred V. Wood, 1140 Oakland Ave., Oakland, Cal.
Charles L. Pierce, 940 Poplar St., Oakland, Cal.
Harry T. Moore,
Room 827 Mills Bldg., San Francisco, Cal.
A. G. Bennett, 245 N. 12th St., San Jose, Cal.
J. A. Medlar, 1014 S. Hill St., Los Angeles, Cal.
Frank B. Wilson, 995 Market St., San Francisco, Cal.
Theodore V. Brown, Jr.,
Apt. 9, 1302 Taylor St., San Francisco, Cal.
John F. Mullin, 316 Clay St., Los Angeles, Cal.
H. A. Longfellow, 1611 92nd Ave., Oakland, Cal.
*C. S. Scott, Civic Auditorium, San Francisco, Cal.
D. Brandley Plymire,
804 DeYoung Bldg., San Francisco, Cal.
George O. Lockwood,
1327 Campbell St., Glendale, Cal.
J. W. Cook, 164 S. 10th St., San Jose, Cal.
Joseph V. Griffin, 260 Cypress Ave., Burbank, Cal.
George B. Whited, 1241 E. 8th St., Long Beach, Cal.
C. Walter Tozer, 43 Sutter St., San Francisco, Cal.
A. J. Cloud, 2775 Union St., San Francisco, Cal.
*Francis C. Hawthorne,
1227 W. 49th St., Los Angeles, Cal.
*H. A. Thayer, 21 W. Gertinez St., Santa Barbara, Cal.
J. E. Fox, 582 14th St., Oakland, Cal.
S. L. Carpenter, 1328 E. 4th St., Santa Ana, Cal.
C. O. Boynton, 2302 E. 7th St., Long Beach, Cal.
Delegates, *A. E. Deems, 4135 Canto Drive, Los Angeles, Cal.
*E. J. Wilson, 926½ Valencia St., Los Angeles, Cal.
*Fred E. Carr, Hercules, Cal.
*E. J. Parker, R. F. D. No. 1, Santa Ana, Cal.
Alternates, Fred I. Dunster, 1330 S. Union Ave., Los Angeles, Cal.

CONNECTICUT.

Com., Henry W. Storrs, 122 Clark St., Hartford, Conn.
Past Com., W. N. Barber, Meriden, Conn.

- B. R. Singleton, Waterbury, Conn.
 *Geo. E. Cox, 94 Seymour St., Hartford, Conn.
 E. S. Bishop, 81 Broadway, New Haven, Conn.
 L. S. Chapman, Derby, Conn.
 E. Croft, Waterbury, Conn.
 M. D. Rudd, Lakeville, Conn.
 A. C. Baldwin, 272 Main St., Derby, Conn.
 Chas. W. Roberts, 148 Vine St., Hartford, Conn.
 *Ralph M. Grant, Sage-Allen Bldg., Hartford, Conn.
 Alvin O. Fairbanks, Norwich, Conn.
 F. H. McGar, 28 Maple St., Meriden, Conn.
 Harry C. Cooley,
 Columbia Graph. Co., Cleveland, Ohio
 Allen T. Pratt, 106 Ann St., Hartford, Conn.
 William H. Hart, 820 Main St., Bridgeport, Conn.
 Robert T. Alcorn, 1051 Windsor Ave., Hartford, Conn.
 Robert J. Woodruff, Box 364, New Haven, Conn.
 Henry E. Gage, 253 White St., Hartford, Conn.
 William F. Alcorn, 185 Church St., New Haven, Conn.
 Walter H. DeForest, New Haven Ave., Derby, Conn.
 Charles N. Stephenson,
 121 Blakeman Place, Stratford, Conn.
 Norman S. Buckingham, 31 North St., Milford, Conn.
 John S. Gallagher, Gen. Del., Waterbury, Conn.
 Delegates, *Charles Munich,
 446 Ridgefield Ave., Bridgeport, Conn.
 *George C. Blakeman,
 736 Washington Ave., New Haven, Conn.
 John J. Ambrose,
 174 Washington Ave., Stamford, Conn.
 *W. G. Mooney, Mystic, Conn.
 *John T. Judson, 5 Jewett St., Ansonia, Conn.
 *John R. Kemmerer,
 185 Blue Hill Ave., Hartford, Conn.
 *Charles D. Sarles, P. O. Box 45, Sound Beach, Conn.

ILLINOIS.

- Com., *E. F. Buck, 1220 Jefferson Bldg., Peoria, Ill.
 Past Com., C. G. Marsh, Weedsport, N. Y.
 *Wm. T. Church, 108 So. La Salle St., Chicago, Ill.
 *Wm. C. Schneider, Court House, Kankakee, Ill.
 Wm. E. Hull, 465 Moss Ave., Peoria, Ill.
 Jas. E. Seabert, Dwight, Ill.
 *C. D. Thomas, 7 Main St., Champaign, Ill.
 Bruce H. Garrett, 2208 Oxford St., Rockford, Ill.
 Will C. Creighton, 310 W. White St., Champaign, Ill.
 *G. W. G. Estover, Ozark, Ark.
 A. W. Stillians, 819 E. 50th St., Chicago, Ill.
 Richard F. Locke, Glen Ellyn, Ill.
 W. T. Rawleigh, Freeport, Ill.
 *Henry C. Cull, 6739 Rhodes Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 *Geo. B. Holmes, 441 W. 102nd Place, Chicago, Ill.
 A. D. Rhinesmith, Bellefonte, Pa.
 *Wm. L. Barnum, Jr.,
 5344 E. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, Cal.
 Clifford C. Ireland, Jefferson Bldg., Peoria, Ill.

	J. Colby Beekman,	Petersburg, Ill.
	Royal N. Allen,	18 So. Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.
	Samuel W. King,	303 Cutting Bldg., Joliet, Ill.
	B. F. McClelland,	508 Meade Bldg., Chicago, Ill.
	U. S. Villars,	Albuquerque, N. M.
	Carl S. Spalding,	320 N. Main St., Rockford, Ill.
	*Fred J. Phillips,	105 So. La Salle St., Chicago, Ill.
	*Will F. Jenkins,	1977 W. 111th St., Chicago, Ill.
	*A. S. Holbrook,	Dwight, Ill.
	*Joseph M. James,	1409 W. 71st St., Chicago, Ill.
Delegates,	*Lowell S. Blaisdell,	4920 Cortez St., Chicago, Ill.
	*E. H. Johler,	357 Western Ave., Blue Island, Ill.
	*A. E. Whitley,	6121 Stewart Ave., Chicago, Ill.
	*Edw. F. Ream,	165 Spruce St., Aurora, Ill.

INDIANA.

Com.,	*Frank C. Huston,	10 W. Ohio St., Indianapolis, Ind.
Past Com.,	Otis E. Guley,	Danville, Ind.
	*Newton J. McGuire,	
	1001 Peoples' State Bank Bldg.,	Indianapolis, Ind.
	R. S. Thompson,	Rising Sun, Ind.
	H. O. P. Cline,	Marion, Ind.
	Geo. W. Kreitenstein,	Terre Haute, Ind.
	Geo. F. Ogden,	Laketon, Ind.
	E. E. Friedline,	Jonesboro, Ind.
	L. A. Handley,	Richmond, Ind.
	T. W. Blair,	Fort Wayne, Ind.
	Wm. F. Gottschalk,	Terre Haute, Ind.
	Frank E. Watson,	Goldsmith, Ind.
	John D. Miller,	Winchester, Ind.
	Joseph Sego,	Valparaiso, Ind.
	*T. Warren Allen,	1035 W. 34th St., Indianapolis, Ind.
	*W. F. Geller,	Fort Wayne, Ind.
	*William H. Hansche,	Richmond, Ind.
	*Frank Shellhouse,	
	Spink-Arms Hotel,	Indianapolis, Ind.
	*A. W. McDaniel,	Valparaiso, Ind.
	*A. L. McConkey,	Bloomington, Ind.
	*F. C. Focht,	Winchester, Ind.
	George Matthews,	Richmond, Ind.
	E. S. Shumaker,	
	1201 Roosevelt Bldg.,	Indianapolis, Ind.
	Thomas W. Lindsey,	
	705 Furniture Bldg.,	Evansville, Ind.
	Newton C. Goodman,	Tipton, Ind.
	Benjamin E. Stahl,	Terre Haute, Ind.
Delegates,	*A. W. Wallace,	765 Van Buren St., Gary, Ind.
	Edward Thomas,	
	N. E. Cor. 3rd and Poplar Sts.,	Terre Haute, Ind.
	J. J. Shyrook,	311 South Main St., Princeton, Ind.
	*Rufus O'Hara,	
	Apt. O. 3510 N. Meridian St.,	Indianapolis, Ind.
	*Harry B. Albery,	
	203 Washington St.,	Valparaiso, Ind.
		Princeton, Ind.
	*Geo. H. Padgett,	Indianapolis, Ind.
	*J. B. Jackson,	

IOWA.

Com., *H. M. Pratt,
 Past Com., Lewis A. Dilley,
 L. J. Yaggy,
 J. H. Fenton,
 W. L. Kerr,
 A. D. Bunger,
 C. A. Bryson,
 Don D. Donnan,
 H. L. Crowell,
 Frank Baldwin,
 C. E. Hinchliffe,
 Delegates, *W. H. Ebersole,
 Bert Thayer,
 August Schindhelm,
 *J. W. Rose,
 *Geo. F. Mitchell,

Fort Dodge, Iowa
 Davenport, Iowa
 Davenport, Iowa
 Cedar Rapids, Iowa
 Fort Dodge, Iowa
 Des Moines, Iowa
 Iowa Falls, Iowa
 Independence, Iowa
 Waterloo, Iowa
 Adel, Iowa
 Iowa City, Iowa
 Des Moines, Iowa
 Iowa Falls, Iowa
 Iowa City, Iowa
 Fort Dodge, Iowa
 Fort Dodge, Iowa

KANSAS.

Com., L. L. Merrifield,
 Past Com., C. S. Nation,
 *Wm. H. Russell,
 W. P. Feder,
 W. P. Wilcox,
 R. L. Rickard,
 Charles B. Martin,
 M. Jay Sweet,
 J. W. Anderson,
 A. G. Alrich,
 W. E. Connelly,
 Fred A. Kesler,
 Frank U. Russell,
 H. Mead Lewis,
 Ed L. Moon,
 Clay H. Newton, 1614 Appleton Ave.,
 Leverett E. Fitts,
 Delegates, *E. E. Katterman,
 Alternates, Charles E. Jenkins,
 *Leonard Stout,

Abilene, Kan.
 Chanute, Kan.
 La Crosse, Kan.
 917 Riverside, Wichita, Kan.
 Topeka, Kan.
 Valley Center, Kan.
 Parsons, Kan.
 Wichita, Kan.
 Wichita, Kan.
 Lawrence, Kan.
 Topeka, Kan.
 Ellsworth, Kan.
 Hutchinson, Kan.
 Wichita, Kan.
 Topeka, Kan.
 Parsons, Kan.
 Emporia, Kan.
 Ellsworth, Kan.
 Winfield, Kan.
 Winfield, Kan.

MAINE.

Com., *Albert B. DeHaven, 35 Berwick Ave., Sanford, Maine
 Past Com., *Edward K. Gould, 375 Main St., Rockland, Maine
 *Waldo H. Perry, Portland, Maine
 Andrew C. Cloudman, Cumberland Mills, Maine
 Robert L. Whitcomb, 271 Middle St., Portland, Maine
 Edward C. Moran, Rockland, Maine
 Henry C. Chatto, Rockland, Maine
 Llewellyn L. Cooper, Augusta, Maine
 Arthur M. Soule, Harrisville, R. I.
 George E. Leighton, 355 Curtis St., West Somerville, Mass.
 Elmore N. Courson, Brunswick, Maine
 Frank L. Beals, 38 Dennison St., Auburn, Maine

	J. Warren Phinney,	Cumberland Mills, Maine
	Arthur L. Orne,	Rockland, Maine
	John Shaw,	Bath, Maine
	Clarence H. Cram,	Augusta, Maine
	George H. Bangs,	U. of M., Orono, Maine
	*William H. Cressey,	Cumberland Mills, Maine
	Lloyd L. Hooker,	Bath, Maine
	William O. Cobb,	Gardiner, Maine
	Olin P. Ayer,	Auburn, Maine
	John C. Howes,	Augusta, Maine
	Allen L. Curtis,	Belfast, Maine
	Ralph H. Burbank, 152 Alfred St.,	Biddeford, Maine
	William E. Southard,	Bangor, Maine
	Robert A. Coney,	Augusta, Maine
	Frank C. Ayer,	97 Goff St., Auburn, Maine
	Buel L. Merrill,	Gardiner, Maine
	*William W. Jewett, 226 Federal St.,	Portland, Maine
	George N. Pond, 199 Forest Ave.,	Bangor, Maine
Delegates,	Elwin E. Smith,	Westbrook, Maine
	George S. Robinson,	Lewiston, Maine
	*John A. Flye,	Rockland, Maine
	*Albert R. Hill,	Brownfield, Maine

MARYLAND.

Com.,	*Howard Michael,	1314 Greenmount Ave., Baltimore, Md.
Past Com.,	Miles W. Ross,	Owings Mills, Md.
	Edward R. Campbell,	Clermont, Florida
	*Edward K. DePuy,	P. O. Box 864, Buffalo, N. Y.
	George S. Whitmore,	North Yakima, Wash.
	D. M. Rittenhouse,	1106 Green St., Philadelphia, Pa.
	Edgar Allan, Jr.,	108 N. 7th St., Richmond, Va.
	*F. T. F. Johnson,	McGill Bldg., Washington, D. C.
	Frank P. Gentieu,	629 Geddis St., Wilmington, Del.
	Francis E. Cross,	319 9th St., S. E., Washington, D. C.
	Charles S. Davis,	48 Cedar St., Takoma Park, Md.
	Joseph F. Peeney,	420 Grant Ave., Wilmington, Del.
	Harry L. Streib,	1620 N. Broadway, Baltimore, Md.
	*Edwin C. Ireland,	518 N. Arlington Ave., Baltimore, Md.
	Everett F. Warner,	317 14th St., N. E., Washington, D. C.
	*Wm. A. Keefauver,	P. O. Box 474, Hagerstown, Md.
	George Duffy,	119 W. 19th St., Wilmington, Del.
	Charles M. Overacker,	29 Sycamore Ave., Tacoma Park, Md.
	Edward H. Grove,	108 13th St., N. E., Washington, D. C.
	J. Clinton Hiatt,	1323 Harvard St., N. W., Wash., D. C.
	O. A. C. Oehmler,	1323 G St., N. W., Washington, D. C.
	Frank A. DeGroot,	121 13th St., N. E., Wash., D. C.
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	Robert C. Smith,	
	John B. Ripley,	Burlington, Vt.
	C. E. Bliss,	Windsor, Vt.
	Herbert S. Thompson,	East Calais, Vt.
	Fred E. Terrill,	Windsor, Vt.
	Chas. G. McGaffey,	25 So. Union St., Burlington, Vt.
	Harry S. Howard,	Burlington, Vt.
	Roy J. Brown,	Burlington, Vt.
	George T. Brigham,	Brandon, Vt.
	Arthur H. Robinson,	Barre, Vt.
	R. B. Gleason,	Barre, Vt.
	John P. Hoadley,	Manchester Center, Vt.
	C. R. Davenport,	Wallingford, Vt.
	Lucius H. Gordon,	Barton, Vt.
	A. L. Ware,	Lyndonville, Vt.
	Charles G. Daniels,	Chester, Vt.
	*Israel F. Lassar,	Rutland, Vt.
	*Carl C. Rollins,	Rutland, Vt.
Delegates,	A. C. Archer,	Barre, Vt.
	W. A. Reed,	Springfield, Vt.
	R. L. Allen,	Chelsea, Vt.
	*Harry C. Stickney,	Barre, Vt.
	*Leon H. Bosworth,	Springfield, Vt.
		Chester, Vt.

WASHINGTON.

Com.,	S. A. Locke,	4106 South Yakima St., Tacoma, Wash.
Past Com.,	B. W. Coiner,	Bankers Trust Bldg., Tacoma, Wash.
	Wesley L. Jones,	U. S. Senate, Washington, D. C.
	Clark V. Savidge,	State House, Olympia, Wash.
	W. T. Cavanaugh,	19 Bradley Road, Tacoma, Wash.
	Charles E. Plimpton,	Box 572, R. F. D. 2, Seattle, Wash.
	Charles B. Wood,	
		229 E. San Fernando Blvd., Burbank, Cal.
	Edgar M. Swan,	Vancouver, Wash.
	Charles L. Chamberlain,	Colfax, Wash.
	Eugene Carr,	Bankers Trust Bldg., Tacoma, Wash.
	C. Randall Bubb,	
		724 Puget Sound Bank Bldg., Tacoma, Wash.
	Frank C. Shipley,	230 W. 90th St., Los Angeles, Cal.
	E. Weldon Young,	Cobb Bldg., Seattle, Wash.
	John W. Manley,	7409 S. Cedar St., Tacoma, Wash.
	M. E. Langford,	7409 So. Cedar St., Tacoma, Wash.
	Elmer H. Bartlett,	
		East 3618 22nd Ave., Spokane, Wash.
Delegates,	C. S. L. McLean,	2925 Colby Ave., Everett, Wash.
	E. S. Young,	7831 46th Ave., Seattle, Wash.
Alternates,		

WISCONSIN.

Com.,	*Henry A. Goldsmith,	1185 28th St., Milwaukee, Wis.
Past Com.,	Charles H. Hudson,	Madison, Wis.
	A. G. Braband,	Milwaukee, Wis.
	W. C. Winter,	La Crosse, Wis.
	B. S. Fox,	Plover, Wis.
	B. F. Armstrong,	Racine, Wis.

*Felix A. Kremer,
 J. E. Waldron,
 H. S. Siggelko,
 Otto F. Berner,
 E. T. Fairchild,
 Lew Wallace McComb,
 *W. R. Graves,
 J. G. Bogart,
 *Jesse T. Drake,
 *A. Huelsman,
 C. J. Brewer,
 H. C. Mock,
 C. D. Donaldson,
 Delegates, *Harry Moore,
 *R. E. Arthur,
 *Guy W. Green,

Phillips, Wis.
 Eau Claire, Wis.
 Madison, Wis.
 Antigo, Wis.
 Milwaukee, Wis.
 Stoughton, Wis.
 Prairie du Chien, Wis.
 Milwaukee, Wis.
 Antigo, Wis.
 Fond du Lac, Wis.
 Eau Claire, Wis.
 Sheboygan, Wis.
 Eau Claire, Wis.
 Milwaukee, Wis.
 Milwaukee, Wis.
 Altoona, Wis.

CONFERENCE OF DIVISION OFFICERS

Held in conjunction with Forty-fourth Annual Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Grand Rapids, Michigan, Monday, August 31, 1925, 10 o'clock a. m.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Before we proceed further with this conference, I would like to know who is here. I will call the roll of Divisions, and those present please respond:

(The roll was called and the following responded:)

Connecticut: Charles F. Sarles.

Indiana:

Past Commander-in-Chief McGuire.

Past Division Commander T. Warren Allen.

Delegate Rufus O'Hare.

Delegate A. W. Wallace.

Iowa: Delegate W. H. Ebersole.

Maine:

Past Division Commander Waldo H. Perry.

Past Division Commander William W. Jewett.

Division Commander Albert DeHaven.

Delegate John Flye.

Massachusetts:

Past Division Commander Fred E. Upham.

Division Secretary W. L. Anderson.

Division Commander Henry F. Weiler.

Delegate John Bartlett.

Michigan:

Past Division Commander Charles C. Cowdin.

Past Division Commander Frederick J. McMurtrie.

Division Commander Roy T. Kaywood.

Division Secretary Glenn F. Wigent.

Missouri:

Delegate A. R. Wilson.

Delegate C. G. Closson.

Past Division Commander William C. Schneider.

Junior Vice Division Commander H. H. Crittenden.

New Hampshire:

Past Division Commander Evarts W. Messer.

Division Commander Daniel W. Cole.

New York:

Division Commander Walter S. Beilby.

Jesse E. Light, Syracuse, N. Y.

Ohio: Division Commander Jacob Geib.

Pennsylvania:

Division Commander Frederic A. Godcharles.
 Delegate John A. Hamilton.
 Past Division Commander Robert E. Hopkins.

Rhode Island:

Past Division Commander Charles P. Hall.
 Past Division Commander Robert L. Ward.

Vermont: Past Division Commander Carl C. Rollins.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: For your information, just a few announcements. They have two times here, as you have observed, fast and slow. It is now nine minutes past eleven by the fast or city or daylight saving time. Slow time is called the standard time, or central time or railroad time. Apparently the hotels all accept the slow time, but the meetings will all be held on the fast time in order not to conflict with the city arrangements. If we do not do that we will be in conflict with the city arrangements. I am making the announcement of this in order that you may be informed and tell others with whom you may come in contact.

I called this meeting, a sort of a round table conference of the sitting and Past Division Commanders and Commanders-in-Chief (in fact, for the attendance of any one who has an interest in the work of the order) following the custom of the past few years on the one hand, and also because, as the days have gone by in the last year, I have become more and more convinced of the great desirability of what I term round table conference. It is the only way, in my judgment, whereby we can have any constructive action. In the heat and passion of the Encampments it is all hurrah, and we all enjoy them, but the plans are laid in a more quiet atmosphere, to say the least.

It is hoped by this meeting, which is entirely informal, to have an exchange of views, an exchange of thought on the matters which concern us all.

In the course of this Encampment I may express many ideas that may be in conflict with some others, but I want you all to know that I recognize one thing, and that is that we have a varied membership, extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and composed of men of various ideas. It is really this condition which is responsible for what we now call "home rule." Our Constitution has been almost emasculated to give the respective Camps the right to cut loose, as it were, and to give them the power to run their Camps the way they felt they would accomplish most. I do not know whether it has been wholly successful or not, because I find some of the smaller Camps are timid and want to see some guiding rule written down in black and white, and when it is not so written they seem to be lost.

I think it would be well, possibly, to have some sort of a manual, not a hard and fast rule, but a manual for the guidance of those Camps that wish it. They can follow if they see it written.

It was called to my attention last night that in the re-writing of the ritual something had been omitted from the general instructions concerning method of electing members. One Camp wanted to know how many black balls rejected. In this Camp

the question came up and they decided for themselves that three would reject, just as formerly provided in the Ritual. But they didn't like the idea of deciding for themselves; they wanted to see it written down in black and white. We have been trying to put forth the idea of letting each group govern themselves. Apparently, however, some of them do not like to govern themselves.

Although we may express ideas, and I may express ideas you do not like and with which you do not agree, I want you to know that I recognize the other man's viewpoint. I may have ideas based too much on a conception of what our obligation and duty is. I do not think the Order has ever lived up to its opportunity. But I may want to see it do too much.

It is my intention to give every one here a chance to say something.

I had suggested that we have a conference of Division Secretaries at this same place and time. The conclusion has been brought home very strongly to me that the successful Divisions are those which have permanent headquarters, a permanent Secretary-Treasurer; a paid officer, if you wish it; a permanent officer that feels a certain responsibility.

In this last year, as my report tomorrow will show you, we installed about 30 new Camps, and took in about 5000 new members; during the same time, however, we dropped 43 Camps, and also dropped 6200 members. The year therefore closes with a net loss of 1200 members.

That does not, of course, give me any especial concern. It happens to be one of the off years. If you look at the list itself and the towns, you will see that it follows a certain tendency. It may have been a reaction to some of my open letters; at any rate some Divisions have seen fit to "clean house" or "cut out the dead wood," and apparently have dropped quite a number of Camps.

It may be interesting to you to know that I made a survey. I started out to get a list of the sitting Camp Commanders, the new Camp Commanders. I wanted to know who the Commanders were, and I wanted to know if any of them had not reported in as they should, and I found that up to February 20th, twenty days after the reports should have been in, the tabulation of the reports that I got showed speaking in even figures, thirty-one per cent of the Camps in our Order were delinquent, either for per capita tax, or reports, or both.

Now, there is the trouble. If the delinquent is gotten after by the Camp Secretary-Treasurer before he has accumulated such a piled up indebtedness, he won't drop out.

The same is true with reference to Camps in the Division, if the Division keeps after them. And I am sorry to have to suggest to the Division Officers that it is their duty to go after them.

I have not been able personally to interest every section, but I tried to give as cordial a note to my letters as possible. One can at least do that.

One of the troubles seems to have been that the officers

either could not, or would not, do the things which would save the Camp.

Then too, we have organized Camps and Divisions with far too few members to justify any hope of them ever succeeding, and then we have gone off and left them. We get a new bunch together and install them, and say to them, "Here are your instructions; go to it!" and then leave them in bewilderment; and that is the beginning of the end, right there.

Let us take a cross section, and what will the report of the National Secretary show? It will show that the last twenty years we have instituted 1677 new Camps. Throughout that same period we have dropped 1448 Camps. During that period we have taken in a total of 179,636 new members, but we have dropped 156,525. The outgo has been almost equal to the income. Why is it?

These are some of the reasons that appear to me. We do nothing to hold the interest of members after we once get them in, particularly so with the new Camps. We turn them loose and expect them to go to it themselves, and they simply do not do it.

Take our experience of ten or fifteen years ago when we had handed to us, oh, 3, 4, or 5 new Divisions in one year, which the next year's reports show we dropped. Take a Division of only ten Camps, each Camp with a minimum of fifteen members, that is a total of 150 members. With the average amount of income from the per capita tax from such a membership is it possible for such a Division to run. Take a Division especially out here in the great open spaces, where it may take a day to get from one Camp to another and sometimes several days, how could an Inspector on the few cents he would have from the few members do any traveling unless he has a private income of his own; or even do very much correspondence unless he pays it out of his own pocket? What can we expect under such conditions?

They have written to me. I had one Division Commander write me that he had a Camp 350 miles away which he wanted to visit, and that he had only \$50.00 in the treasury and he wanted to know how he could do it under these conditions.

These are just a few casual figures.

By and large a Division which succeeds is a Division which has a permanent Secretary. So I am going to combine this meeting and ask Brother Upham to talk to us. He continued this year in general organization work and he has a paper which he tells me won't occupy more than fifteen minutes, "Looking Backward."

Then we have with us Brother Weiler, who for fifteen years has been Division Secretary, I think my figures are right, of the great Division of Massachusetts, a Division which has made the greatest percentage of gains at least in the past ten years of any Division, which shows a wonderful spirit and capacity for management. He has been honored this year with the office of Division Commander, so in his dual capacity he is in a position to give us a worth while discussion from both angles, from the standpoint of the state of the Order and from the intimate relations of the Division Secretary, and what can be done as a per-

manent Secretary. I have been in Boston, and I know Weiler, and he not only knows his own Division but he knows the National, and you ask him anything about the National and he can tell you.

(Past Division Commander Fred E. Upham, of Massachusetts, then read to the Encampment the following paper:)

"LOOKING BACKWARD" AND "WHAT'S RIGHT WITH THE SONS OF VETERANS."

Recently an international daily newspaper published a series of articles on the subject "What's Right with the Movies." The particular interesting feature of these articles was the fact that there was no mention of what is wrong with the movies. The wrong, however, appeared in the strong contrast with the right.

In the past three years in my work on the National Organization Committee, I have listened to hundreds and I might say thousands of statements as to what is wrong with the Sons of Veterans.

I have been so thoroughly saturated with this picture of wrong that I almost began to think that nothing could be right with the Sons of Veterans.

It is sometimes said that a great deal of inspiration comes from dreams. The mind in it's sub-conscious state often finds out things that in our wakeful moments are crowded out by the pressure of everyday life.

One evening recently while resting on my porch, overlooking the wide expanse of ocean, my thoughts ran over the details of some of the efforts of the past few years in building up our organization.

I was particularly impressed with the splendid ideas recently advanced by Division Commander Weiler of Massachusetts in his efforts to build "Bigger and better Camps."

Then the thought followed "What's right with our organization." I probably fell asleep as I soon found myself reviewing our organization in the year 1950.

I pictured an ideal organization of great good to our Nation. I drifted back through the years to see what had made the great change, so you see that my subject "Looking Backward" is not out of place.

Perhaps as I go on you will say it was certainly some dream, but let me say here that many a dream comes true and this one can become a reality if we adopt the methods outlined.

In the year 1950 I find we had a splendid organization of sons and grandsons of over a million members. Naturally I wondered how this had been accomplished.

THE AWAKENING.

I found that in the years 1925 to 27 a great awakening took place. The exceedingly rapid passing of the Veterans of 61-65 brought to the minds of the Sons of Veterans the necessity of taking a more active part in the work of their fathers.

A gain of a thousand or two members a year meant nothing. Our fathers fought to save the Union, then they had a harder fight to build up a Nation of high ideals.

The Sons of Veterans at this time realized that something worth while must be done. The so-called "Red" element all over the world was extremely active. Disregard for law and order was near the breaking point. Gunmen seemed in the height of popularity and difficult to control.

The Sons of Veterans took a stand and said "We can and we will take up the necessary work for which our fathers stood."

TAKING ACCOUNT OF STOCK.

An account of stock showed the following: A Commandery, 24 Divisions and about 1000 Camps. 50,000 members and 4,000,000 eligibles. 80% of the membership non-attendants at meetings, partly because of lack of anything other than patriotism to interest them. 25,000 members dropped in less than 10 years and a few more than that number added. A lack of close co-operation of Divisions and Camps.

ASSETS.

50% or more members that for life would continue to pay their annual dues promptly but would not do active work. 10% or more earnest active workers that would do anything required.

LIABILITIES.

Our part in keeping the faith with our fathers, revering their memory, but most of all maintaining their ideals. Our part as an organization in keeping this Nation the best in the world with liberty and justice in the foreground.

STUDY OF OUR PROBLEMS.

A real study of our problems was taken up. We seemed to lack an incentive to keep our present membership working and to interest new members. Comparison with older and stronger orders was made.

It is a fact that some men will work for money, some will work to get into the limelight and others will work without reward, they are built that way, but all men expect and are entitled to credit for what they do.

A study of a much older order revealed the fact that its members started with simple degrees. Then they worked up, passing through many branches until they reached the top. This was the incentive needed in our organization. Something that required real work and something that a member would take pride in and work for an advance.

My mind then went back to 1924 when one of the Divisions tried out the scheme of appointing District Commanders and I followed the results. The first year or two their work was little different from that of the District Aides.

I learned, however, that the getting together of Division and District Commanders brought out many new ideas. In looking for an incentive, and more activity, the fact was brought out

that there would be only one Division Commander a year and so there was a lack of interest in Camps to work up.

The office of District Commander was made a real office. The Division was divided into districts and each district had its own District Commander. It became almost as much of an honor to be a District Commander as a Division Commander.

Each District Commander had an elected suite of officers, holding the same relative positions as the Division officers. This gave the necessary incentive and opportunity for Camp officers to advance.

The Division officers held a certain number of meetings at headquarters during the year for instruction of District officers. At these schools of instruction Camp officers were shown how to open, run and close their meetings. The model Camp meetings were the ones where only thirty minutes were required to take care of ordinary business.

Entertainment followed the business meeting and was enjoyed by the allied orders and friends. Local speakers addressed these gatherings on live subjects. Local entertainment including a feed, provided pleasant evenings. Lincoln night, Veterans' night and many special nights were made features of interest.

Great results were obtained by uniformity of methods and by the close co-operation of Division and District officers.

The help of "the girls" of the Auxiliaries was of untold value. They planned the suppers and entertainments and "the boys" paid the bill. Outings, socials, fairs, etc., increased the interest and added to the treasury. Such was the beginning of the Awakening.

The District Commanders and their Suites visited each Camp in their District and instructed Camp officers in the ritual and the performance of floor work. Camp members turned out on such nights the same as in other organizations. Class initiations were often held on nights of visitations.

It meant something to be a Camp officer. There was an opportunity to advance to the staff of a Division Commander and perhaps higher up. The day when Past Division Officers could go into a neighboring Camp meeting and sit throughout the meeting without recognition had passed.

As in the army and elsewhere respect must be shown superior officers, so in our organization. The question often asked "What does your organization offer" has been answered. We had made a secure place in the patriotic field.

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN DIVISION AND DISTRICT OFFICERS.

Divisions used entertainment to bring together Camp membership. Outings were held in the summer and social affairs in the winter. Real workers were put on the Division committees. Detailed reports of these committees were on file at headquarters for use of Camps, as information to run similar affairs.

The chairman of the various Division committees was always ready to help Camps in their work. The results of this co-operation can hardly be estimated. All of the foregoing added to the increase of membership, but another factor had a prominent place in the remarkable increase.

A HUNDRED THOUSAND GAIN IN ONE YEAR.

For many years the cosmopolitan nature of our membership has failed, to a certain extent, to appeal to a certain class of eligibles because up to this time we had not done things in a big way. At this time a uniform appeal was made by Divisions and Camps to professional and business men. This appeal was as follows:

The welfare of this Nation can be best preserved and advanced by those who are most patriotic. You are the son of a veteran of 61-65 who offered his life in the defense of his Country, having fought successfully for this Nation, these veterans have zealously maintained their ideals to the end. Today certain influences would destroy all that your father stood for. These veterans are fast passing, and the organization of their choice, to carry on, is known as the Sons of Veterans.

We want each Veteran to be represented by a son or grandson. Will you represent your father or grandfather by enrolling in our organization and helping it at least to the extent of paying promptly the annual dues. (State the amount). Your attendance at our meetings and participation in the same is greatly desired and will be greatly appreciated, but if you are unable to take an active part you can at least be a contributing member to the extent of annual dues.

We hand you a pamphlet entitled "Objects and Principles of the Sons of Veterans" and an application which we sincerely hope you will fill out.

OBTAINING RESULTS.

A small committee of each Camp approached these professional and business men and secured their applications almost to a man. This method of appeal, the first year, reached 100,000 men whose interest have never been secured before. The morale of our organization was rapidly changed and we became a strong factor for good in the Government of this Nation.

WHAT'S RIGHT WITH THE SONS OF VETERANS.

We are organized for the purpose of preserving the memory of the Veterans of 61-65; to maintain their ideals; to offer further sacrifices to our Country in case of need; to teach patriotism; to promote all forms of good Government; to preserve law and order and to demand respect for the flag of the United States of America.

The inspiration of our fathers to offer their lives and services to their Country leads us to be ever ready for a similar duty and to show our patriotism. Membership in a patriotic organization like ours, brings out in us a kindlier feeling for all humanity.

In our years of service for the Grand Army of the Republic we have learned to become more thoughtful of all men. Certainly this Nation could have no better asset than a million members of sons and grandsons of Veterans who live up to their obligation.

IN CONCLUSION.

With the activity gained in securing the first 100,000 members it was an easy matter to reach the million mark. While

this paper has been written with rambling thoughts from the realm of dreams, it has all the possibilities of reality and we need only a few earnest workers in each Camp to make it a reality. Let's get together and make this a reality.

Junior Division Vice Commander H. H. Crittenden, of Missouri: I want to offer a motion to thank our brother for that splendid paper. I know how much trouble we have in the middle west with our chapters, and if it is in order, I move that his splendid dreams, as you may call it, be printed and sent to each Division Commander and by them sent broadcast.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: It will be a part of the proceedings of this meeting, and the balance of the motion the Chair will be very glad to entertain if there is a second.

Past Division Commander William C. Schneider, of Missouri: I second the motion.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: All those in favor of the motion please rise. Those opposed rise. It is a unanimous vote.

Brother Upham, this vote is registered in approval of your efforts in the past. We do progress as we emphasize aggressiveness. I want to thank you for that phrase "what is right with the Order" instead of what is wrong with it.

Division Commander Frederic A. Godcharles, of Pennsylvania: I think that is the trouble with our Order; too many look on the dark side. I have had in the last couple of years an experience that is unique in trying to put across a matter by correspondence, and I have over thirty-nine hundred answered letters at this moment. Ninety-five per cent of these letters are from people who want to join a hereditary organization, or else in some way a connecting link that provides for the coming members of the Daughters of the Revolution or the Loyal Legion. Now if that be true, and this dream of Brother Upham is very inspiring to me, and I find it is true, it is going to be true with the Sons of Veterans; we are going to fill up the membership of this organization as fast as the old veteran passes away. And what we ought to do is to take up this slogan Brother Upham has given us today and show the present organizations and the eligibles to this organization, the advantages that are theirs by being born eligible to this organization. There is not any dark side to this picture. It is our own fault the condition we are in, and if we will stop to look at that side, we will get where we should be. Let us look at the doughnut instead of at the hole.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: We are very glad indeed to have the remarks of Brother Godcharles.

Now I am going to ask Brother Weiler to entertain us a little while. He cautioned me that what he might have to say would be a little dry, but if it is, I am sure there will be a little wit connected with it. He is going to talk to us about his fifteen years as Division Secretary, and he is "yours for a bigger and better Division."

Division Commander Henry F. Weiler, of Massachusetts: Of course we are all working in different circles, and we get to those points where the circles overlap, and we get inspiration from each other, and I feel that you will find any paper on the

subject of the duties of a Secretary dull by way of a subject unless you are one of those things. I have found it an extremely interesting work, an arduous duty, but if you play this game, a game that you do not want to get licked at, you can get some fun out of it. That is what I do. I believe that is the Division Secretaryship, it is a game. There is no money in it. There is only a very little fun in it, but there is an awful lot of hard work, but I play it as a game as many of you play in your business as a game, and you do not want to get licked at that game; so I play that way and I try to win, and I have had my disappointments, our Division of Massachusetts has twice fallen, and there are so many that I could not name them all. You have to find out from your own sources what they are. I won't tell you.

I always try to talk on the bright side of a picture. The Commander-in-Chief made a statement that amazed me when he stated the number of Camps that were in arrears four years for reports. That is the thing that I do not understand. I didn't know that it ever happened. How did it happen? If one of my Camps got two quarters behind I would sit up all night to find out about it. There are two Camps that were late in getting in their June report, but when I get home they will be in before September 30th, or we will know why. I do not understand why they cannot send those reports. I have sent them postage to do it, and I will do so.

I brought something with me that will be a little more interesting than anything that I could say, and I hope you will avail yourself of these exhibits. This talk cannot be made illustrative, but I can supply you. I have got here some sample groups of pamphlets, and these are forms that we use, and if there is any Division Secretary here I will see that he gets one of these before he leaves. These ideas may be worth nothing to you or they may be worth something. I brought enough copies to supply one to each Division, and if any Division takes more than one you can supply some other Division. I would like to make sure that one reaches the Secretary of every Division. Now I can explain these to you.

Division Junior Vice Commander H. H. Crittenden, Missouri: Now I live in Kansas, this gentleman lives in St. Louis and he has been a member for a great many years, a very active member. He can listen very carefully to what Weiler says and he can explain to the Secretary who is not here and won't be here, and so in that case it will be handled that way in our state. He lives in the same city with the Secretary and I think that this is such an important matter that it ought to be taken up at a time when Brother Weiler will have plenty of time to explain the matter fully, and it appears to me from what I have heard that no doubt he has prepared this subject in such a way that it will take some time to present it. I therefore move that this be postponed until tomorrow morning.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Unless I am greatly disappointed in what I hope to accomplish I think we will be able to hear Brother Weiler tomorrow. We will just have an informal discussion on this matter now and take up the matter in the morning before the regular delegates when there will be more present than there are at this time, especially in view of the fact that this subject should be of general interest to all.

There is one thing that stands out, of course, and that is that Massachusetts has prepared a very elaborate system to meet its needs. Of course many of us have recognized that the forms gotten out by the Commandery-in-Chief, poorly prepared and on poor paper, and all that sort of thing are not what they might be. I think somebody told Weiler if he didn't like it to go ahead and get out his own; and he did.

It may be that what he has here will not be acceptable in every Division, but he has met the situation that confronted him.

At any rate we will hear Brother Weiler tomorrow morning, and I wish that you would take it upon yourselves to see that your Division Secretary is here. Do not think because a particular form is here that you have to use that. That is not the thought. You are to get all the ideas you can and take what applies to your situation.

Division Commander Albert DeHaven, of Maine: I just want to say a word. I have looked over these forms that Brother Weiler has, and we from the state of Maine have adopted practically every one of these and we know how they work. We happen to be one Division in which we have to go 300 miles to get to a Camp at times. It will take three days to get down and back by train, and there was one thing that I noticed that we have different in the report blank of the returns of your election, Brother Weiler. You mark down there that the delegates at the last meeting in March, and I believe that national by-laws call for elections in December.

Division Commander Weiler, of Massachusetts: September.

Division Commander Albert DeHaven, of Maine: Based on the membership ending September 30. We had a little argument with our own Secretary, who is a man just like Brother Weiler in regard to that, and we waited until March so that we could get brothers that we knew would go to the Division Encampment, and I would like to adopt that in the national meeting. I think it is stretching our by-laws maybe somewhat, but I think it is a good thing to stretch them some for the benefit of the Order; and if it will be all right next year, I am going to try to stretch because I think we can get better delegates by that method.

Division Commander Weiler, of Massachusetts: Brother DeHaven accused us of violating the law as we did. We used to elect officers in December, but the Commandery-in-Chief in changing the Constitution includes that particular thing that it should be based on the number on September 30, and rather than give strict adherence we are still using this form.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Our Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief is with us and we would like to hear a word from Brother Hall.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Hall: I had no thought of speaking at this time. I have had some knowledge of the forms which Brother Weiler has so effectively used in Massachusetts, but the thing that has been in my mind this morning has been not so much the routine work, as valuable as that is, but the things Brother Upham started me to thinking about. I think the dark side of the picture must be looked at, but it must not be dwelt upon. There is no use of our playing the ostrich

and sticking our heads in the sand and saying there is not anything wrong, or there is not any dark side, just because we won't see it.

On the other hand, I think the things that are not just right, perhaps the best way to put it, are not right simply because you and I, and the boys back home perhaps a little more than you and I, are not doing all the things we could do, not giving all of ourselves in an effort to realize the ideals of our fathers.

I think the greatest lesson that we can possibly receive from a study of the activities of the men who volunteered their lives in defense of this country in '61 will come from a thorough appreciation of the fact that their greatest service to the country was not rendered on the battlefields, nor during the war, but to the country since the war in making the rank and file of its citizenship realize the ideals that possessed their souls. (Applause).

I do not think there is any way of getting away from it. They might very well have done this, fought in battles and come home and laid down on their laurels and said, now folks we have done our part, it is up to you.

They did not do it. They fought the battles. They endured hardship. And they came back and pulled themselves together, and put into actual practice their ideals, and they have kept the sentiment of it through all these years. It is not simply old memories that bring some of these old men here during this week. It is not even the fraternity of suffering with their fellows that brings them here. It is not the chance of renewing old acquaintances, but it is the chance to express the ideals that made them the boys of '61 to '65, and from that day to this. The men who have been willing to defend the flag since '61 to '65, after having gone through that service, are men of ideals.

There are some who went out for the Spanish-American War—a brother sitting in front of me. There were some of us who did what we could when Uncle Sam would let us in the last war and every one of us, and the others went because of ideals.

May I be excused if I will speak personally because it is the only way that I can approach the thing as clearly as I would like. I have a son 34 years old who spent sixteen months in France, and I always thought that he was just that hard practical sort of an individual who would do a thing if there was anything in it for him, but he didn't have the ideals that his father had. There came on that Mexican squabble that didn't amount to anything but a flash in the pan, and that boy walked in to me just after dinner, or we were eating dinner and he was late, and he said "Dad, I am twenty-one, free born, and a citizen. I have just enlisted in the Rhode Island Cavalry." Now you could have knocked my feet out from under me because that was the last thing that I expected that boy to do. And he said "Why! why!" He said "I always thought your Sons of Veteran stuff was kind of a play act.. Now I know what it means."

My ideals have gotten under his skin, and he came back after six months on the border, and he went over with the first troops that were sent to France, and he stayed sixteen months,

and you know just as much today what he did and what he went through over there as I do.

And I will be hanged if I can get one word out of him in detail to find out. And he said as he took off his uniform at home "I am done. I have had all I want, and never going to put on Uncle Sam's uniform again."

He would not join the American Legion. He would not turn out on Armistice Day. But the next year he had gotten over it. He came up to the house and got his uniform, and I said "What are you going to do?" "What are you going to do?" "Well, he says, "Dad, you got me kind of mad and ashamed on last Armistice Day, and I am going to join you this day."

The ideals have gotten back into the proper ranks after the hardship and the horror that he had witnessed over there; he had gotten back to the true adjustment, he had recovered, not the sentimental, but the ideal.

That is the thing we must live for, and perhaps some of us will have to die for it as our fathers did die and suffer, not for the institution, not for the practical thing, but for the ideals the practical institution stands for before all the world. You and I have got to be that thing. The things that I am saying to you are for the purpose of reminding you that this precious inheritance which came down to us from our fathers is the thing that we must put into our own Order and keep in touch with and develop constantly or we will die; without the ideal and sentiment there will never be a probative Sons of Veterans Organization. (Applause).

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: For a number of weeks prior to coming to Grand Rapids I thought of this matter and the more I thought of what we could do here, the more I became convinced that one of the things we could do, that one of the things that is wrong with the Sons of Veterans is the passive attitude towards our organization by the Grand Army of the Republic. That is plain talk.

I have been down and had a talk with the man that is the Commander-in-Chief; a man that they say is to be the next Commander-in-Chief; and two Past Commanders-in-Chief. I believe we have reached the time, and I believe Grand Rapids ought to be the place, and we ought not to leave Grand Rapids until we know in such plain language that we understand, pertinent expression,—and I say it without any thought of saying anything about any other organization, but that we will know and the Spanish-American War Veterans will know, and the American Legion will know just exactly what the Grand Army of the Republic think and desire of the Order of the Sons of Veterans. (Applause).

I said to these men "I know what you think of the Order of Sons of Veterans, but one of the things that is preventing the Order of Sons of Veterans going today is that fact that men not understanding their aims and purposes scoff at them because they are not given proper recognition. The Grand Army ought to say what they think, and what they want, and they ought to say it in such plain language that it will not be misunderstood by anyone."

I tell you brothers, if we can accomplish that at Grand Rapids, we will have accomplished something. I wrote a letter to the Commander-in-Chief, and I sent it to our Commander-in-Chief; so he knows what I said. I said to this man that I would not dare write that letter to anyone that I did not know as well as I did him. There is a real close touch between the Commander-in-Chief and myself; he is a neighbor of mine. He said to me "If necessary, I will turn the gavel over to the Vice Commander-in-Chief, and I will take the floor of the Encampment at Grand Rapids that they may know what I think."

I touched upon three things especially in the letter to the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, as to what the desires of the Grand Army of the Republic were as to the Order of Sons of Veterans; did they want to go down with the principles they have stood for; what was their desires as to Memorial Day; and then the question of name. Did the Grand Army of the Republic desire, or did they have any objection to our assuming the name or changing the name to Sons of the Grand Army of the Republic?

I called their attention to the fact as I did on one other occasion at Boston a year ago about whether they care to have us use the name Sons of the Grand Army of the Republic, and it is only when I became convinced, and I have some reason to be convinced that the time will come that there will be another organization which will adopt the name Sons of the Grand Army of the Republic whether they want it or not. Now I don't know whether you are favorable to the name Sons of the Grand Army of the Republic or not. I am unless there may be a condition which is behind it which will make it undesirable to the Grand Army of the Republic. You know there is an organization called the Daughters of the Grand Army of the Republic that has been in existence for a number of years and they have never recognized them. Do they want that to be perpetuated through a male organization that will be called the Grand Army of the Republic? What is in the name Grand Army of the Republic? Sentiment; yes, a sentiment that has stood for more than sixty years.

I mention this because I know each one of you come in touch with the Grand Army of the Republic. I believe in the rank and file of the Grand Army of the Republic there is the warmest feeling towards our organization.

I said to this Commander-in-Chief in my letter, outside of the words that have been handed to us by his predecessor back there, outside of the resolution at Rochester fourteen years ago when they said that we should be their official escort, and the action at Milwaukee two years ago when it opened the door making it optional with the Posts as to whether or not they desired the Sons of Veterans in line, we had had nothing and I called his attention to this fact, that just as long as they saw fit to disregard the action of the National body pertaining to the Sons of Veterans acting as an escort we were at a disadvantage.

I organized a Camp of Sons of Veterans in a little town of seventy-five members, a Camp that I know was always true to the Grand Army of the Republic. What happened? Just as soon as the American Legion came into existence, the first Memorial Day following the institution of the American Legion in that

town, because one of the leaders of the Grand Army of the Republic in that particular Post had a son who went to the World War by staying in America, the Sons of Veterans was relegated to the rear.

They had forgotten in a day almost all that had been done for them in the years before by that Camp of the Sons of Veterans. That Camp lacked but one thing—a fighting spirit; and the Camp is dead today because of the attitude of that Post of the Grand Army of the Republic.

And when I cite you that illustration I am not giving you an isolated case by any means. One of the things that we need is to know just where we stand with reference to the organization of our fathers. Talk plain to them, boys. I have talked plain to several of them. It won't hurt them. I have hoped that the coming to Grand Rapids this time might result in our knowing just where we are at. If they want us to lead them, say so in words that cannot be misunderstood. If they do not want us, the sooner we know it the better it is for our organization.

I am saying this to you, brothers, now because there is work to be done; and there is work that can be done by every member of our organization, especially those who may be in close touch with the leaders of the Grand Army of the Republic.

I believe that it would be the best thing that could happen for our organization to clear the atmosphere with reference to the attitude of the order of our fathers toward ourselves.

I have just as much admiration for the Spanish-American War Veterans and the American Legion as any man in America, but I cannot see the Grand Army of the Republic and their ideals going down through the years to come through either of those organizations. Why? The most natural thing in the world. We may not see it so much in the North, but let us not forget that among those who fought for Old Glory in the Spanish-American War, many of those who were across the seas in the World War, were many of the sons and grandsons of the men who wore the grey. The Grand Army of the Republic did not accept, and have no right to accept, and in all sincerity I do not believe they do accept or expect their ideals or their name to be carried on through the ages by either of those organizations.

It is a difficult task, and you must remember the age of those dear old men. If you will pardon this personal illustration in order to bring that home: At Des Moines I had a plain talk with the then Commander-in-Chief, Doctor Pilcher. I put some of this to him and he listened to me, as they are always ready to listen, and he said "Young man, you are referring to an organization of aged men. You have no right to expect a constructive thought to come from that organization."

I looked at him and I said "Commander, as much as I would like to, I cannot disagree with you in what you have said, but you will let me say that if they cannot expect constructive thought to come from the Grand Army of the Republic, they should not then object to constructive thought perhaps coming from us to them."

And that is the problem we are facing today. Let us give

them a constructive thought that will mean more for the continuance and for the perpetuation of the Grand Army of the Republic and those dear old men.

One of their Past Commanders-in-Chief is a dear friend of mine. "Why," he says, "there are young men in the Sons of Veterans that will be able to carry on the Grand Army of the Republic for years to come."

If ever I had a pain go through my heart, it was in the month of June when I went before one of the strongest departments of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Department of Pennsylvania; and what did I have before me—a mere handful of men. And I never realized as I realized that day just what has happened to that splendid organization. You cannot realize it unless you come in actual contact with them in the department. You do not realize it as you meet them on the street. Three years ago I went before them, five hundred in the room. In June, about one hundred and fifty old men. I had to shout to make most of them hear, and I gave them a message that I have been asked to repeat, and that is another message that I want to bring home to the Sons of Veterans.

They have a battle on their hands this day that they may get that which a grateful nation ought to be willing to give them without any particular efforts on their part. I refer to their pension. I would like to think what the Grand Army of the Republic received from this nation in the past was due to a grateful spirit that existed, a service they performed for this nation, but I am a little bit too practical to believe that entirely.

The Grand Army of the Republic, again to speak plain, received their favorable enactments in congress, when? When they were a power themselves in numbers; and today when the politicians can think that they represent only an organization of sixty-five thousand, they do not believe they have longer to think of them. At one time they had a membership of four hundred and nine thousand, nine hundred and four, and they were a power in political affairs in our nation whether they were ever in politics or not.

Let me give you this thought; don't you know there is in the Grand Army of the Republic and in the organizations directly affiliated with them in this nation, since the women have a vote, united organizations with a strength today of seventy-five thousand more than the Grand Army of the Republic had in their maximum strength, and it seems to me if we could get it under the hide of those men that they are dealing with the Grand Army of the Republic, not consisting of sixty-five thousand members today, but with a family of more than four hundred and seventy-five thousand members, there might be a different story as pertains to that, and some of them are badly in need of the increased pension today.

There is nothing the matter with the Sons of Veterans, brothers. The only matter, if there is anything, is within the organization of the Sons of Veterans; within the organization of the Sons of Veterans and its policy.

I believe we can make this a great Order if we want to. Sincerely, after we leave the Commandery-in-Chief Encampments and our Division Encampments, that is where the trouble

is; we forget all that we have heard. We forget our good resolves.

I don't care how you take this thing. If a man wants to get to a certain point and in order to get there he must go two squares out of his way, it don't make any difference if he gets there. It seems to me that the initial thing is to get there. And I am sure that our good friend Brother Upham would not care a rap whether we use his methods or not. Down in his heart and in the heart of all of us is a desire to get there. I am convinced that we have reached the time in our history when we ought to know some things, and I hope that I won't leave Grand Rapids in three or four days from now without knowing just where we stand, and how the Grand Army of the Republic stands towards our organization; and you can all help bring that about. (Applause).

Division Junior Vice Commander H. H. Crittenden, of Missouri: While I have been on my feet too much in this meeting, yet if you will pardon me, I desire to say a word or two. I did not join the Order early for this reason, that I did not want it said that I was trying to attract attention to myself for something that my father did. My father commanded a regiment in frequent battles out in the western part of Missouri, but he never said a word to us, to his three sons concerning his activity.

And by the way, one of my brothers lives in Pittsburgh, and I want my brether who has just spoken to go after him and get him to join the Order. He can very easily locate him. He is married in a very prominent Pittsburgh family.

But what I intended to say is this, when I attended our meeting down at Joplin they assigned the Sons of Veterans to the tail end of the parade. I suppose if there had been a colored regiment we would have been back of them—I don't know. You know of course that to attract attention or to give ourselves some prominence in the country we have to be in a position where we can command the respect of those who are with us and see us and those around us.

I wrote to our Division Commander, and I am sorry that he is not here, and by reason of our Senior Vice Commander not being here, I am the Junior Vice, and naturally I suppose the duties fall on me,—I wrote to him and I asked him to write the national organization and ask them what position the Sons of Veterans was to take in the parade, and I said that I naturally thought as the Veterans passed away, the Sons would be next in line, would come to their support, their help, if they needed help. Well, I didn't get any answer from him. A day or two before I left Kansas City I received a letter, and he said you better take it up by resolution with the Veterans, but he said it was too late to have any place in the present parade, but that it would have some effect in the next.

I came down on the train with Judge Burton, one of the Past Commanders-in-Chief, and he says "Crittenden, there is an understanding with the Sons of Veterans that if there was an escort of one hundred they would go in front of the Veterans, but if there are more than that, you cannot; you cannot handle more than one hundred in uniform, five hundred would be too

large a number and it would not be proper." I make that point, it may be small, still at the same time it would indicate where the Sons of Veterans stand with the Veterans.

I have taken a great deal of interest in this, I am sorry that I did not before, but just that one point that I did not want them to think that I was undertaking to get credit for something that my father did, held me back. And in the last year I got a memorial through congress recognizing a battle in our own state.

As our brother has just said, I think the Grand Army of the Republic can recognize us in a more emphatic way than they have in the past, and it is up to us to see that it is done; or at least to know where we stand. (Applause).

Past Commander-in-Chief McGuire: I cannot resist making a few remarks at this time after Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter has made the remarks he has.

When Commander-in-Chief Frank Martin of Indiana was in office, I was his Adjutant General, as it was called then—National Secretary, and I remember distinctly Colonel William H. Armstrong who had been twelve years chairman of the Council of Administration of the Grand Army of the Republic. He had sat in these Encampments and heard the resolutions passed endorsing the Sons of Veterans, and he said to me, "Will you in your position as Adjutant General get together from the different proceedings all the good things that the Past Commanders-in-Chief of the Grand Army have said about the Sons of Veterans, and some of the principal Division or Department Commanders who have said good things about the Order, compile them in a book and have them printed, if you can, at the expense of the Sons of Veterans."

This work I did. I don't know whether any of you now remember of the book. It was entitled "We Judge from Our Fathers What Manner of Men We Ought to Be." He says "I am going to take that book, and as Chairman of the Council of Administration, I am going to present it to our Committee, to the Encampment which meets in Rochester, and I am going to get them to put themselves on record and endorse the Sons of Veterans in a substantial way or make them eat what they have said."

Well, he got the book, went before the Committee, and presented the matter, and what he got out of it is just what Brother Sautter has said. He got an endorsement of the Sons of Veterans as official escort of the Grand Army of the Republic. He said "I am going to make that of record and have it printed in the proceedings." But it never came out, but we got the endorsement as official escort.

Now our Division, ten years after that, was to assume its position as official escort at the State Encampment, and how did we receive it? At our Encampment at Bloomington, while we were in session, the Grand Marshal of the parade, a Spanish-American War Veteran, appeared all out of breath and he says "I am having all kinds of trouble. I cannot get it fixed up with the Commander-in-Chief. He said "You were to be at the head of the parade as official escort and I have proceeded that way, and now they are directing me to put you in the rear of the

Grand Army of the Republic, and the Spanish-American War Veterans refuse to march behind a body that did not serve, but if they want to be up in front of the Grand Army of the Republic, as an escort, it is all right with us."

A committee of three, Shellhouse, Shumaker and I, went to the committee and went to the Commander of the Division of the Department of Indiana and got a written order from him, signed by his Adjutant, under seal, to the Marshal of the Day. We had some Past Commanders-in-Chief of the Grand Army who were exerting their influence and I remember very distinctly a number of them sat in a carriage and watched the situation as we swung into line, and they pushed their carriage ahead of us, so that they would be ahead of us.

So that is the situation that we have been confronted with for many years.

Getting back to the subject that we are discussing, I too do not believe there is anything really bad about the Sons of Veterans, as conditions are today. Why, the Grand Army of the Republic never reached the zenith of power until 1890. I joined the organization in 1887 and I thought I would rush in to save the Grand Army of the Republic, but I found that they were just beginning to grow and they were just beginning to thrive, and now we find that it was thirty years before they got to the zenith of their power.

Someone has said at the beginning of the American Legion that it would take them five years to get a definite established policy. Why, it will take them twenty-five or thirty years just the same as it has in the past, and I will tell you right now that the conditions that have been shown by the Commander-in-Chief in his communications through The Banner, have certainly shown to us some conditions that are boring within every organization in every governmental function, in every fraternity and church and everywhere. There will be more demand for our organization in the years to come than there ever has been in the past, and I want to say to Brother Upham, if you will just put in the last of that splendid paper you just read that the Sons of Veterans have a little more backbone and proceed to the development of the work that is before it, we will get along all right. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Before we go any further it would be well for us to determine whether or not we will try to finish this meeting while we are here or adjourn and return after lunch. It is now ten minutes past twelve, slow time, and ten minutes past one, fast time. If we continue, I think we ought to limit the talks to about two minutes.

Voices: Let's get through.

Delegate John Bartlett, of Massachusetts: I wish just to make a few remarks. I am a member of the Society of Massachusetts. We have the Sons of Veterans. I am also a member of the Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, a chapter that meets in Washington the same as the chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution. There has been a remark made about the Daughters of the Grand Army of the Republic. I would like to know personally what is the difference between the Daughters of the American Revolution and the

Daughters of the Grand Army of the Republic. The only difference I know is, nothing in the name, the only difference I can see is the Daughters of the Grand Army of the Republic, and the Daughters of the American Revolution, the members of the separate organizations are members, some of the war of '61, in the one organization, and the others of another war.

There is no organization which will save the nation without internal difficulty. I think some day we will have the biggest organization this world has ever known. In spite of the fact that we are the greatest government of the world as a Christian nation and the only government that it seems safe to live for, we ought to have more religion in our own Order and in our own Camp.

Past Division Commander Frederic J. McMurtrie, of Michigan: Just in answering the inquiry of the brother who has just spoken, and who is apparently not familiar with the Daughters of the G. A. R.; he has come to the fountain head for the identical information, the state of Michigan. It is the insurgent element from the Daughters of Veterans. They have been recognized, I am very sorry to say—they have been officially recognized by the Department of Michigan, G. A. R., and they take their place and get the same recognition as the Daughters of Veterans, our own sisters.

Past Division Commander Carl C. Rollins, of Vermont: I am so interested in this talk that I think it would be a whole lot better if the majority of us could come back here after dinner and spend an hour or two. Now, unless some fellow jumps up and objects, I make a motion that we adjourn to twenty minutes of three.

The motion was duly seconded, put by the Chair and declared lost.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Tomorrow morning the regular session begins at ten o'clock. At two p. m. the Encampment will again convene in session, and I would like to have everyone present promptly at that hour because I expect to have a surprise for you at the opening of the session. I might say that I hope to have the same thing at the opening of the session Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning. I think that is enough now.

Tomorrow afternoon at four p. m. is the joint memorial service. We will go from here in time to meet the girls at the Elks' Temple.

Whereupon at 12:20 p. m. the meeting adjourned.

TUESDAY MORNING SESSION

FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT, COMMANDERY-
IN-CHIEF, SONS OF VETERANS. U. S. A.

Vocational School Auditorium,
Grand Rapids, Michigan.

September 1, 1925.

The Encampment was opened in due and regular form, the Commander-in-Chief, William M. Coffin, presiding.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: The Chair has appointed as a Committee on Credentials, National Secretary Hammer, Past Division Commander D. A. Carrick, of Maryland, Brother Wilson, of California, and Brother Cogshall, of Michigan, Brother Crowley, of New Hampshire. Is the Credential Committee ready to submit a preliminary report?

National Secretary Hammer: Commander-in-Chief, it is. I move that this preliminary report be considered the first roll call of the Encampment. All national officers are present except the Patriotic Instructor, and all Divisions are represented except Oregon and Wisconsin at this time. As others come in they will be added to the roll.

The motion was duly seconded, and carried.

Commander-in-Chief: The Chair regrets to announce that it is unable to complete the committees at this time, and without objection this will be passed over until the opening of the afternoon session.

The next order of business is the reception of the Officers' Reports. The Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief will take the Chair.

(Whereupon the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief assumed the Chair, and the Commander-in-Chief read to the Encampment the following report:)

REPORT OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

September 1, 1925.

Fellow Sons of Veterans:

Following the custom of years, I bring you this, my accounting and valedictory.

THE STATE OF THE ORDER.

For many years, at these recurring annual gatherings, we have been wont to ask ourselves the question: "What's the Matter?"

The reason for the question has been that we have measured accomplishment only in terms of numerical strength; we have set as the goal of our ambitions recognition of the Order as a national force based solely on weight of numbers,—and we have been disappointed.

If you are prepared to relinquish this cherished ambition, I will answer your question now: "There is nothing the matter with the Order;"—and this report might well end here.

But assuming that you will still entertain the fervent hope that the Order we have loved and for which we have labored may yet take its place among those agencies that are nationally recognized for what they have accomplished, I shall continue.

I may speak plainly, even cruelly so at times; but at the outset I bid you remember that all is said in entire good spirit and in the belief you would rather I set forth facts as I see them, than that I waste your time and patience indulging in glittering camouflage.

As I betook myself to the task of preparing for your information a report upon the state of the order in the past year, I was brimming over with ideas and recommendations gained as a result of the year's experience as your chief executive. But before placing them on paper, I sought to square them with the judgments of the past, and so I read again the reports and recommendations that have been submitted to you by others in like capacity during the last fifteen years. And now I find myself considerably sobered in my enthusiasms. For I find that practically every comment I was about to venture,—every recommendation that I had thought to make, has been placed before you in the years that have gone, by others just as earnest, as sincere and as experienced as I now am, and in language just as forceful as I could possibly hope to employ.

But we still seem to be moving along in the same old way. Evidently the order is not yet ready for salvation; and we must bide our time.

I shall, therefore, save you the annoyance of repetition, except as I may find pleasure in quoting from these old reports.

When you shall become sufficiently interested to really *want* to plan for the future of the Order in a large way, I bid you go back and study the reports that have been made to you these past ten or fifteen years. You will find cause for remark in the similarity of their judgments.

Two conclusions that I had reached, however, stand out from all the rest and I shall pass them on for what they are worth.

The first is the absolute necessity of developing interest among our members; and the second is the equal need of securing some device which will assure to the Order as a whole a consistent and sustained policy and plan of action, accompanied by the *courage* and the *will to act*.

INTEREST AND ORGANIZATION.

Let us proceed now to the consideration of a few cold facts:

During the past year there was a gain of 29 Camps and 4996 members; but during the same period there was a loss of 42 Camps and 6227 members, resulting in a net loss. Some very

interesting figures, comparisons and suggestions are given in the report of the National Secretary and I urge you to ponder them well. From this record, we learn that during the past twenty years 1677 new Camps have been organized and a grand total of 179,636 new members initiated into the Order, but during the same period 1448 Camps and 156,525 members have been lost. During six of these years the losses equaled or exceeded the gains.

This is glaring evidence of the truth of what one Commander-in-Chief told you just a few years ago. Said he: "Our trouble does not seem to be so much in getting members as it does in holding them and this we know without question is due to a basic error in our plan of organization, which error must be corrected before the trouble will cease."

And as still a later one said: "Answer the question as to why these men have not stuck and our problem is solved."

In February a survey was made into the condition of all Camps in the Order, which disclosed the following facts: On February 20th, 31% of the Camps were delinquent for reports, or per capita tax, or both, for the quarter ended December 31, 1924, and prior quarters. Of this number, 33 Camps had been delinquent more than 4 years; 6 Camps for exactly 4 years; 18 Camps, 3 years; 17 Camps, 2 years; 16 Camps, 1 year.

This is proof of the fact that one of the chief difficulties has been that a large percentage of our Camp and Division officers were either unwilling or incapable, and themselves exhibited hardly more interest than the membership at large.

We have been as unsuccessful in our organization of Camps and Divisions, as we have been in "organizing" members. The formation of both Camps and Divisions has been on an unsound basis. We have permitted these units to be brought into existence with far too few members to justify the hope of their successful continuance; and then to complete the picture of inefficiency we have set them adrift without supervision or assistance of any sort, and of course the inevitable happened.

We seem to have forgotten the lesson of the past years when Divisions were handed to us one year, only to be dropped the next; and the dropping of Camps, which has nearly kept pace with the organization thereof, tells its own story.

But we still sleep on, and in our impotence ask each other: "What's the matter?" YOU, that's all!

During all this time we have concerned ourselves mightily about organization work and about various ways and means for enticing members into our charmed circle. Many of these plans were good. Right now we are recovering from the shock of one of them, and it was really a very good "plan," at least as good as any that had preceded it. It did not accomplish what was hoped for it because it was built on sand—the sand of indifference. It presupposed a membership of 100% interested. In this it erred, and so it disappointed.

And here we have the crux of the problem: Remove that indifference and substitute real interest in the Order and most any plan will work and what's more you'll stop that outgo, which is nearly as large as the in-come, and has been so these many years.

But how! That's the question.

Fully ten years ago, a Commander-in-Chief told you that: "No man's patriotism rises higher than his realization of the need that his country has for him."

And I may paraphrase this by saying that no man's interest in this patriotic Order will rise higher than his realization of the need for patriotic service of the kind we perform.

Five years ago the State of the Order Committee advised you that "the state of the order is what the members make it" and that "what is most needed is work." And I answer: Yes, but it must be intelligent, purposeful work; work directed to the accomplishment of a recognized and interest-compelling objective. The reporter at one of our recent Division Encampments remarked to me: "They all seemed to be talking about the dead past." And that is the attitude of the average eligible link it up to the present in a real and vital way so as to get interest and then action from our *whole* membership.

With a view to arousing such an interest in those current events that should concern all patriotic orders, a number of articles were recently published in The Banner. It is assumed you have read them.

A National Committee on Patriotic Education, if it is awake and on the job, can develop fields of activity that are certain to present worth-while, interest-compelling objectives.

The projected Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Building which will be discussed in detail later, affords another excellent, tangible objective.

ACTION.

And this brings us to my second major conclusion, which, in accomplishment, must really precede the first: That we must provide some device to secure consistent and sustained planning and action.

"Out of this supreme body, if at all, should come the ideas and the planning for a *working* organization," on the National Scale,—you were told by your Committee on State of the Order.

Just a short while ago a Commander-in-Chief remarked in his report to you: "It seems an imperative necessity that this Order lay down a definite and fixed policy of operation and then adhere to it."

And it is most true. We have jumped about from post to pillar, chasing myriad will-o'-the-wisps; acting one year, reversing it the next; always beginning, never finishing; no collective courage to act,—all at the same time, in the same way, on the same object.

This is largely due to the fact that a complete upheaval in policy and activity takes place with each successive change of administration.

To meet this need I suggest the formation of a National Council of Administration, and recommend the adoption of the following in lieu of Section 5, Article 5, Chapter III of the regulations:

"There shall be a National Council of Administration, con-

sisting of the Commander-in-Chief, the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, the National Secretary-Treasurer and one member from each Division, to be chosen by the National Encampment (one-third of the Divisional Members to be elected for a term of one year, one-third for a term of two years and one-third for a term of three years and thereafter all members representing Divisions to be elected for a term of three years).

"The National Council of Administration shall meet immediately after adjournment of the National Encampment, and at such other times and places as it or the Commander-in-Chief may order; and ten members thereof shall constitute a quorum. The Council may select from among its members a smaller number (not less than five nor more than nine) to be known as an Executive Committee, to act for it during the interim between its sessions.

"The National Council of Administration shall audit the accounts of the various national officers, shall propose and execute plans of action for the good of the Order, and shall represent, in all matters, the National Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, in the interval between its sessions. It shall keep full and detailed records of its proceedings, and present same as its report at a stated meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief."

This provides an organization almost identical with that in the Grand Army of the Republic and very similar to that of several other societies that are accomplishing things on a National scale.

I would also recommend a similar system within the Divisions.

THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

Our relations with the Grand Army of the Republic during this year have been most cordial. To know Commander-in-Chief Arensberg is to love him. He has demonstrated his regard for the Sons of Veterans in word and deed.

Past custom seems to have sanctioned, on this occasion, an indulgence in profuse oratory expressive of our filial devotion for the Grand Army of the Republic. I shall not repeat the performance. To my mind a report of action is more convincing.

Early in the year, as your Commander, I tendered to Commander-in-Chief Arensberg the services of all Sons of Veterans in connection with any work he might call upon us to perform.

He requested our aid in connection with certain legislation then pending before Congress. A quick call was immediately dispatched by personal letter to every Division Commander. A copy is filed with this report. A Legislative Aide in Washington, D. C., was also appointed to co-operate with the Legislative Committee of the Grand Army of the Republic. Every effort at our command was put forth, but it was too late and not sufficiently intensive. Later I visited the Congressional Committees concerned, in company with Commander Arensberg and his Staff, when I heard these Congressmen and Senators tell him in plain words that there was little hope for the legislation involved because the Grand Army of the Republic had lost its force; that it did not have the votes. Two things then became apparent to me:

First—If we are to accomplish any worth-while national results we must have an able, active, wide-awake Legislative Committee on duty at our National Capital all the time.

Second—We must press for greater unity and co-ordination of activity among the several societies allied to the Grand Army of the Republic. This matter has already been discussed with the National heads of these societies and without exception they have demonstrated their interest and willingness. All that remains is to tie the knot. I hope it may be done definitely and unequivocally at this convention. And when all these bodies are prepared to act quickly and unitedly, under direction from a common source, there will be an altogether different story to tell about the votes and the force of the Grand Army of the Republic.

PROTESTS.

In this connection, I have been called upon to join in protests against legislation and situations which were accomplished facts. I did so gladly, but nevertheless, with a feeling of futility. A protest is negative; it is essentially defensive warfare and hence most difficult. And then too, a protest, after the fact, usually serves only to strengthen that which is protested against.

I feel most strongly that if we are to realize our mission we must organize to wage an aggressive educational campaign in behalf of our declared principles and objectives.

Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. To wait until the fat's in the fire and then to lodge a weak protest only makes a laughing stock of the Order.

This is another reason why we should have a legislative committee on the job.

I further recommend that there be appointed a National Committee on Patriotic Education.

ALLIED PATRIOTIC SOCIETIES.

Grateful acknowledgment is here made to the National Presidents of the allied societies, the Woman's Relief Corps, the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Daughters of Veterans, the Army Nurses of the Civil War, and the Sons of Veterans' Auxiliary for the uniform courtesy and consideration which all of them have shown towards the Sons of Veterans during the past year.

Last winter I had occasion to call upon them for united action in behalf of certain legislation which concerned the Grand Army of the Republic and I was delighted at the prompt and effective response received.

All of these societies are akin. There should be some arrangement for a closer bond of unity between us, remembering the maxim: "United we stand, divided we fall." This was, no doubt, the thought which inspired the formation of the Federated Patriotic Societies five years ago. I believe the Sons of Veterans should take the lead in helping to vitalize this Federation. A proposal looking to this end is mentioned elsewhere in this report. Joint headquarters and a joint legislative committee at the seat of the National Government would help mightily in the accomplishment of this purpose.

OUR AUXILIARY.

The relations with our own Auxiliary have, of course, been more intimate than with those of any of the other allied societies. We owe to Miss Rokes a debt of gratitude for her advice and her genuine kindness and co-operation. The Auxiliary under her guidance has been a tower of strength to the Sons of Veterans.

Looking in retrospect for just a moment it is most interesting to recall that it was just forty years ago and right here in the City of Grand Rapids that the Sons of Veterans first resolved "to encourage the formation of Ladies' Aid Societies," which was the real beginning of the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary.

NATIONAL MEMORIAL BUILDING TO THE G. A. R.

The 41st Annual Encampment adopted a recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief proposing that this Order undertake the erection of a Memorial to the Grand Army of the Republic in the form of a National Memorial Building to be erected in the National Capital; such a building, in addition to being a memorial monument and museum, to provide permanent national headquarters for the Grand Army of the Republic and for the allied organizations as well.

Thereupon a committee was appointed with full power to act. This committee reported at the next Encampment at Milwaukee in 1923 that the project was not only feasible but also very desirable; that a suitable site for such a building would be furnished gratis by the Government at Washington on certain conditions; that the co-operation of the other allied organizations be enlisted; that definite action looking to the raising of the necessary funds be taken; and that the committee be enlarged and continued.

This report of the committee was adopted by the Encampment upon a motion which laid special emphasis upon a continuation of conferences with the other allied orders in an endeavor to secure their active co-operation in the project. .

At the Boston Encampment last year, the enlarged committee submitted an elaborate report, indicating that a formal proposal had been made to the allied orders and that their assistance could be expected. This committee recommended for adoption detailed plans of an organization to carry the project forward.

That report was passed over for consideration this year and the committee continued, apparently for the purpose of further ascertaining what action the part of the other allied bodies could be expected.

From reports already made to this Commandery and from personal assurances given your Commander-in-Chief, we are certain of all necessary co-operation from our sister organizations; they are simply waiting upon us, who originally sponsored this thing and who made the first overtures to them for their assistance, to take the lead and start the machinery. I believe the project is most worth-while and that it is feasible. It will be a symbol of that unity among the allied societies of the Grand Army of the Republic, spoken of elsewhere in this report. In its construction we will have a common tangible object and

a common action. In its fruition we will gain that comradeship which comes alone through common effort and the glory of a home in jointure which shall be a shrine of our national union, and an earnest of joint action in the future at the place where it will be most telling.

I recommend the adoption of the Committee's report as it will be presented to this Encampment.

ESCORT TO THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

It has been customary in recent years for the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic to request this Commandery to furnish a uniformed guard of one hundred Sons of Veterans to act as Escort to the Grand Army of the Republic in the National Encampment parades. On several occasions it has been difficult to comply with this request, especially when the Encampment was held in a locality where there did not happen to be any considerable body of the Reserve or Sons of Veterans possessing the prescribed uniform.

In order that we may be sure of our ability to comply with this request in the future and to present a guard of one hundred men, smartly uniformed and snappily drilled I recommend that steps be taken at this Encampment looking to the permanent organization of such a guard of honor. Each Division might be called upon to furnish a certain quota, not less than a squad. If the members of such a guard agree to supply their own uniforms after a standard pattern and to take part in the parades of at least three consecutive Encampments, the Commandery might well, on its part, agree to pay their transportation to these Encampments.

Other Orders have their drill teams, their patrols, and their bands and take great pride in them; and recompense them for their services, at least by paying their expenses.

I recommend that this Encampment take similar action in order to encourage the formation of a permanent escort.

MEMORIAL DAY.

The proper observance of Memorial Day was one of the very first objects of our Order. It is inherent in our constitution. We are pledged to continue the sacred rites of this day until time shall be no more. No one can take from us the right to do this, for our sense of duty in this regard proceeds as much from a feeling of filial devotion as it does from purely patriotic sentiment.

But we must not forget that, although Memorial Day originated with the Grand Army of the Republic, it has now come to be generally accepted as a time when all citizens pause a moment in the daily grind to give a thought to the debt of gratitude they owe to all the soldiers of the Republic who have fought and sacrificed that we might enjoy the blessings of our great constitutional union.

Most unhappily, there seems to have arisen in many places disputes between our Order and other organizations regarding matters of position and precedence in connection with the Day's observances. When this happens, it is evidence that we are losing sight of the spirit of the Day or sacrificing it to our own

vain-glory. I can do no better than quote the advice given to you by a Commander-in-Chief several years ago: "In no case should our members dispute questions of position or precedence with any military veterans' organizations."

DAYS WE CELEBRATE.

In addition to Memorial Day, our Order now recognizes with fitting observance Lincoln's Birthday, which we know as "Union Defenders' Day;" and the anniversary of the Dedication of the Gettysburg Cemetery, November 19th, which we call "Veterans' Night." In many places we are now observing the anniversaries of the Surrender at Appomattox and General Grant's Birthday.

We might well add to this list, Flag Day, June 14th, and the anniversary of the signing of our Federal Constitution, which falls on September 17th.

In accord with the resolution adopted at the last Encampment, every effort was put forth to secure widespread participation by Sons of Veterans in the exercises of Defense Day on September 12, 1924, and again on July 4th of the present year.

MARKING OF GRAVES.

In several Divisions a very commendable activity has exhibited itself, to secure the marking of the grave of every honorably discharged Union soldier.

A resolution in this behalf will be presented to this Encampment. This activity should be encouraged to the utmost, and this resolution has my endorsement.

CONSTITUTION AND REGULATIONS.

We, like the American public generally, seem to have become obsessed with the idea that in law making lies the remedy for all conceivable ills. Each succeeding Encampment brings its crop of proposals for law amendment, until now the old Constitution and Regulations is so emasculated as to be almost beyond recognition. We will admit that the changes have not hurt the Order; but they are as impotent as they are harmless.

As your Committee on State of the Order told you several years ago, "The Order is what the *members* make it." "No Ritual or Constitution can make an organization."

So let's give the old Constitution a rest for awhile, and try a little action,—try doing ourselves what we want to legislate the other fellow into doing.

FINANCES.

The finances of the Order are fully discussed in the report of the National Secretary-Treasurer.

From this report one thing stands out clearly; financially we are running on a very narrow margin. The Commandery has barely sufficient funds to meet its minimum necessary overhead. It has nothing to expend toward the general advancement of the Order, or to carry into execution in a large national way its principles and objects.

Other orders have permanent, trust or endowment funds, the interest from which is used for their general advancement. As I have contemplated the more than 150,000 members who

have been dropped from our rolls during the past twenty years, I could not resist thinking what a wonderful thing it would be if each one of them had left behind him as a token of his one-time membership at least the sum of \$1.00 covered into a permanent trust fund. If this had been done, we would now be receiving each year a very neat sum in the form of interest on this fund.

I recommend the creation of a National Endowment Fund established as a permanent trust, under appropriate legal articles. Under the terms of the trust, nothing but the interest to be derived from this fund shall be subject to expenditure; and this interest shall be used solely for the purpose of advancing the Order and carrying into execution its several principles and objects as now written.

Such a fund may be created by any one or more of the following methods:

1. A stipulated amount from every initiation fee (at least \$1.00) to be paid into it.
2. Such sums as may be voted to it by the National and Division Encampments from surpluses on hand in their respective treasuries.
3. By gifts, donations or testamentary bequests from interested members or others.
4. Through such campaigns or "drives" as might from time to time be inaugurated for the purpose of augmenting it.

As a token of our love and esteem for the Grand Army of the Republic and in accord with similar actions in the past, I recommend that this Encampment vote a contribution of \$500.00 to the permanent fund of the Grand Army of the Republic; and further that this Encampment make provision, if possible, for the maintenance of the National Headquarters of the Grand Army of the Republic, thus relieving the Veterans from any further payment of per capita tax.

The cost of The Banner to this organization was increased at the time of the last renewal of its contract but about the same time the per capita tax was reduced. The result is what might have been expected.

I recommend that the per capita tax be fixed at the rate of 36 cents per annum beginning with the quarter which ends December 31st, 1925.

MEMBERSHIP-AT-LARGE DIVISION.

As an apparent result of some of the recent publicity in THE BANNER, I received not long ago a letter reading in substance as follows:

"A friend handed me your official paper, 'The Banner,' to-day and I am interested in the contents of same, as I am both a Veteran and also the son of a Civil War Veteran.

"There are thousands of men who are eligible for membership in your Order but who are either kept from your ranks by lack of time, traveling, study or long working hours that cause them to devote their spare evenings with their families.

"In order to reach this class of desired membership and to receive their moral and financial support might I suggest that

you add to your Organization the "Membership-at-Large" Division, the same as we have in the United Spanish War Veterans.

"We pay an initiation fee and yearly dues to National Headquarters for which we receive badge and button and yearly paid up dues card. We can attend any Camp that happens to meet wherever we may be upon showing this yearly paid up dues card. We also receive all notices sent out the same as all Camps and are kept fully informed on all prospective laws that may be enacted for our benefit that we may take an active part in working for same.

"Thank you for the time given to reading this suggestion and hope that you may be able to figure out some way to take the wanderers into the ranks that we may feel one among you and support our mutual cause."

Here is food for thought. Such an organization might well be authorized and have combined with it the "capitalization of membership" scheme proposed by the National Secretary.

SUSPENSION AND DROPPING OF MEMBERS.

I seriously question the wisdom of the action taken several years ago which eliminated entirely the suspension of members. I realize there were good arguments which seemed to appeal at the moment. However I believe experience has shown that when a member is once dropped it is most difficult to get him back into the Order; far more difficult than if he had been suspended only. This is true because there is a very important psychological principle involved. When a man is dropped the Camp cancels all claim upon him and his obligation is remitted; whereas when he is merely suspended his moral obligation to the Camp and to the Order still continues, and can only be met by his squaring his indebtedness with the Camp. There is no claim whatever upon the dropped man; but there is a strong hold upon the suspended member. It is far easier to reinstate a suspended member than it is to re-initiate a dropped member. We should get around more to the thought expressed in the Report of the National Secretary: "Once a member, always a member." I care not by what phraseology you accomplish it,—we should make it plain that a member who happens to have become delinquent and perchance may have been "dropped," may be *re-instated* in the Order. In short, we should get away from the idea of dropping and re-initiation, and get back to the idea of suspension and reinstatement.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION WORK.

The work of the National Organization Committee was continued under the supervision of Past Division Commander Fred E. Upham of Massachusetts, in accordance with a resolution adopted at the 43rd Encampment.

The work of the Committee has received wide publicity through the columns of The Banner and through correspondence, and Brother Upham will submit to this body a report of his work. Hence, no further comment from me is necessary.

THE BANNER.

As a means of keeping in touch with the general membership The Banner is indispensable; that is, if it is read. A

former Commander ventured the opinion that one-half of the membership did not read it. In any event, it is certain that its usefulness to the Order could be vastly increased by making it more generally interesting. Too much space is devoted to purely local news that holds no general interest. To remedy this there should be provided a definite editorial policy through an appropriate Committee on Publicity. During the past four months an experiment along this line has been tried, by publishing articles which it was felt would and should compel the interest of our members. The reaction which the Commander-in-Chief received showed that it accomplished its purpose, to an extent at least. Plans have now been laid to secure from worthwhile writers articles for original publication in The Banner. It is hoped some of these may be used in subsequent issues.

What is here said is not in any sense to be interpreted as a criticism of the publishers of the paper. They are giving us all we pay for and have been most courteous and co-operative in the fulfillment of their contract with the Commandery.

DISCIPLINE AND DECISIONS.

All disciplinary actions and decisions of the Commander-in-Chief are recorded in detail in the report of the National Counselor. All opinions and findings of the National Counselor were approved by the Commander-in-Chief. No further comment from me is necessary except as follows:

It is well to mention the fact that the case of William Schumacher, Jr., wherein original jurisdiction was taken by the Commandery-in-Chief by resolution adopted at the last Encampment, has been finally and completely disposed of in accordance with the mandate of that Encampment. The final decree issued by the Commander-in-Chief is appended to the report of the National Counselor.

Specific attention should also be called to Opinion No. 2 of the National Counselor which brings up a novel situation, due directly to the constant whipsawing to which we subject our Constitution and Regulations. In short, under the present rules, members dropped by one Camp for non-payment of dues may be and have been reinstated by another Camp, without being required in any way to reimburse the first Camp, notwithstanding the fact that under the same rule the first Camp must pay at least a year's per capita tax on these members before they can be dropped. This rule is unsound and inequitable and should be changed.

BONDS OF DIVISION COMMANDERS.

The resolution adopted at the last Encampment requiring Division Commanders to furnish their bonds to the Commandery-in-Chief on what is known as the "position" or "schedule" form has occasioned considerable confusion.

Since this newly prescribed form is in its very nature a blanket instrument, it is felt that this matter of having division officers furnish bonds to the Commandery-in-Chief (if it be necessary at all, which I very seriously doubt) could be handled with much greater expedition and satisfaction to all concerned if the Commandery-in-Chief itself took out a position form of bond covering the Commanders of every Division in the Order

and then, as a new Division Commander is chosen and installed, all that is necessary is to have a new schedule attached to the general bond. The Commandery would do this for all Divisions and the several Divisions would simply be required to remit to the Commandery the amount expended by it in payment of the annual premium. I so recommend.

REGIONAL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION.

Following a plan used in previous administrations, the country was divided into five sections, all districts conforming as nearly as possible to geographical lines. The details of this organization are fully covered in General Orders which are attached to this report and will not be here repeated. The idea of districting the country is believed to be a good one and its continuance in the future is strongly recommended.

DIVISIONAL BOUNDARIES.

Reallocation of certain western territory was made in General Order No. 2 (1925). This was accomplished at the request of the Division concerned and is believed to provide a more logical assignment of territory than that which had previously existed. In May, 1925, the Provisional Division of Colorado was created, consisting of the States of Colorado, Wyoming, Utah and New Mexico. This territory was detached from the Fifth District and allocated to the Fourth District. Camps in this area were attached directly to the Commandery-in-Chief, reporting through the Regional Aide for the Fourth District.

VISITATIONS.

The Commander-in-Chief has officially visited all five of the regional areas created in General Order No. 12, December, 1924. Conferences of the Division Commanders and others in the first four regions were called at appropriate times. Some of them were well attended; others poorly attended. While a Regional Conference was not held in the Fifth area, all the Divisions comprising this territory were visited by the Commander-in-Chief during the month of May. The Commander-in-Chief found it possible to visit six Division Encampments. Staff officers were delegated to visit the others, where this could be done. I believe thoroughly in the value of personal contact; but I am convinced that more can be accomplished for the general good of the Order in a round table conference of interested officers and members than can be achieved at a "hurrah" meeting, whether it be encampment or otherwise.

THE STAFF.

The Officers associated with the Commander-in-Chief have been co-operative and faithful. No doubt each has given as much of his time and effort as his situation would permit or as the duties of his office required. To each I express my grateful appreciation.

It has been the custom of Past Commanders-in-Chief to sing the praises of the National Secretary. No new expression occurs to me, and I will not repeat the old. It is sufficient to say that Horace Hammer has been to me all that could possibly be expected of a National Secretary, and I here record my very grateful appreciation of his assistance and advice.

All of this means more to me, however, than just mere words. A very clear moral stands out, and it is this: The value to the organization of a permanent headquarters with a permanent paid officer in charge. Every Division which has established a permanent headquarters with a permanent Secretary is a strong Division. Would that we might find some way to induce, entice, or coerce every Division into seeing the light.

SPECIAL AIDES.

The custom of automatically bestowing the title of Special Aide upon anyone credited with securing a certain number of new members was not adhered to during this administration. Instead, the plan was to have one representative of the Commandery-in-Chief in each Division. These Aides were to be named upon recommendation of the respective Division Commanders, because of their proven ability, initiative, and capacity for helpfulness. So far as any material results are concerned, the plan has been disappointing, to say the least.

A few additional appointments have been made upon specific requests of Division Commanders in recognition of highly meritorious service.

Past Commander-in-Chief H. V. Speelman was named as Personal Aide to the Commander-in-Chief and Legislative Aide representing the Commandery at the National Capital. Grateful appreciation is here recorded for splendid work performed by him in connection with matters at Washington.

In addition to regular officers of this Commandery who were assigned the additional duties of Regional Aide in the First, Second and Third Districts, respectively, Division Commander Moses P. O'Brien was appointed Special Aide and Acting Regional Aide in the Fourth District. He was succeeded by Past Division Commander Frank D. Corrick as Regional Aide in this District. Past Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief C. Randall Bubb was named Regional Aide in the Fifth District.

Reports from these Regional Aides will be presented to this Encampment and grateful acknowledgment is here made of the efforts they have put forth in their several fields.

The names of all Aides appointed appear in General Orders which are appended to this report.

NECROLOGY.

Appropriate reference to those members of this Commandery who during the past year have departed this life will be made at our Memorial Service this afternoon which will be duly recorded in the Proceedings of this Encampment. For fear of overlooking some, specific reference to any individual is here omitted.

GENERAL ORDERS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

Copies of all General Orders and of all Circulars or open letters addressed to the officers or members of the Order are appended to this report. They cover fairly well the detailed course of events throughout the year. It is assumed you will read them if you are interested. Specific reference to many matters therein contained is therefore omitted from this report.

CONCLUSION.

And now as I come to the end I am considerably saddened, as all my predecessors have been I suppose, by the thought of the hopes deferred.

I would have you know that I keenly appreciate the fact that the highest honor any group can confer upon any of its fellows is his selection to be its chief executive; and I thank you.

The associations of this year will leave cherished memories that can never be forgotten; memories that can but enrich an already strong determination to assist this Order in whatever way I can toward larger accomplishment.

As I turn the command over to another I venture the prayer that the Order we all love may increase in its spirit of, and its capacity for service. May the God of Lincoln be with us yet, lest we forget.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

CIRCULARS AND OPEN LETTERS.

CONFIDENTIAL LETTER TO DIVISION COMMANDERS.

The other day I received a letter from a Division Commander saying:

"I know that you will be glad to hear that in the past week I have visited six Camps in our Division urging them to get busy and get new members and promote more Camp activities. We have Camps in this Division that have not had a visit from a Division Commander for several years and therefore I feel that this is more important at this time than organization work. Nevertheless I hope to add several new Camps before the end of my term as Division Commander."

The response was:

"I am very glad indeed to learn of your activity in visiting the Camps. I believe this is the sort of thing we need and I am heartily in accord with your expressed idea that increasing the activities among the members and Camps we already have is just as important as new organization work; indeed I believe it is more important. However, neither one should be overlooked to the exclusion of the other."

And then I chanced upon an old number of The Banner—the issue of March, 1922—and this headline caught my eye: "The Value and Importance of Personal Service." It was an article by "Brother John" Sautter. Well,—just get it out from your attic and read it for yourself. It will pay you!

I sometimes fear we think and talk too much about organization and new members and not enough about what we do with them after we get them. From some old reports I've recently read, it seems to me we've let a lot of them just "go to seed." Such a procedure is like building a wonderful and costly structure on a foundation of sand.

Our emphasis is misplaced. Some of it should be trans-

ferred to our fundamental activities—to our duties and obligations—to the service we can render to the “boys” of yesteryear and to our communities, our States and our Nation.

Our “purposes and objects” are seven-fold, affording a most ample basis for activity and service. These principles and objects we have pledged ourselves “actively to promote always and everywhere.” This is OUR MISSION! *What are we doing to meet it?*

In accordance with our fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh pledged “purposes” and a resolution of the Commandery-in-Chief pledging the fullest and heartiest co-operation of our entire membership in support of the “Defense Test” on September 12th, the Commandery-in-Chief dispatched a personal letter to every Division Commander on August 28th, calling for certain action, and requesting a report on or immediately after September 12th. In the few Divisions which have reported our members met their obligation to the best of their ability. I hope and believe this is true in every Division. But, this is September 30th,—and out of twenty-four Division Commanders, just ten, up to this date, have so much as acknowledged, in any form *whatsoever*, the receipt of the personal letter of August 28th. *Think it over*, and remember your discussions at the Division Commanders’ conference at Boston!

Let me call your especial attention to the first paragraph in the General Orders of this date, regarding Veterans’ Night. *Here is another opportunity for activity and service of the kind that counts.* DON’T LET IT PASS!

Do your duty; meet your mission; and the numbers will be added unto you, even as “the waters draw their own.”

Fraternally,

W. M. COFFIN,

September 30, 1924.

Commander-in-Chief.

LETTER TO DIVISION COMMANDERS.

In last month’s letter I endeavored to bring into emphasis some of the fundamental things that form the purpose of our being an organization,—that constitute our mission.

Since then, I have received a letter from a Division Commander, from which I quote, for your thoughtful consideration and emulation, the following:

“In order to get the brothers to visit the Grand Army Posts more frequently, I am setting the example by visiting with my Staff as many Posts in this Department as is possible. I have put the matter up to the local Posts for a starter and they are enthusiastic over the idea. * * * One Past Department Commander has told me that he believes these visits will do more to cement the bonds between the Grand Army and the Sons than anything that has ever before been attempted.”

We know that we must have members if we are to fill our proper sphere of influence. This month I want to emphasize the necessity of keeping our old members. If we let our old members slip away from us, while we spend time, effort and money in getting new members, it is like “wasting at the bung and saving at the spigot.”

No Division Commander should allow any Camp to report a loss of members without personally getting into immediate touch with the officers of that Camp and taking active steps to find the reason for the members dropping out, and to correct the cause thereof. **THIS IS A PRIMARY DUTY OF EVERY DIVISION COMMANDER**; it takes precedence over new organization work. This must surely be obvious to every one, when we see the results of our efforts at getting new members and new Camps more than offset by the loss of old members.

Losses are usually due to weak Camp administration; often to lax Secretary-Treasurers. You owe to yourself and to the office you hold the duty to see to it, so far as lies within your power, that there shall be elected to Camp office next month only those members who will actively and energetically perform its duties.

One Division Commander recently addressed his Camp Commanders urging them to make the last quarter of their term of office show a bigger and better Camp. Among other things he said:

"This Division is a business. It requires business methods to keep it prosperous. The Camps are the branches of the business, and you are the local manager. The main business prospers according to the prosperity of its local branches. Your managership calls for efficient service just as much as if it were your paid employment. When you accepted the office you contracted to give your best efforts. There are other Camp Commanders with the same responsibility you have. You can help or hurt their work according to what you do. * * *

"For your own credit, for the good name of your Camp, for the honor of your G. A. R. Post, get busy and make a real showing."

HERE IS SOMETHING TO THINK OVER!

November 1, 1924.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

THE NEW YEAR.

A MESSAGE TO NEW CAMP OFFICERS.

A New Year is here. With it, newly chosen officers take the helm in all the Camps.

To you, Camp Commander, and to you, Camp Officers, the Commander-in-Chief sends his warm felicitations. He congratulates you on the opportunity which Fate has thrust into your hands—an opportunity to take part in, and by your concerted efforts, to augment a great revival in Sons of Veterans' activities, a rededication to worth-while work, the accomplishment of results that count.

Our Order must be strengthened—strengthened in numbers, that it may be strengthened in the spirit of, and the capacity for, service.

We must have a Camp in every community where there is a Post of the Grand Army of the Republic. This goal is primarily the responsibility of the Division officers. But you, of the exist-

ing Camps, need to close ranks, strengthen your lines, that you may the better carry on the work that will fall to you from the hands of your fathers' comrades.

You, Mr. Camp Commander: It is yours to plan, yours to initiate, yours to drive. Don't let a single member think that he is useless in the scheme of things. Fit every member into your plans. Find something for every one to do. There is enough to go around, and more. *Then see that it is done!*

And your Membership Campaign Committee? Have you chosen and set them to work? Have you procured for them copies of the National Organization booklet? (See the Organization page). If not, what plans have you provided for their guidance? There can be no constructive accomplishment without plans first laid. What are yours? Are you sure of them? If not, take the suggestions and the plans that have succeeded! We must not chance a mis-fire!

Our fathers and our fathers' comrades are calling us. The hour has struck. The "psychological moment" is here. Will you grasp the opportunity? I have faith that you will! Will you keep that faith with me?

January 1, 1925.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

A MESSAGE TO DIVISION COMMANDERS.

I care not for an increase in membership—for the sake of figures in reports; just for the sake of making records. Such an end is not worth the effort. If we could perform our allotted task with half our present membership, I should say: Let well enough alone and save your energy.

BUT, I am convinced of two things:

First, That we have a mission to perform. If not, all else is useless. We cannot interest either ourselves or others in a project which has no purpose and holds no interest. But we have a duty—a duty to the present and a duty to the future.

NOW, the Grand Army of the Republic is calling us to service. They require our aid and relief in many ways. Will we accept the challenge To whom else should the call be sent than to them through whose veins flows the blood of the volunteer patriot of the sixties. If we fail now, if we heed not the call of our fathers and our fathers' comrades now, I say in all candor that every charter in the Order should be surrendered, and in common decency we should cease the brazen effrontery of parading ourselves as their sons.

And to the future we owe the duty to see to it that a right and just history is taught in our schools; that the soul of the future shall not be allowed to wither and die in the rushing, torrid materialism of the day; that the valorous deeds and days of the past go not unsung, but rather that they be memorialized and held up to the generations for example's sake—for the sake of our National Spirit.

Second, I am convinced we need a strongly organized membership to accomplish that mission.

To render the fullest possible measure of service to the

Grand Army of the Republic we should have "a Camp in every community where there is a Post."

We need members for their contributions of both service and money to our cause. Many can and will give the personal service that is required; but all can at least contribute their dues and fees and these are necessary too, for no organized effort, particularly relief work, can be successfully accomplished without finances.

Brother Commander, the annual period of greatest activity is already upon us. What plans have you laid? Have you given any thought to the full meaning of the slogans announced in last General Orders? Have you made effort to learn what communities in your Division have Posts, but no Camps? In these localities have you approached the Posts concerning this matter? What have you done toward securing lists of eligibles and proceeding with organization in such places? Have you kept your Camp Commanders alive to their obligation? Have you urged them to form a "live wire" committee and to get the National Organization Booklet and actively to try out the suggestions therein? If not, what have you done?

Every officer must do one of two things: He must either lead, or follow. There is no penalty on personal initiative. There are no holding back straps. Everyone is free to lay and execute his own plans—provided he knows what he is doing—provided well laid plans are faithfully carried out; and most important of all, provided *results* are attained. But otherwise it is well to follow the suggestions from others who have ideas and plans that are known to have succeeded. For my own part I'm glad to get ideas and suggestions from any quarter.

In all organized society every one must either lead or follow. He who refuses to do either one—well, he reminds me of a story I'll tell you at the District Conference. In short, we want results: Get them your way; or get them my way, or get them Upham's way—but *get them!!*

And now, at the outset of a New Year, let us all resolve to give all we have toward the long pull, the strong pull and the pull all together.

If we all do this, the result is assured.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

January 1, 1925.

AWAKE, SONS OF VETERANS!

As Sons of Veterans, we believe in our Country—one and inseparable. We love it as an inheritance preserved to us by the blood and sacrifice of our fathers. We believe in the Constitution—our charter of liberty—which our fathers fought to uphold; and which, being washed in their blood, means more to us than a mere "scrap of paper."

Believing thus in the history and the traditions of our Country we believe also in its destiny, and so we have set before us as our mission the duty to pass on to posterity the heritage vouchsafed to us by our fathers.

We have pledged ourselves to "strive for a larger Patriotism which puts God, Country and Constitution above all else."

We are Nationalists; we believe in America First!

We know that "eternal vigilance is the price of our liberties."

We believe the heart of the nation is sound; but we know that an *informed* electorate is *safe*.

We therefore believe there should be among all citizens, and particularly among Sons of Veterans, a better knowledge of the Constitution and its history and a larger understanding of what this "Charter of Liberty" means to us. We therefore propose to do all in our power to make it a subject of voluntary study and discussion in the homes, schools and clubs throughout the country.

Sons of Veterans should be informed of the secret, insidious, wily propaganda that is flooding our Country, and finding expression in the teaching of falsified history in our schools, the preaching of false doctrines in the forums and clubs of the Country and the following of false gods.

Therefore, beginning with this issue of The Banner, and continuing through succeeding issues, we will reprint articles, gathered from many sources of information, exposing this propaganda that is subversive of all we hold dear.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

May 1, 1925.

SCHOOL HISTORIES.

Next to the home, the public school is the bulwark of the Republic.

Whatever tends to displace in the immature minds of the young a spirit of respect and reverence for great men and great deeds of the past and a spirit of devotion to our National institutions based on a knowledge of the faith and sacrifice which brought them forth, strikes directly at the fountain source of our strength as a Nation—strikes at our National faith—our National spirit. All our boasted material wealth and progress count for nothing unless backed up by a thoroughly sound National spirit.

We, therefore, look with utmost concern upon the present tendency to spread all manner of radical propaganda through the medium of our public schools—colleges and universities, especially by the garbling of American history.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

June 1, 1925.

INDEPENDENCE DAY AND NATIONAL DEFENSE.

This month we celebrate the anniversary of our Independence as a nation. The occasion this year has added significance, since the President has designated July Fourth as National Defense Day, when all true Americans should pause for a moment in their usual activities to give a thought to the spirit and solidarity of our American institutions, and to check up on our "safety insurance" for the protection of those institutions.

At the last National Encampment, the Commandery-in-Chief unqualifiedly endorsed the Defense Day movement and pledged the support of the entire membership.

Of all citizens, the sons of those veterans who tendered their all for the preservation of the Union are most vitally interested in these tremendously important activities. Indeed, they should be the leaders; they should be able first, to understand and explain their heritage (which is nothing other than our Constitutional Union), and second, to become Key Men of America—able intelligently to understand, expose and combat all influences which tend to destroy that heritage.

Lest we forget, let us be reminded again of some of our declared principles and objects:

"To oppose to the limit of our power and influence all movements, tendencies and efforts that make for the destruction or impairment of our Constitutional Union;

"To demand of all citizens undivided loyalty and the highest type of Americanism; and require the exclusion of aliens unwilling to conform to this standard;

"To teach patriotism, the duties of citizenship, the true history of our Country, and the love and honor of our flag;

"To inculcate and broadly sustain the American principles of representative government, of equal rights, of universal liberty, and of impartial justice to all."

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

July 1, 1925.

CONSTITUTION ANNIVERSARY DAY.

On September 17th we celebrate the 138th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States.

There is a great revival of interest in this document and in its natal anniversary, and rightly so. The Constitution of the United States is the very substance of our freedom; it is more alive and more needed today than ever. It is a human document, directly connected with the life of every individual in the United States, for its purpose is to safeguard the rights of the individual that all may have an equal chance.

We, as Sons of Veterans, speak much of our heritage, but in the last analysis that heritage, preserved to us by the service and the sacrifice of our fathers, is nothing other than our Constitutional Union in all its integrity.

It is, therefore, most appropriate that we, of all citizens, should take the lead in a fitting observance of this day; and that we should give largely of our aid toward securing among all people a better knowledge of the Constitution, its history and its meaning.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

September 1, 1925.

GENERAL ORDERS

GENERAL ORDERS NO. IX.

Headquarters,

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

Office of Commander-in-Chief,

No. 3755 Hyde Park Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio

September 1, 1924.

I. The Forty-third Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., was held at Boston, Massachusetts, August 12, 13, 14, 1924.

II. The following officers were elected and installed and will be respected accordingly:

Commander-in-Chief, William M. Coffin, 3755 Hyde Park Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Charles P. Hall, 209 Oak Hall Building, Pawtucket, R. I.

Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, G. C. Markle, Winchester, Indiana.

Council-in-Chief: Park F. Yengling, Bassett Road, Bay Village, Ohio; William H. Cressey, Cumberland Mills, Maine; Herbert D. Williams, 201 Mercer Street, Trenton, New Jersey.

National Secretary-Treasurer H. H. Hammer continues in office for the remainder of his unexpired term.

III. Headquarters of the Commander-in-Chief are hereby established at 3755 Hyde Park Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio.

IV. Staff appointments and Aides will be announced in future orders.

All brothers who do not continue as officers or members of the Commandery-in-Chief will remove from their badges the Commandery-in-Chief ribbon.

V. Proceedings (Journal) of the Forty-third Annual Encampment will be promptly promulgated. Division Secretaries will receive the allotment for each Division and each Camp. Division Commanders will see that these Journals are promulgated to each Camp without delay. Camp Secretaries will file same in Camp records after noting essential features.

NAME AND TITLE.

VI. No action was taken by the Grand Army of the Republic relative to the Name and Title of our Order, which is continued as "Sons of Veterans, U. S. A."

CONSTITUTION AND REGULATIONS.

VII. In accordance with the action of the Divisions on the

propositions submitted for referendum and reported to the Forty-third Annual Encampment, no assessments of 25c per member for National Organization work, and \$1.00 on each new member are to be made, same having been rejected.

The Constitution and Regulations—ELIGIBILITY TO MEMBERSHIP—Article 3, page 3, was amended by striking out in line three the word "eighteen" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "sixteen."

The age eligibility is now sixteen (16) years and Camps will be governed accordingly.

RITUAL.

VIII. In General Instructions, page 3, paragraph five (5), strike out all words after "BIBLE," in line three (3).

Camp Commanders will immediately and without further notice or orders, observe this direction of the Commandery-in-Chief, changing the Ritual to conform, and removing the swords from use where indicated.

HARDING MEMORIAL FUND.

IX. The Commandery-in-Chief appropriated One Thousand (\$1,000) on behalf of the Order, to the Harding Memorial Association Fund.

Further contributions from Camps and Members must be sent direct to Past Commander-in-Chief H. V. Speelman, 1652 Hobart St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

All who have not contributed to this fund are urgently requested to do so without delay.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE.

X. The work of the National Organization Committee was ordered to be continued under the supervision and control of Past Division Commander Fred E. Upham, 137 Central St., Leominster, Mass.

All correspondence relating to the work and plans of the "Go-Getters," increasing membership in Camps in connection with the publicity material, printed matter, pamphlets, circulars, books, etc., will be in charge of Brother Upham who will supply all material as heretofore. The work will be continued and Camps and Members are urged to avail themselves of the opportunity afforded, and Camp Commanders and Camp Officers are earnestly requested to give every attention to this important feature.

MEMORIAL TO THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

XI. The Committee in charge of this project for the Commandery-in-Chief, Past Commander-in-Chief F. T. F. Johnson, McGill Building, Washington, D. C., Chairman, is continued and work incident thereto will have attention during the coming term.

PER CAPITA TAX.

XII. Per capita tax to the Commandery-in-Chief from Divisions remains unchanged—eight cents per quarter, payable on each and every member in good standing reported at the end of a quarter.

Division Commanders will supply all Camps with Forms 27, 28—reports of Camp Secretaries and Camp Treasurers, for the quarter ending September 30, at once. Camp Commanders will see that their Secretaries and Treasurers forward without delay—on the last meeting night of their Camps in September—to their respective Division Headquarters, these reports with per capita tax, so that there may be no delay in receipt of same.

REQUESTS FOR ANCESTORS' RECORDS.

XIII. Division Commanders are hereby notified to forward all Requests for Records of Ancestors—Form 16—direct to the office of the Commander-in-Chief. This will expedite returns and avoid delay in procuring the information desired thereby.

DEFENSE DAY.

XIV. The Commandery unanimously adopted the following resolution:

Whereas, Friday, September 12, 1924, has been designated by the President of the United States as "Defense Day," when a test will be made of the mobilization plans prepared by the War Department under the Act of Congress providing for the national defense; and believing as we do that the surest prevention of war is adequate preparation, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., in their Forty-third Annual Encampment assembled, hereby endorse the movement for "Defense Day," and pledge the fullest and heartiest co-operation of their entire membership in its behalf and urge all members of the order to unite in supporting the plan; and

Resolved, That our national officers give the widest publicity to this movement.

As directed by the Encampment, copies of this resolution have been certified to the President and to the Secretary of War.

Through Orders promulgated to all Division Commanders the entire membership of the Order has been called upon to redeem the pledge given in this resolution. May we all be found not wanting.

XV. The Commander-in-Chief here and now acknowledges the many greetings and felicitations received from all well-wishers, and gives expression to the very deep sense of appreciation he feels because of the honor that has been conferred upon him. But hand-in-hand with all this goes a profound realization of the obligation that rests upon him, and an equally firm conviction that, after all, the destiny of the Order rests with the membership at large, and that the obligation which rests on this or any other administration can be successfully discharged only through the attention and the active co-operation of all the members of the Order; and so, this attention and this co-operation your Commander-in-Chief humbly asks; yet confidently expects.

NEW CAMPS.

XVI. Camps have been instituted and Charters issued thereto as follows:

Camp No.	Location and Division.	Date Inst'd.	No. Mem.
38	West Bridgewater, Mass.	March 28	27
9	Pontiac, Michigan	May 21	20
86	Barre, Massachusetts	June 21	20

15	Bloomer, Wisconsin	June 2	18
40	Madison, Wisconsin	June 11	15
5	Cheney, Washington	April 30	18
2	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania....	August 1	250
Applications for new Camps have been approved as follows:			
Date.	No. Camp.	Location and Division.	No. Applets.
August 18	40	Independence, Missouri	25
August 19	170	Luzerne, Pennsylvania	15
By order of			

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. X.

Headquarters,

COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF, SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.
Office of Commander-in-Chief.

No. 3755 Hyde Park Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio

October 1, 1921.

VETERANS' NIGHT.

I. This is the time to begin active preparations for the work of the fall and winter.

All faces should now be turning to the next event in our Sons of Veterans' calender—VETERANS' NIGHT—November 19th.

This should be made the occasion of a real get-together and a reawakening of fellowship between the Sons of Veterans and the Boys of '61. This is the day we have dedicated to a renewal of our pledges of filial devotion. This is the time we have set apart for honoring our fathers and our fathers' comrades while they are with us. Here we scatter flowers in the paths of those who yet may see, and bring a word of joy to the hearts that yet may throb with gladness.

Let every Son resolve that this day shall not pass without some act of kindness toward a Union Veteran of the Civil War.

Let every Camp begin at once its preparations for a fitting observance of Veterans' Night (on November 19th or thereabouts) in honor of the comrades of the G. A. R. Bring them to your Camp rooms. Make them your honor guests. Make them feel that you are indeed their sons, and that you are proud of it.

STAFF APPOINTMENTS.

II. The following staff appointments are announced:

National Chaplain, Francis C. Hawthorne, 1227 West 49th Street, Los Angeles, Cal.

National Counselor, Hon. Geo. B. Holmes, 441 West 102nd Place, Chicago, Ill.

National Patriotic Instructor, Theodore C. Cazeau, 434 Mercantile Building, Rochester, N. Y.

III. In accordance with the plan announced at the Division Commanders' Conference held at the conclusion of the Boston Encampment, the following brothers have been recommended by

their respective Division Commanders for duty as Divisional Aides on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief, and their appointment as such is hereby announced:

A. E. Deems, Los Angeles, California.
 Wm. W. Jewett, Portland, Maine.
 Charles A. Lowe, South Haven, Michigan.
 Herman L. Lange, Rutherford, N. J. (for New York).
 Bert Morledge, Hastings, Nebraska.
 C. Randall Bubb, Tacoma, Washington.

ACTIONS OF FORTY-THIRD ENCAMPMENT.

IV. Actions taken by the Forty-third Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Boston, August 12-14, 1924, not heretofore published in General Orders, are hereby promulgated for the information and guidance of all officers and members, as follows:

JUNIOR ORDER.

The boys auxiliary, known as the Junior Order, which was created by a former Commandery, was discontinued by action of the Boston Encampment, in accordance with the recommendations of Commander-in-Chief Horn.

DAUGHTERS OF VETERANS—SONS OF VETERANS AUXILIARY.

The committee on Consolidation of the Daughters of Veterans and Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, was continued. The members of this committee are:

Past Commander-in-Chief: John E. Sautter, Wilkinsburg, Pa.; Charles F. Sherman, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.; Harry D. Sisson, Pittsfield, Mass.

BONDS OF DIVISION COMMANDERS.

The following regulation was adopted:

That the bonds of Division Commanders to the Commander-in-Chief shall hereafter be in the form of "Position Bonds" in and to the name of the office and not the individual, provisions for which shall be made in the respective Divisions. Such bonds shall be subject only to the filing of annual premium renewal certificate after the original bond in such form shall have been duly filed and approved; each bond to be in the sum of One Thousand (\$1,000) Dollars.

SONS OF VETERANS RESERVE.

Chapter 4 of the Regulations (pages 38-40 C. R. & R.) concerning the Sons of Veterans Reserve, was amended by striking out the present phraseology and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

CHAPTER IV. SONS OF VETERANS RESERVE.

Section 1. The Sons of Veterans Reserve shall constitute the authorized military feature of the Order. It shall include all military bodies of the Order in the Division of which they are a part, with the exception, that Camps may maintain an independent military organization as a Camp guard or unit for parade and service under the auspices of the Camp or the G. A. R. with which such Camp is associated.

Section 2. The Sons of Veterans Reserve as it may now exist or may hereafter be organized shall be governed solely except as herein stated, by rules and regulations adopted or subsequently modified or amended by authority of the Division in which it is maintained. Such Rules and Regulations shall not be inconsistent with National or State laws, or the Constitution, Regulations or general welfare of the Order.

Section 3. No larger units than a regiment may be maintained in the Reserve, except that the combined units of any one State shall be its Division; nor shall any military rank in the Reserve be higher than Colonel. The uniform and other regulations as far as practicable shall conform to the less advanced U. S. Regulations, preferably nearer to that of the Union Army during the period of the Civil War.

INSERTS FOR C. R. & R. AND RITUAL.

V. The changes adopted by the Forty-third Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Boston, 1924, have been printed on inserts for the Constitution and Regulations and for the Ritual. All Division Headquarters have been furnished with a sufficient supply for each Camp. Camp Commanders failing to receive same from their Division Headquarters should immediately communicate this fact to their Division Commanders. Division Commanders must not delay the promulgation of these inserts. Camp Commanders will see that same are promptly inserted in their Camps' copies of the Constitution and Regulations and the Rituals.

PER CAPITA TAX AND REPORTS.

VI. Camp Commanders will have Camp Secretaries and Camp Treasurers forward per capita tax and reports—Forms 27 and 28, without delay to their Division Headquarters for the quarter ending September 30, 1924. This should receive personal attention.

CAMP PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTORS' REPORTS.

VII. Division Commanders will without delay forward to all Camps Form 50—Camp Patriotic Instructor's Report. This report must be returned to Division Headquarters on the last meeting night in December. Division Commanders will instruct Camp Patriotic Instructors accordingly.

REQUISITIONS FOR SUPPLIES.

VIII. Supplies will only be furnished by the National Secretary-Treasurer on Form 11½, which must in all cases be accompanied by a remittance to cover same. Requisitions for amounts in cents or in a few dollars will be held for shipment for larger orders for supplies. Division Headquarters should have sufficient supplies on hand to fill Camp requisitions promptly.

BANNER MAILING LISTS.

IX. Camp Secretaries must promptly furnish Division Headquarters with membership changes (members dropped or deceased, or new members added to their Camp rolls). Division Secretaries will without delay notify "THE BANNER" of these changes so that all members entitled thereto may receive the

official organ of the Order each month, and thus be informed of its progress. **THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT.**

NEW CAMPS.

X. New Camps have been instituted and Charters issued thereto as follows:

Camp No.	Location and Division.	Date	No. Mem.
40	Independence, Missouri	July 31	25
170	Luzerne, Pennsylvania	August 25	21
51	Kearney, Nebraska	September 12	21

FINANCIAL STATEMENT NO. I.

XI. Report of the National Secretary for August-September, 1924, inc.:

Receipts—

August 14, To Balance\$1651.08
Received for:

Charter Fees\$ 15.00

Supplies 425.41

Miscellaneous—Premium on Bond Sale and

Interest on Bonds 30.38

Total Receipts \$ 470.79

\$2121.87

Expenditures—

For General Expenses\$1445.50

Office Expenses 311.53

Commander-in-Chief's Expenses 12.80

Total Expenditures \$1769.83

Balance, September 30, 1924..... \$ 352.04

ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

General Expenses—

For Stock and Supplies\$ 531.53

Printing 45.00

Shipping Supplies 16.47

Salary 825.00

Bonds 27.50

\$1445.50

Office Expenses—

For Stationery National Officers, Stationery Stock, Rent
(Quarter), Postage, Telegrams, Express.....\$ 311.53

Commander-in-Chief's Expenses—

For Postage, Stenographer, Miscellaneous.....\$ 12.80

Total Expenditures\$1769.83

By order of

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. XI.

Headquarters,

COMMANDEY-IN-CHIEF, SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

Office of Commander-in-Chief,

No. 3755 Hyde Park Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio

November 1, 1924.

VETERANS' NIGHT.

I. Just a reminder of Veterans' Night! No doubt every Camp, by this time, has its plans well under way for the proper observance of this festival. If not, why not?

APPOINTMENTS.

II. In accordance with plan heretofore announced, the following brothers have been recommended by their Division Commanders for duty as Special Aides on the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, and their appointment as such is hereby announced:

S. W. King, 303 Cutting Bldg., Joliet, Ill.

W. F. Gottschalk, c/o Mammoth Shoe Store, Terre Haute, Indiana.

J. H. Smith, 204 Maine St., Cedar Falls, Iowa.

C. B. Martin, 122 South 32nd St., Parsons, Kan.

C. G. Closson, 426 East Fair St., Independence, Mo.

A. W. Elliott, 41 Pine St., Concord, N. H.

Wm. C. Kronmeyer, 309 Central Ave., West Hoboken, N. J.

E. E. Holmes, Johnson, Vt.

Otto F. Berner, Antigo, Wis.

ORGANIZATION.

III. Attention is called to the articles now appearing in The Banner, from the pen of Past Division Commander Fred E. Upham, of Leominster, Massachusetts, who is now in charge of our National Organization work. He is an enthusiast in this field. I beg every officer of every Division and of every Camp to give heed to his comment. Each Camp should secure for the use of its active members, at least five of the books gotten out by the National Organization Committee; and then *it should make use of them!*

NATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK.

IV. Attention is called to the observance of National Education Week, November 17-23, 1924, mentioned elsewhere in this issue. This movement is sponsored not only by the U. S. Bureau of Education and the National Education Association, but also by the National Americanism Commission, with which our Order is affiliated. Every member should give to this most worthy movement his moral support and, where possible, his active and material co-operation.

ELECTION OF CAMP OFFICERS.

V. In a few days every Camp will begin to think of the selection of officers to guide its destinies through the coming year. This is a duty which every member should take seriously and consider earnestly. In the last analysis the record of the

Order, whether it be success or failure, is written in the Camp room; and it is written largely by those whom you select as your officers. Look well, then, to this duty! Choose only those whom you feel *can* and *will* produce!

HARDING MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION.

VI. Contributions by Camps or members to the Harding Memorial Fund, must be forwarded to Past Commander-in-Chief H. V. Speelman, 1652 Hobart Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. A membership certificate will be sent in acknowledgment of receipt of contributions.

REPORTS.

VII. Division Commanders will promptly supply each Camp with blank Forms 27 and 28 (Secretary and Treasurer Reports), for the quarter ending December 31st.

Camp Commanders MUST see that these reports, accompanied by per capita tax, are forwarded to Division headquarters on the LAST MEETING NIGHT IN DECEMBER. This is necessary in order to insure installation of new Camp officers after December 31st.

NEW CAMPS.

VIII. Since last announcement applications for Charters for new Camps have been approved as follows:

Date.	No. Camp.	Location and Division.	No. Applets.
October 3	97	Castine, Maine	47
October 6	..	Toledo, Iowa	24
October 18	19	Dimondale, Michigan	15

Camp No. 97, Castine, Division of Maine, was instituted with 46 Charter members September 6th, 1924, and Charter issued thereto.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT NO. II.

IX. Report of National Secretary for month of October, 1924:

Receipts—

September 30, 1924, To balance\$ 352.04

Received for:

Per Capita Tax	\$199.04
Charter Fees	15.00
Supplies	470.66
Miscellaneous	22

Total Receipts\$ 684.92
\$1036.92

Expenditures—

By General Expenses	\$338.20
Office Expenses	26.65

Total Expenditures\$ 364.85

By balance, October 31, 1924.....\$ 672.11

SECRETARY'S CONSOLIDATED R

Division.	No. in Good Standing at Last Report.		GAIN				Total Gain.		Aggregate.
			By Organization and Initiation.		By Transfer.	By Reinstatement.			
	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members
Alabama & Tennessee..	12	302	1	29	...	...	1	29	13
California & Pacific....	35	1483	No Report.				...	...	...
Connecticut	42	2529	...	13	...	...	...	13	42
Illinois	54	2272	...	32	...	4	...	36	54
Indiana	32	2345	...	30	...	6	...	36	32
Iowa	21	846	...	16	...	1	...	17	21
Kansas	22	639	...	7	...	...	...	7	22
Maine	43	2225	1	103	...	8	1	111	44
Maryland	10	671	...	10	...	...	...	10	10
Massachusetts	149	9490	...	129	5	...	...	134	149
Michigan	22	906	...	12	...	...	...	12	22
Minnesota	14	499	...	10	...	...	...	10	14
Missouri	13	607	1	34	...	...	1	34	14
Nebraska	14	507	1	32	...	5	1	37	15
New Hampshire	34	1188	...	6	...	...	...	6	34
New Jersey	27	1847	...	14	1	...	...	15	27
New York	112	5256	...	67	4	2	...	73	112
Ohio	91	4033	...	166	1	21	...	188	91
Oregon	13	399	...	9	...	...	...	9	13
Pennsylvania	171	13250	2	394	...	6	2	400	173
Rhode Island	15	677	...	12	...	...	...	12	15
Vermont	37	1210	...	67	1	...	...	68	37
Washington	11	600	No Report.				...	...	...
Wisconsin	27	1180	...	13	...	5	...	18	27
Total	1021	54961	6	1205	12	58	6	1275	981

SECRETARY'S CONSOLIDATED REPORTS FOR QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1924.

Division.	No. In Good Standing at Last Report.		GAIN				Total Gain.				Aggregate.				LOSS					Total Loss.		No. In Good Standing.		Amount Received for Per Capita Tax.	Cash on Hand at Division Head- quarters.	Cash on Hand in Camps.	Expended in Charity as Per Treasurer's Reports.	No. Members or Their Families Relieved.	No. Veterans or Their Families Relieved.
			By Organization and Initiation.	By Transfer.	By Reinstatement.	By Disbanded.									By Death.	By Hon. Disch.	By Transfer.	By Dropped.											
	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Amount Received for Per Capita Tax.	Cash on Hand at Division Head- quarters.	Cash on Hand in Camps.	Expended in Charity as Per Treasurer's Reports.	No. Members or Their Families Relieved.	No. Veterans or Their Families Relieved.				
Alabama & Tennessee...	12	302	1	29	...	...	1	29	13	331	...	...	...	...	14	...	14	13	317	\$ 25.36	\$ 46.33	\$ 125.00	\$ .....	...	...		
California & Pacific...	35	1483	No Report.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35	1483	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Connecticut ...	42	2529	...	13	...	...	...	13	42	2512	...	...	...	...	41	...	51	42	2191	199.28	121.62	2616.13	511.75	...	...		
Illinois ...	54	2272	...	32	...	...	4	...	36	54	2308	...	...	...	5	2	1	8	292	300.46	2008	160.64	281.92	3190.32	...	...	
Indiana ...	32	2345	...	30	...	...	6	...	36	32	2381	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	105	113	32	2268	181.44	305.69	2269.59	766.00	9	1	
Iowa ...	21	846	...	16	...	...	1	...	17	21	863	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	14	...	17	21	846	67.68	430.46	298.26	...	...
Kansas ...	22	639	...	7	...	...	...	7	22	646	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	22	645	51.60	585.98	...	...	...
Maine ...	43	2225	1	103	...	...	8	1	111	44	2336	...	...	...	4	3	1	...	51	...	59	44	2277	182.16	351.14	1891.20	50.00	5	...
Maryland ...	10	671	...	10	...	...	...	10	10	681	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	17	...	20	10	661	52.88	246.84	1146.85	...	...	...
Massachusetts ...	149	9490	...	129	5	...	...	134	149	9624	1	37	36	9	27	...	124	1	233	148	9391	751.28	2126.81	22625.04	331.75	19	7		
Michigan ...	22	906	...	12	...	...	...	12	22	918	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	8	...	11	22	907	72.56	270.10	327.49	...	...	...
Minnesota ...	14	499	...	10	...	...	...	10	14	509	1	10	3	...	...	...	...	2	1	15	13	494	39.52	56.93	398.15	...	...	...
Missouri ...	13	607	1	34	...	...	1	34	14	641	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	10	...	13	14	628	50.24	353.42	683.90	...	...	...
Nebraska ...	14	507	1	32	...	...	5	1	37	15	544	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	15	...	17	15	527	42.16	123.99	...	...	...	...
New Hampshire ...	34	1188	...	6	...	...	...	6	34	1194	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	5	...	8	34	1186	94.88	29.44	1535.22	...	...	...
New Jersey ...	27	1847	...	14	1	...	...	15	27	1862	...	...	...	...	6	...	1	...	28	...	35	27	1827	146.16	261.86	2488.61	1644.38	...	...
New York ...	112	5256	...	67	4	...	2	...	73	112	5329	...	...	...	8	11	6	...	53	...	78	112	5261	420.08	1065.12	10013.06	316.00	...	...
Ohio ...	91	4033	...	166	1	...	21	...	188	91	4221	...	...	10	...	...	...	20	...	30	91	4191	335.28	631.96	3244.26	10.06	...	...	...
Oregon ...	13	399	...	9	...	...	...	9	13	408	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	1	...	4	13	404	32.32	67.31	62.54	...	...	...
Pennsylvania ...	171	13250	2	394	...	...	6	2	400	173	13650	1	11	29	2	9	...	298	1	355	172	13295	1063.60	867.19	72399.09	6830.12	188	34	
Rhode Island ...	15	677	...	12	...	...	...	12	15	689	...	...	...	...	2	19	2	...	...	23	15	666	53.28	84.00	835.23	27.52	2	2	
Vermont ...	37	1210	...	67	1	...	...	68	37	1278	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	11	37	1267	101.36	213.14	925.92	...	...	...
Washington ...	11	600	No Report.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	600	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wisconsin ...	27	1180	...	13	...	...	5	...	18	27	1198	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	16	...	17	27	1181	94.48	165.21	357.73	...	...	...
Total ...	1021	54961	6	1205	12	...	58	6	1275	981	54153	3	64	132	54	49	8	1126	57	3508	970	52728	\$4218.24	\$8686.46	\$127433.59	\$10487.58	223	44	

ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

General Expenses—	
For Stock and Supplies	\$335.95
Printing	2.25
<hr/>	
Office Expenses—	\$ 338.20
For Stationery, National Officers	\$ 26.55
<hr/>	
Total Expenditures	\$ 364.85

By order of

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. XII.

Headquarters,

COMMANDEY-IN-CHIEF, SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

Office of Commander-in-Chief,

No. 3755 Hyde Park Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio

December 1, 1924.

CHRISTMAS.

I. In the spirit of the Prince of Peace the Commander-in-Chief wishes every member a Christmastide filled with good cheer and a New Year replete with happiness and prosperity.

OUR ORGANIZATION SLOGANS FOR THE NEW YEAR.

II. For Divisions: "A Camp for Every Post."
For Camps: "Get Upham's Book and Organize."
For Members: "Every Member Get a Member."

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION CAMPAIGN.

III. Attention is again called to the National Organization campaign, in charge of Brother Fred E. Upham. Every Camp should procure five of the booklets which he is distributing and place them in the hands of a Membership Committee composed of five of their liveliest "live wires." Every Division Commander is urged to push the National Organization Campaign.

REGIONAL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION.

IV. The division of the country into several sections or districts for organization purposes has proven very effective in the past, and will be put into effect during this administration.

The following Regional Districts are hereby constituted:

District No. 1—The New England Region, consisting of the Divisions of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island.

District No. 2—The Eastern Region, consisting of the Divisions of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Maryland.

District No. 3—The East Central Region, consisting of the

Divisions of Alabama & Tennessee, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin.

District No. 4—The West Central Region, consisting of the Divisions of Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri.

District No. 5—The Rocky Mountain and Pacific Region, consisting of the Divisions of California & Pacific, Washington and Oregon.

Commandery Officers or Special Aides will shortly be placed in charge of these Regional Districts for all organization and campaign work. Their names will be announced in next General Orders.

All officers and members are asked to give these Regional Officers their fullest co-operation.

UNIVERSAL PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

V. Whereas, the Forty-third Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief adopted a recommendation in approval of the so-called "Universal Pledge of Allegiance;" the same to be "effective upon adoption by the several allied orders at their respective Encampments;"

And Whereas, the Commander-in-Chief has now received official information to the effect that the Grand Army of the Republic and a majority of the allied orders adopted said Pledge of Allegiance at their respective, recent National Encampments;

Now therefore, the adoption of the following Pledge of Allegiance, to wit:

"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands; one Nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all,"

is hereby proclaimed to be in effect, for use and observance by all constituted bodies of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., on all occasions where utterance of the pledge of allegiance is appropriate.

The National Secretary will promulgate proper amendments for the ritual.

EXCHANGE OF DIVISION ORDERS AND CIRCULARS.

VI. Division Commanders are urged to see to it that copies of all their divisional issues (Division Orders, Circulars or Bulletins) are forwarded to the Commander and Secretary of every other Division. The interchange of ideas and helpful suggestions in this manner will prove quite worth-while. Try it.

APPOINTMENTS.

VII. In accordance with plan heretofore announced, the following brothers have been recommended by their Division Commanders for duty as Special Aides on the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, and their appointment as such is hereby announced:

Lewis C. Colman, Swampscott, Massachusetts.

U. G. Boyer, 473 North Winter Street, Salem, Oregon.

Frederick A. Godcharles, Milton, Pennsylvania.

Edward S. Moulton, 1003 Turks Head Building, Providence, Rhode Island.

OFFICERS ATTENTION!

VIII. Heretofore, in the columns of The Banner, attention has been called to the neglect or failure on the part of some officers to answer official communications addressed to them and requiring a response. From several official sources the Commander-in-Chief has received complaint of similar neglect on the part of officers in both Camp and Division, and of neglect, also, in the matter of the prompt forwarding of required reports.

Common courtesy of every day life demands that every letter, not positively insulting, and requiring a response, should be answered.

Acceptance of any office implies a promise, and imposes an obligation, to perform at least the minimum requirements of the duties of that office, amongst which are the proper answering of official communications and the proper rendition of reports.

We have due compassion for the frailties of human kind; we know that sickness or distress sometimes prevent performance, even where there is a will to do; we know, too, that all cannot fill stellar roles in this drama of life. We do not ask the impossible. But we do demand that at least the minimum requirements of the duties of every office, both in Camp and Division, shall be faithfully met during this administration.

A promise given, an obligation accepted, should be met. To fail therein is dishonorable. If any officer is confronted by circumstances which render impossible the performance by him of even the minimum requirements of his obligation, he should have the frankness to say so, and the common decency to resign, and let someone else who can, have a chance to perform. To do otherwise, not only holds inert the functioning of his own office, but impedes the good work attempted by others.

This administration does not propose to wear any millstones around its neck. The Commander-in-Chief will not hesitate in the performance of a duty, no matter how unpleasant it may be. Produce, or get out!

This is not a threat. It is just a friendly and timely warning to the careless in order to acquaint them with the temperament of the Commander-in-Chief, and the purposes of this administration.

POSTS OF THE G. A. R. TO BE VISITED.

IX. New Camp Officers are urged to be regular in their attendance at meetings of Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic. Be ready, if requested, to render assistance of any kind to the Comrades at their meetings, or on other occasions. All officers and members are urged to attend the Post meetings.

KEEP MEMBERSHIP MAILING LISTS CORRECT.

X. Camp Secretaries should be careful to keep revised and up-to-date their lists of members and addresses. All changes in these lists should be promptly forwarded to the Division Secretary who will see that they are sent promptly to the publishers of The Banner. Every member in good standing is entitled to receive this publication each month. When Secretaries are dilatory in this matter they are unfair to their fellow members.

PER CAPITA TAX REPORTS.

XI. Camp Commanders will see that their quarterly re-

ports with per capita tax for the quarter ending December 31st, 1924, are forwarded without delay on the last meeting night of this month—DECEMBER—to their respective Division Headquarters. Division Commanders will urge Camp Commanders, Camp Secretaries, and Camp Treasurers to be prompt with these returns.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

XII. Camp Officers' installations will take place at the first meeting in January. Installing Officers will see that per capita tax and reports for the quarter ending December 31st, 1924, have been forwarded to Division Headquarters, or are placed in their hands for forwarding, before proceeding with installation.

COMMISSIONS FOR CAMP OFFICERS.

XIII. Division Commanders will see that appropriate commissions (Form 33) are issued to all Camp Officers as provided by the Regulations promptly after their installation and receipt of Installing Officers' reports (Form 22).

PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR'S REPORTS.

XIV. Camp Patriotic Instructors' Reports (Form 50) MUST be sent to Division Patriotic Instructors immediately after December 31st, 1924. Camp Commanders will give this matter their personal attention to insure the prompt forwarding of this report.

NEW CAMPS.

XV. New Camps have been instituted and Charters issued as follows:

No.	Location and Division.	Date Inst'ted.	No. Mem
126	Essex, Massachusetts	June 19	19
23	Reading, Massachusetts	May 19	32

CAMPS DROPPED.

XVI. Charters revoked, and Division Secretaries will make record accordingly:

Illinois—Dropped: Camp No. 16, McLean, with 23 members; Camp No. 20, Greenup, with 20 members; Camp No. 35, Marengo, with 14 members; Camp No. 84, Warren, with 19 members; Camp No. 86, Robinson, with 17 members; Camp No. 94, Mattoon, with 28 members; Camp No. 291, Greenville, with 49 members; Camp No. 301, Oblong, with 19 members.

Massachusetts—Dropped: Camp No. 10, Millers Falls, with 37 members.

Minnesota—Dropped: Camp No. 5, Mitchell, S. D., with 10 members.

Pennsylvania—Disbanded: Camp No. 38, Erie, with 17 members.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT NO. II.

XVII. Report of the National Secretary for month of November, 1924:

Receipts—

October 31, 1924, To balance \$ 672.11

Received for:

Per Capita Tax	\$3984.88
Supplies	244.66
Miscellaneous, Interest on Bonds.....	42.50
Total Receipts	<u>\$4272.04</u>

\$4944.15

Expenditures—

By General Expenses	\$3712.62
Office Expenses	22.03
Commander-in-Chief's Expenses	34.91
Total Expenditures	<u>\$3769.56</u>
To Balance, November 30, 1924.....	\$1174.59

ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

General Expenses—

For Stock and Supplies	\$ 127.00
Subscription, The Banner: September, \$969.76; October, \$975.08; November, \$971.70	2916.54
Encampment, Printing and Promulgating Journal of Proceedings, 1924 Encampment, Boston; Shipping, etc.	626.94
Printing	20.06
Shipping Supplies, October and November, inc.	22.08
	<u>\$3712.62</u>

Office Expenses—

For October-November, inc.: Postage, Express, Stationery	\$ 22.03
Commander-in-Chief's Expenses—	
For October-November, inc.: Postage, Telegrams, Traveling, Stenographer, Miscellaneous	\$ 34.91
Total Expenditures	<u>\$3769.56</u>

By order of

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER.
National Secretary.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. I.

Headquarters,

COMMANDEY-IN-CHIEF, SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

Office of Commander-in-Chief,

No. 3755 Hyde Park Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio

January 2, 1925.

UNION DEFENDERS' DAY.

I. Second only to Memorial Day, the greatest event in the Sons of Veterans' calendar is the anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, which we celebrate as "Union Defenders' Day," February twelfth.

Arrangements for the fitting observance of this anniversary should be already under way. The methods are many. A most valuable activity on this occasion is the furnishing of suitable speakers to address the pupils in our public schools on the subject of the life and character of Our Greatest American and the achievements of the Defenders of the Union.

The local Camps in those cities which possess a statue of Abraham Lincoln might appropriately arrange a simple ceremony at the place of the monument.

Whatever the method, let us all on this occasion dedicate our full effort to the re-kindling of the fires at the altars of our National Idealism.

THE NEW YEAR.

II. At the threshold of a New Year, the Commander-in-Chief extends his congratulations to the newly chosen Camp Officers; and for every one everywhere he wishes happiness and success. Especially does he request the Camp Commanders and the Division Commanders to give most thoughtful attention to the messages addressed to them, severally, on other pages of the current issue of The Banner.

REGIONAL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION.

III. Announcement is made of the appointment of Regional Aides to have charge of the respective Regional District organizations constituted in the last General Orders, as follows:

District No. 1—Charles P. Hall, 209 Oak Hall Bldg., Pawtucket, R. I.

District No. 2—Theodore C. Cazeau, 434 Mercantile Bldg., Rochester, N. Y.

District No. 3—Park F. Yengling (Acting), 507 The Arcade, Cleveland, O.

District No. 4—Moses P. O'Brien (Acting), 308 Barker Block, Omaha, Neb.

District No. 5—C. Randall Bubb, 724 Puget Sound Bank Bldg., Tacoma, Wash.

Through these Regional Aides, the Commander-in-Chief expects soon to call meetings of all Division Commanders and others interested within each Regional District, for the purpose of discussing our mutual problems and planning future activities. These meetings will be held at places as nearly central in each district as is possible. Every Division Commander will be expected to attend the District meeting within his own district. Special Aides, Past Commanders-in-Chief and others interested are cordially invited to attend.

LEGISLATIVE AIDE.

IV. Announcement is made of the appointment of Past Commander-in-Chief H. V. Speelman, 1652 Hobart Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., as Personal and Legislative Aide.

Brother Speelman will be our personal representative and liaison agent in all matters at the National Capital; but particularly in connection with Federal legislation in which the Order is, or may become, interested.

SPECIAL AIDE.

V. On recommendation of the Division Commander, the following appointment as Special Aide on the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief is announced:

G. D. Bentley, 930 Fifteenth Ave., S. E., Minneapolis, Minn.

RITUAL INSERTS—FLAG PLEDGE.

VI. Inserts for Ritual relative to Pledge of Allegiance, have been supplied to all Division Headquarters for the respective Camps. Directions for promulgating same to Camp Commanders have been issued. They will be attached to the Ritual as designated. Camp Commanders who have not received these inserts through their Division Headquarters will at once communicate with their Division Commanders. The Pledge of Allegiance as promulgated in General Orders No. 12, December, 1924, issue of The Banner, will be observed by all Camps.

PER CAPITA TAX AND REPORTS.

VII. Reports and per capita tax for Quarter ended December 31st, 1924, will be forwarded by Camp Secretaries, Camp Treasurers (Form 27 and 28) at once if not already in the hands of Division Secretaries. Camp Commanders will give this their personal and prompt attention.

PASSWORD AND COUNTERSIGN.

VIII. New Password and Countersign (Form 0000) will be issued to Camps by Division Commanders upon receipt of per capita tax and reports for the quarter ended December 31st, 1924. This will be promulgated only to Camps in good standing.

Camp Commanders will convey the password and countersign only to members in good standing January, 1925.

PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTORS' REPORTS DUE.

IX. Camp Patriotic Instructors will forward their reports to their Division Patriotic Instructors. Camp Commanders are charged to see to it that this report (Form 50) is forwarded, without further notice.

NEW CAMPS.

X. Applications were approved and Camps instituted, Charters issued thereto as follows, since last announcement:

Camp No.	Location and Division.	Date Inst'd	No. Mem.
71	Toledo, Iowa	October 18	21
38	Vandergrift, Pa.	October 20	68
61	Newport, Maine	December 1	17

FINANCIAL STATEMENT NO. IV.

XI. Report of the National Secretary for month of December, 1924:

Receipts—	
November 30, 1924, To balance	\$1174.59
Received for	
Per Capita Tax	\$148.64
Charter Fees	10.00
Supplies	305.68
Total Receipts	\$ 464.32
	<hr/>
	\$1638.91

Expenditures—	
By General Expenses	\$884.59
Office Expenses	208.35
Commander-in-Chief's Expenses	31.00
Total Expenditures	<u>\$1123.94</u>
To Balance, December 31, 1924.....	\$ 514.97

ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

General Expenses—	
For Supplies	\$ 10.38
Printing	39.95
Shipping Supplies	9.26
Salary (quarter)	825.00
	<u>\$ 884.59</u>
Office Expenses—	
For Postage, Telegrams, Rent (quarter)	\$ 208.35
Commander-in-Chief's Expenses—	
For Postage, Traveling, Stenographer	\$ 31.00
Total Expenditures	<u>\$1123.94</u>

By order of

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. II.

Headquarters,

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

Office of Commander-in-Chief,

No. 3755 Hyde Park Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio

February 1, 1925.

OUR CALENDAR.

I. Arrangements for the fitting celebration of Union Defenders' Day (February 12th) are, or should be, already under way in all Camps.

II. We should then turn our attention to the days that lie ahead. It is not too soon to plan appropriate observance of Apomattox Day (April 9th) and General Grant's birthday (April 27). Either or both may be made the occasion for a lively and worth-while gathering; and don't forget to emphasize Grant's response to Lee's surrender. Of course, the Comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic will occupy a prominent place in your program for the day.

RE-ALLOCATION OF TERRITORY.

III. Effective as of January 1, 1925, the States of Idaho and Montana are detached from the California and Pacific Division and attached to the Washington Division. Camps located in these states will render their reports for the quarter ended December 31, 1924, to the California and Pacific Division and all future reports to the Washington Division.

IV. The State of Texas is detached from the California and Pacific Division and attached to the Kansas Division.

V. The States of Colorado, Wyoming, Utah and New Mexico are hereby declared to constitute a Provisional Division. Camps located therein will report, for the time being, to the Commander of the California and Pacific Division as heretofore.

AIDES.

VI. Past Division Commander Fred J. Phillips, of Chicago, Ill., is hereby appointed Special Military Aide on the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief. He is charged with the duty of organizing a uniformed guard of honor which, at the request of Commander-in-Chief Arensberg, will act as escort to the Grand Army of the Republic at the National Encampment to be held at Grand Rapids, Michigan, August 31-September 5, 1925.

VII. In recognition of service rendered, Brother George S. Carroll, Portsmouth, Ohio, is appointed a Special Aide on the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, representing the Division of Ohio.

REPORTS AND PER CAPITA TAX.

VIII. The Division of Washington reported for the Quarter ending September, 1924, very late; but showed in good standing 12 Camps and 629 members—a gain of 1 Camp and 29 members.

IX. Division Commanders will see that Camp Secretaries and Camp Treasurers, who have not forwarded reports and per capita tax for last quarter, will do so at once. Every effort to secure same without delay should be made, so as to avoid necessity of carrying Camps on the rolls as delinquent.

PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTORS' REPORTS.

X. These reports from Camp Patriotic Instructors, Form 50, are now over-due. Division Commanders and Division Patriotic Instructors will secure these reports from Camps at once, consolidate same and promptly forward their reports (Form 51) to National Patriotic Instructor Theodore C. Cazeau, 434 Mercantile Building, Rochester, New York.

RITUAL INSERTS.

XI. Inserts for the Ritual, changes adopted at the Boston Encampment (1924), have been supplied to all Divisions for the Rituals in use in each Camp. Reports have been received to the effect that these have NOT been promulgated by Division Officers in some instances, as directed. **EVERY CAMP MUST HAVE THESE CHANGES** and arrange the printed inserts in the parts of the Ritual designated.

Division Commanders who have not complied, will AT ONCE provide all Camps with these inserts.

NEW CAMPS.

XII. Applications have been approved and Charter issued for new Camps as follows:

Date App'd.	Camp No.	Location and Division.	No. Appl.	Mem.
Jan. 5	14	Janesville, Iowa	23	18
Jan. 29	..	Mason City, Iowa	16	

FINANCIAL STATEMENT NO. V.

XIII. Report of the National Secretary, for month of January, 1925:

Receipts—	
December 31, 1924, To balance.....	\$ 514.97
Received for	
Per Capita Tax	\$339.44
Charter Fees	10.00
Supplies	332.25
Total Receipts	\$ 681.69
Expenditures—	
By General Expenses	\$405.70
Commander-in-Chief's Expenses	90.26
Total Expenditures	\$ 495.96
Balance, January 31, 1925.....	\$ 700.70

ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

General Expenses—	
For Stock and Supplies	\$ 405.70
Commander-in-Chief's Expenses—	
For Postage, Telegrams, Traveling, Stenographer.....	\$ 90.26
Total Expenditures	\$ 495.96

By order of

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER.
National Secretary.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. III.

Headquarters,

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

Office of Commander-in-Chief,

No. 3755 Hyde Park Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio

March 2, 1925.

OUR CALENDAR.

I. Just another reminder of Appomattox Day (April 9th) and General Grant's birthday (April 27th). See last month's General Order.

And it is not too soon now for the Camps to begin their preparations for the proper observance of Memorial Day.

COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF ENCAMPMENT.

II. The Forty-fourth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., will assemble at Grand Rapids, Michigan, during the week of August 30, 1925.

The Encampment will be called to order on Tuesday, September 1, 1925, at 10 o'clock A. M.

NATIONAL SECRETARY'S CONSOLIDATED

Division	No. Camps in Good Standing at Last Report.		GAIN								Aggregate.		By Disbanded.	
			By Muster In.		By Transfer.	By Reinstatement.		Total Gain.						
	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	
Ala. & Tenn.	13	317	...	10	...	...	...	...	10	13	327	...	...
California	35	1454	...	22	1	...	2	...	25	35	1479	2	3	
Connecticut	42	2491	...	40	...	...	...	...	40	42	2531	1	1
Illinois	46	2008	...	53	...	...	1	...	54	46	2062	...	...
Indiana	32	2268	...	36	2	...	1	...	39	32	2307	...	...
Iowa	21	846	1	33	1	...	1	1	35	22	881	...	...
Kansas	22	645	...	8	...	...	4	...	12	22	657	...	...
Maine	44	2227	1	47	...	...	4	1	51	45	2328	...	...
Maryland	10	661	...	13	...	...	3	...	16	10	677	...	...
Massachusetts ...	148	9391	...	198	12	...	...	...	210	148	9601	1	1
Michigan	22	907	...	8	...	...	...	...	8	22	915	...	...
Minnesota	13	494	...	10	...	...	1	...	11	13	505	...	...
Missouri	14	628	...	10	...	...	...	...	10	14	638	...	...
Nebraska	15	527	...	2	...	...	...	...	2	15	529	...	...
New Hampshire ...	34	1186	...	36	2	...	...	...	38	34	1224	...	...
New Jersey	27	1827	...	29	1	...	1	...	31	27	1858	1	1	
New York	112	5251	...	116	3	...	2	...	121	112	5372	...	...
Ohio	91	4191	...	85	2	...	9	...	96	91	4287	...	...
Oregon	13	404	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	13	413	...	...
Pennsylvania	172	13295	1	200	1	...	3	1	204	173	13499	1	1	
Rhode Island	15	666	...	10	...	...	...	...	10	15	676	...	...
Vermont	37	1267	...	23	...	...	...	...	23	37	1290	...	...
Washington	12	629	...	11	...	...	...	...	11	12	640	...	...
Wisconsin	27	1181	...	24	...	...	4	...	28	27	1209	...	...
Total	1017	54811	3	1033	25	...	36	3	1086	1020	55909	6	8	

NATIONAL SECRETARY'S CONSOLIDATED REPORTS FOR QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1924.

Division	No. Camps in Good Standing at Last Report.		GAIN								Aggregate.	LOSS								No. in Good Standing.		Amount Received for Per Capita Tax.	Cash on Hand at Division Headquarters.	Cash on Hand in Camps.	Expended in Charity as Per Treasurers' Reports.	No. Relieved or Their Families.					
			By Muster In.		By Transfer.		By Reinstatement.		Total Gain.			By Disbanded.		By Death.		Honorable Discharge.		By Transfer.										By Dishon. Disch.		By Dropped.		Total Loss.
	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Members	Camps	Members	Members	Camps	Members		Camps	Members	Members	Members	Members	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Members	Veterans				
Ala. & Tenn.	13	317	...	10	...	...	...	...	10	13	327	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	13	324	\$ 25.92	\$ 24.76	\$ 100.00	\$ .....	...	...		
California	35	1454	...	22	1	...	2	...	25	35	1479	...	2	31	...	...	36	2	70	33	1409	112.72	171.51	897.21	58.00	...	...		
Connecticut	42	2491	...	40	...	...	...	...	40	42	2531	...	1	13	...	7	2	...	12	1	34	2497	199.76	155.51	2557.13	14.30	...	...	
Illinois	46	2008	...	53	1	...	54	46	2062	4	3	5	229	5	236	41	1826	146.08	360.92	3331.31	7.00
Indiana	32	2268	...	36	2	...	1	...	39	32	2307	6	3	1	127	...	137	32	2170	173.60	364.50	3005.49	445.50	4	3
Iowa	21	846	1	33	1	...	1	1	35	22	881	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	21	...	24	22	857	68.56	468.30	...	...	...	...
Kansas	22	645	...	8	...	...	4	...	12	22	657	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	13	22	644	51.52	606.40	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maine	44	2227	1	47	4	1	51	45	2328	7	2	2	64	...	75	45	2253	180.24	390.03	1986.78	37.12
Maryland	10	661	...	13	...	...	3	...	16	10	677	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	15	...	17	10	660	52.80	301.45	1672.10	250.00	...	...
Massachusetts ...	148	9391	...	198	12	...	...	...	210	148	9601	1	13	28	22	14	...	...	...	169	1	246	147	9355	748.40	2702.51	23711.60	563.16	20	14
Michigan	22	907	...	8	...	...	...	...	8	22	915	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	12	...	15	22	900	72.00	375.76	473.21	19.30	...	...
Minnesota	13	494	...	10	...	...	1	...	11	13	505	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	3	...	5	13	500	40.00	89.94	418.60	2.00	...	...
Missouri	14	628	...	10	...	...	...	...	10	14	638	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	38	...	42	14	596	47.68	377.84	891.30	...	...	...
Nebraska	15	527	...	2	...	...	...	...	2	15	529	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	24	...	26	15	503	40.24	172.28	...	...	...	...
New Hampshire ...	34	1186	...	36	2	...	...	...	38	34	1224	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	...	12	...	16	34	1208	96.64	66.04	1495.62	...	...	...
New Jersey	27	1827	...	29	1	...	1	...	31	27	1858	1	15	6	...	...	...	...	...	8	1	29	26	1829	146.32	372.71	4322.13	1704.50	...	...
New York	112	5251	...	116	3	...	2	...	121	112	5372	...	...	14	12	2	1	...	...	127	...	156	112	5216	417.28	1086.48	12221.34	356.00	16	45
Ohio	91	4191	...	85	2	...	9	...	96	91	4287	...	...	...	8	...	1	...	...	70	...	79	91	4208	336.64	772.58	3156.29	...	...	...
Oregon	13	404	...	9	...	...	...	...	13	413	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	413	33.04	92.22	112.16	10.00	...	...	...
Pennsylvania	172	13295	1	200	1	...	3	1	204	173	13499	1	15	31	1	1	...	...	...	316	1	364	172	13135	1050.80	1214.95	67160.20	6786.79	177	...
Rhode Island	15	666	...	10	...	...	...	...	10	15	676	...	...	...	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	6	15	670	53.60	72.51	845.63	31.56	...	...
Vermont	37	1267	...	23	...	...	...	...	23	37	1290	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	20	...	24	37	1266	101.28	279.45	941.56	...	...	...
Washington	12	629	...	11	...	...	...	...	11	12	640	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	10	12	630	50.40	81.25	214.96	10.00	...	...
Wisconsin	27	1181	...	24	...	...	4	...	28	27	1209	...	...	...	4	2	...	...	...	39	...	45	27	1164	93.12	253.64	747.42	...	...	...
Total	1017	54811	3	1033	25	...	36	3	1085	1020	55909	6	87	131	61	24	1	5	1368	11	1672	1009	54233	\$4368.64	\$10853.54	\$130623.73	\$10295.23	217	62		

Temporary Headquarters of the Commandery-in-Chief will be established at the Hotel Morton. This hotel will also be headquarters for the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary.

The Council-in-Chief will meet at the Hotel Morton, at 3 o'clock P. M. on Monday, August 31st, 1925, to audit the books and accounts of the National Secretary-Treasurer.

The Parade of the Grand Army of the Republic will take place Wednesday morning, September 2nd, 1925.

A railroad rate of one-way fare for the round trip has been secured and will apply as heretofore and under similar conditions.

Hotel arrangements, rates, etc., will be published in next Orders.

DIVISION ENCAMPMENTS.

III. Dates and places of Division Encampments will be reported as soon as possible to Commandery-in-Chief Headquarters.

Announcement is made of the following Division Encampments:

APRIL—Massachusetts at Boston, April 7-8.

New Hampshire at Concord, April 9-10.

Connecticut at East Hartford, April 23-24.

MAY — Illinois at Aurora, May 12-14.

JUNE — Pennsylvania at Oil City, June 16-18.

New Jersey at Cape May, June 25-26.

BONDS OF DIVISION COMMANDERS.

IV. Division Commanders chosen at the coming Division Encampments will take note that, as enacted at the Forty-third Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Boston, 1924, it is required:

"That the bonds of Division Commanders to the Commander-in-Chief *shall* hereafter be in the form of "POSITION BONDS," IN AND TO THE NAME OF THE OFFICE AND NOT the individual, provisions for which *shall* be made in the respective Divisions.

Such bonds shall be subject only to the filing of annual premium renewal certificate after the original bond in such form shall have been duly filed and approved."

A Division Commander's Bond only is required to be filed with the Commander-in-Chief. It will be in the sum of One Thousand (\$1,000) Dollars. It will be made to "Wm. M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Cincinnati, Ohio," and forwarded to him.

Premium on this bond will be paid by the Division.

The Bond to the Commander-in-Chief does NOT PREVENT a Division also securing bond from the Division Commander.

CAMP CHAPLAIN'S REPORTS.

V. Division Commanders will promptly issue to all Camps Form 44, Camp Chaplain's Report. Camp Commanders will give attention to this report and have return made without delay—immediately after the ceremonies on Memorial Day—to Division Chaplain.

Division Chaplains will see that Camp Chaplains report promptly and will make their returns on Form 43 to National Chaplain Francis C. Hawthorne, 1227 West 49th Street, Los Angeles, California.

The date of the Commandery-in-Chief Encampment at Grand Rapids, Michigan, necessitates the *prompt* return of these reports by Camp Chaplains and also by Division Chaplains.

CAMP SECRETARY AND TREASURER REPORTS.

VI. All Camps should be supplied with Forms 27 and 28, Camp Secretary and Camp Treasurer Reports, for the quarters ending March and June, 1925, without delay by Division Headquarters. Division Commanders will see that these reports are returned to their Headquarters with per capita tax for the said quarters promptly.

Camp Commanders, Camp Secretaries and Camp Treasurers should make it a positive rule to SEND THESE REPORTS WITH PER CAPITA TAX to their respective Division Headquarters ON THE LAST MEETING IN THE QUARTER.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

VII. Within the last forty days three district meetings have been held and official visits have been paid by the Commander-in-Chief to ten Divisions. Acknowledgment is made by the Commander-in-Chief of the uniform kindness and courtesy shown to him on all of these occasions and he takes this first opportunity to express his grateful appreciation thereof.

NEW CAMP CHARTERED.

VIII. Charter has been issued to Camp No. 13, Zanesville, Division of Ohio, instituted November 13, 1924, with 60 Charter members.

CAMP CHARTERS REVOKED.

IX. The following Camps having been Disbanded and Dropped their Charters have been revoked, and record at Division Headquarters will be made accordingly:

California and Pacific—Disbanded: Camp No. 27, Porterville, with 19 members; Camp No. 35, Rodonda Beach, with 12 members.

Connecticut—Dropped, Camp No. 12, Windsor Locks, with 13 members.

Illinois—Dropped: Camp No. 3, Charleston, with 34 members; Camp No. 11, Newton, with 15 members; Camp No. 18, Lawrenceville, with 24 members; Camp No. 19, Johnston City, with 19 members; Camp No. 27, Rochelle, with 33 members.

Massachusetts—Dropped, Camp No. 83, Ipswich, with 13 members.

New Jersey—Disbanded, Camp No. 37, Millville, with 15 members.

Pennsylvania—Dropped, Camp No. 148, Irwin, with 15 members.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT NO. VI.

X. Report of the National Secretary for month of February, 1925:

Receipts—

January 31, 1925, To balance\$ 700.70

Received for

Per Capita Tax	\$4018.48
Charter Fees	5.00
Supplies	311.27

Total Receipts \$4334.75

Expenditures—

By General Expenses	\$3014.91
Office Expenses	27.41
Commander-in-Chief Expenses	280.27

Total Expenditures \$3322.59

Balance, February 28, 1925..... \$1712.86

ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

General Expenses—

For Supplies	\$ 56.10
The Banner, Subscription: December, 1924, \$969; January, 1925, \$969.54; February, 1925, \$964.11	2902.65
Shipping Supplies, January-February, inc.....	20.84
Officers—Except Commander-in-Chief and Na- tional Secretary-Treasurer	35.32

\$3014.91

Office Expenses—

For Postage, Express, Telegrams, Stationery, January-February, inc.	\$ 27.41
Commander-in-Chief's Expenses—	
For Postage, Telegrams, Traveling, Stenographer.....	\$ 280.27

Total Expenditures \$3322.59

By order of

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. IV.

Headquarters,

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

Office of Commander-in-Chief,

No. 3755 Hyde Park Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio

April 1, 1925.

OUR APRIL CALENDAR.

I. April 9th will be the *sixtieth* anniversary of the surrender of Lee at Appomattox, C. H., Virginia. Every Camp should hold fitting exercises commemorative of this history making event. Get out your old histories and your "Personal Memoirs" of General Grant and read over once more the story of this day. From Grant's desire for peace and from his attitude

of conciliation and brotherly love, no less than from his courage and his loyalty to the National Union, you will gain an inspiration and an increased devotion to the country and the flag for which, with Grant, our fathers fought.

And then, on April 27, comes the 103rd Anniversary of General Grant's birth. This day may be used, in lieu of April 9th, for the commemorative exercises suggested.

MEMORIAL DAY.

II. Attention is directed to the approach of Memorial Day and to the duties of all members and of all Camps on this day.

Camp Commanders should lay their plans promptly; committees should be named; and the program should be under way. *Every member should be enlisted* in that day's work. On Sunday, May 24th, Camps might appropriately arrange to attend Divine Services in a body.

Camps in charge of Memorial Day exercises will conduct services in accordance with the Ritual. Where Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic are in charge, Camps will tender their services and render all necessary assistance in the decoration of graves and all other duties that may be assigned them.

Division Commanders will see that all Camps are supplied with report blank, Form 44, without delay.

Camp Chaplains will forward this report (Form 44) ON MEMORIAL DAY, showing their part in the day's ceremonies, to their Division Chaplains.

Division Chaplains, in turn, will make prompt report, on Form 43, to National Chaplain, Francis C. Hawthorne, 1227 West 49th Street, Los Angeles, California.

REGIONAL CONFERENCES.

III. During the months of January and February Regional Conferences were held in the First, Second and Third Regional Districts. They are believed to be a power for good. At least it is hoped they started some new lines of thought. They should be more generally attended.

A Regional Conference for the Fourth District is scheduled to take place in Omaha, Nebraska, on April 18th-19th. It is hoped there will be present a goodly representation from among the membership in this Regional District.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE.

IV. This is in charge of Past Division Commander Fred E. Upham, 73 Tremont Street, Boston, Massachusetts, to whom all communications on the subject of organization work, incident to campaigns for members and Camps, should be addressed.

All members, and especially all officers, are urged to read the page devoted to "National Organization Work," which is edited by Brother Upham.

LAST CALL.

V. Camps and Members who have not contributed to the Harding Memorial Association Fund, are urged to do so without further delay. All contributions should be made direct to

Past Commander-in-Chief, Honorable Harley V. Speelman, 1652 Hobart Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

DIVISION ENCAMPMENTS.

VI. Dates and places of Division Encampments will be reported as soon as possible to Commandery-in-Chief Headquarters.

Announcement is made of the following Division Encampments:

APRIL—Massachusetts at Boston, April 7-8.
New Hampshire at Concord, April 9-10.
Rhode Island at Providence, April 22.
Connecticut at East Hartford, April 23-24.

MAY — Illinois at Aurora, May 12-14.

JUNE — Maryland at Baltimore, June 2-3.
Iowa at Mason City, June 9-10-11.
Pennsylvania at Oil City, June 16-18.
New Jersey at Cape May, June 25-26.

DIVISION ENCAMPMENT RETURNS.

VII. Immediately after installation of Officers at Division Encampment, report will be made in duplicate on Form 49 to the National Secretary, in order that the rolls of the Commandery-in-Chief may be prepared.

Owing to the early date of the Commandery-in-Chief Encampment it is absolutely necessary that these returns be forwarded without a moment's delay.

DIVISION COMMANDERS' BONDS.

VIII. Attention is again called to the fact that the *position* of Division Commander and *not the individual* is to be bonded. See paragraph III, General Order No. 3, March, 1925. Division Encampments will make appropriate arrangements. The bond will be in the sum of One Thousand Dollars, made to the Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

QUARTERLY REPORTS AND PER CAPITA TAX.

IX. Forms 27 and 28—Camp Secretary and Camp Treasurer Reports, with per capita tax for the quarter ending March 31, 1925, are NOW due from all Camps and should be at their respective Division Headquarters. It is urged that ALL Camp Commanders see that these returns are made without delay. Division Commanders should make every effort to secure these returns AT ONCE.

Division Commanders will give attention to the forwarding of the returns of their Division Secretaries and Division Treasurers on Forms 35, 37, and 38, with per capita tax for the March quarter, to the National Secretary.

It is hoped there will be no delinquent Camps or Divisions this quarter.

Six weeks after the close of the last quarter, over 30% of the Camps were delinquent for reports, or per capita tax, or both. A number of Camps were delinquent for several quarters. This condition cannot long exist. It is a direct responsibility of the Division Commander, taking precedence over all else.

COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF ENCAMPMENT.

X. Arrangements have been completed for the Forty-fourth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., which will convene at Grand Rapids, Michigan, at 10 o'clock A. M., Tuesday, September 1, 1925.

Temporary Headquarters will be established at the Hotel Morton, August 31st, 1925. Headquarters of the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary will also be at this hotel.

RATES for accommodations at the Hotel Morton are on the European Plan, as follows:

Rooms with bath, full size bed, two persons, \$2.50 each; larger rooms with bath, full size bed, two persons, \$3.00 each; single rooms with bath, single bed, \$3.50 per day; rooms with bath and twin beds, \$3.00 and \$3.50 each person; large corner suites, \$12.00 and \$15.00 per day. Extra cots placed in rooms, \$1.50 each.

RESERVATIONS should be made through GEORGE E. COGSHALL, 741 Clancy Avenue, N. E., Grand Rapids, Michigan. Brother Cogshall has been named Chairman of the Sons of Veterans Housing Committee, representing National Headquarters.

IT IS IMPORTANT, when you request reservations, that you state the day, and hour if possible, when you expect to arrive in Grand Rapids; also how many days you expect to remain there.

RAILROAD RATE will be one fare for the round trip.

Tickets will be sold August 27 to September 2, inclusive.

Tickets will be good going and returning via same route only, validation will not be required before return passage. Final return limit to reach original starting point not later than October 6, 1925. Stopovers will be allowed both going and returning upon application to conductor. Identification certificates and tickets issued thereunder are not transferable. Tickets may be used to start on the return trip on any date but will only be good to reach original starting point not later than midnight of the date set as "final return limit" as above.

Sale and use of such reduced fare is limited to the following:

Members of the G. A. R.

Wife, or a dependent member of the family, of a member of the G. A. R.

Widow of a deceased member of the G. A. R.

Members and dependent members of the family of members of the following Auxiliary and Allied Organizations holding conventions in connection with the Encampment:

Woman's Relief Corps; Ladies of the G. A. R.; Daughters of Veterans; Sons of Veterans; Sons of Veterans' Auxiliary; Army Nurses of the Civil War.

In order to purchase these round trip tickets at the reduced fare, it will be necessary that those indicated as above present to the local ticket agent identification certificates.

Division Secretaries will secure railroad certificates or orders for reduced fare from the Assistant Adjutants-General of

the respective Departments of the Grand Army of the Republic; and will make proper distribution thereof.

NEW CAMPS.

XI. Applications for Charters for new Camps have been approved as follows:

Camp No.	Location and Division.	Date.	No. Applts.
30	Kansas City, Missouri	March 18	36
	Newport, Rhode Island	March 21	19
102	Falmouth, Massachusetts	March 31	29

Camp No. 30, Kansas City, Division of Missouri, was instituted (and Charter issued) February 28, with 38 Charter members.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT NO. VII.

XII. Report of the National Secretary for month of March, 1925:

Receipts—	
February 28, 1925, To balance	\$1712.86
Received for	
Per Capita Tax	\$ 33.04
Charter Fees	15.00
Supplies	302.53
Total Receipts	<u>\$ 350.57</u>
	\$2063.43
Expenditures—	
By General Expenses	\$1530.59
Office Expenses	211.58
Commander-in-Chief Expenses	16.75
Total Expenditures	<u>\$1758.92</u>
Balance, March 31, 1925	\$ 304.51

ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

General Expenses—	
The Banner, Subscription, March, 1925.....	\$ 965.32
Printing	1.00
Shipping Supplies	7.17
Salary on a/c	550.00
Officers—Except Commander-in-Chief and National Secretary-Treasurer	7.10
	<u>\$1530.59</u>

Office Expenses—	
For Postage, Rent (3 months), Wrapping Paper, Stationery	\$ 211.58
Commander-in-Chief's Expenses—	
For Postage, Telegrams, Traveling, Stenographer.....	\$ 16.75
Total Expenditures	<u>\$1758.92</u>

By order of

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. V.

Headquarters,
 COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF, SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.
 Office of Commander-in-Chief,
 No. 3755 Hyde Park Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio

May 1, 1925.

MEMORIAL DAY.

I. It may well be said that our Order is built around the sentiment of Memorial Day.

The Order's activities may be broadly extended, but its foundation rock is a spirit of respect for the Constitutional Union which has made our nation great and a spirit of reverence for the heroic men and women whose sacrifices have made that union possible.

On this day we renew our pledges of loyalty; and in its ceremonies we give visible expression to that spirit of respect and reverence. It is a *holy day*; not a holiday. *Let every Son of a Veteran so regard and observe it!*

CITIZENSHIP.

II. One of the crying needs of the day is training in citizenship—development in the young of that sturdy sort of character which has made our nation.

One agency which is helping to meet this need is the Citizens Military Training Camp. The usefulness of these camps is well defined by Mrs. Nellie Taylor Ross, Governor of Wyoming, in the following statement:

"It is my earnest hope that many of the young men of the state will take advantage of this opportunity—one which I feel offers compensation out of all proportion to the required expenditure of time and effort. Whether or not war shall ever make necessary the duty of military service, I feel strongly that the physical benefit and mental discipline to be derived from military training must be an asset to any man throughout all his life.

"I think, too, that young men in the Citizens' Camps must find great stimulus to development in association and competition with others from different sections of the West with whom they come in contact."

The Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., gives its unqualified approval and endorsement to these camps. Every Son of a Veteran who has a boy of the proper age should give him the benefit of this summer training; and urge similar action on the part of his neighbors.

PROVISIONAL DIVISION OF COLORADO.

III. The Provisional Division of Colorado, consisting of the States of Colorado, Wyoming, Utah and New Mexico is hereby detached from the Fifth Regional District and attached to the Fourth Regional District.

Camps located within this provisional Division will make all reports direct to the Commandery-in-Chief through the Regional Aide for the Fourth District, who, under the supervision

of the Commander-in-Chief, will have command of this territory until such time as it may be organized as a Division.

REGIONAL AIDES.

IV. At his request, Brother Moses P. O'Brien, is hereby relieved of duty as Acting Regional Aide in the Fourth Regional District.

Brother Frank P. Corrick, 412 Brownell Block, Lincoln, Nebraska, is hereby appointed Regional Aide in the Fourth Regional District.

SPECIAL AIDES.

V. In recognition of services rendered the following brothers are hereby appointed Special Aides on the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief:

Moses P. O'Brien, 722 Peters Trust Building, Omaha, Neb.

George E. Cogshall, 741 Clancy Avenue, N. E., Grand Rapids, Michigan.

J. A. Ditson, 1111 Larimer Street, Denver, Colorado.

On recommendation of the Division Commander, Brother E. A. Lang, 31 Adams Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., is appointed Special Aide on the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, representing the Maryland Division.

DIVISION ENCAMPMENTS.

VI. Announcement is made of the following Division Encampments:

California and Pacific, at Sacramento, May 18-22.

Illinois, at Aurora, May 12-14.

Indiana, at Princeton, June 9-10-11.

Iowa, at Mason City, June 9-10-11.

Kansas, at Salina, May 12-13-14.

Maine, at Portland, June 10-11.

Maryland, at Baltimore, June 2-3.

Michigan, at Port Huron, June 10-11-12.

Minnesota, at St. Paul, June 16-17.

Missouri, at Joplin, May 6-7-8.

Nebraska, at Omaha, May 5-6-7.

New Jersey, at Cape May, June 25-26.

New York, at Saratoga Springs, June 16-17-18.

Ohio, at Mt. Vernon, June 8-9-10-11.

Oregon, at Oregon City, June 23-24-25.

Pennsylvania, at Oil City, June 16-18.

Vermont, at Bennington, June 10-11.

Washington, at Centralia, June 22-23-24-25.

Wisconsin, at Sheboygan, June 15-16-17.

COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF ENCAMPMENT.

VII. The Forty-fourth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief will convene at Grand Rapids, Michigan, at 10 o'clock A. M., Tuesday, September 1, 1925.

Temporary Headquarters will be established at the Hotel Morton, August 31st, 1925. Headquarters of the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary will also be at this hotel.

RATES at the Hotel Morton are on the European Plan, as follows:

Rooms with bath, full size bed, two persons, \$2.50 each; larger rooms with bath, full size bed, two persons, \$3.00 each; single rooms with bath, single bed, \$3.50 per day; rooms with bath and twin beds, \$3.00 and \$3.50 each person; large corner suites, \$12.00 and \$15.00 per day. Extra cots placed in rooms, \$1.50 each.

RESERVATIONS should be made through GEORGE E. COGSHALL, 741 Clancy Avenue, N. E., Grand Rapids, Michigan, Chairman of the Sons of Veterans Housing Committee, representing National Headquarters.

IT IS IMPORTANT in making reservations, that the day, and hour if possible, of arrival in Grand Rapids be stated; also how many days reservation is desired.

RAILROAD RATE will be one fare for the round trip.

Tickets will be sold August 27 to September 2, inclusive.

Tickets will be good going and returning via same route only.

ANCESTOR'S RECORDS.

VIII. Form 16, Requests for Record of Ancestor, continue to be forwarded by Division Commanders and Division Secretaries to the National Secretary—notwithstanding instructions to send them direct to the Commander-in-Chief. By complying with orders relating to this subject records desired will be expedited and returns made without unnecessary delay.

CAMP CHAPLAIN'S REPORTS.

IX. Every Camp Chaplain MUST forward report—Form 44 ON MEMORIAL DAY—after the ceremonies, to the Division Chaplain. Camp Commanders will give this personal attention.

Division Chaplains MUST see to it that their reports—Form 43—are in the hands of National Chaplain—Francis C. Hawthorne, 1227 West 49th Street, Los Angeles, California, NOT LATER than June 20. This is necessary owing to the date of the coming Commandery-in-Chief Encampment.

CAMP SECRETARY AND TREASURER REPORTS.

X. Per capita tax with reports—Forms 27 and 28, for Quarter ending June 30th, MUST be sent by every Camp promptly and without a moment's delay to their respective Division Headquarters—owing to the early date of the Commandery-in-Chief Encampment at Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Division Commanders must impress this upon every Camp Commander and will see to it that the tax and reports from every Camp are promptly received.

Division Commanders, Division Secretaries and Division Treasurers must have their returns—(per capita tax and reports—Forms 35, 37 and 38), for the June Quarter in the hands of the National Secretary without delay and as specified in communication from National Headquarters relative thereto.

Failure in this respect will deprive Divisions of representation in the Commandery-in-Chief Encampment.

NEW DIVISION OFFICERS.

XI. Connecticut—Division Commander, Henry W. Storrs, 122 Clark St., Hartford; Division Secretary and Treasurer, Isaac T. Jenks, P. O. Box 1233, New Haven.

Massachusetts—Division Commander, Henry F. Weiler, 88 Tremont St., 606 Tremont Temple, Boston; Division Secretary, Wm. L. Anderson, 88 Tremont St., 606 Tremont Temple, Boston; Division Treasurer, Fred E. Bolton, 88 Tremont St., 606 Tremont Temple, Boston.

New Hampshire—Division Commander, Daniel W. Cole, Hillsboro; Division Secretary and Treasurer, Jackson C. Carr, Hillsboro.

Rhode Island—Division Commander, John W. Maguire, 45 Firglade Ave., Providence; Division Secretary and Treasurer, Frank B. Wight, 44 Washington St., Room 4, Providence.

NEW CAMPS.

XII. Charters were issued and applications for same were approved since last announcement as follows:

Camp No.	Location and Div.	Appl. Ap.	Date Inst't.	No. Appcts.	No. Char. Mem.
54	Minerva, Ohio		Feb. 8	40	40
83	Vincennes, Ind.		Feb. 23	24	22
	West Newbury, Mass.	April 13		17	
20	Pulteney, New York		April 12	15	15
70	Ontario, Cal. & Pac.	April 22		22	
141	Gloucester, Ohio		Dec. 6	40	40

FINANCIAL STATEMENT NO. VIII.

XIII. Report of the National Secretary for month of April, 1925:

Receipts—

March 31, 1925, To balance\$ 304.51

Received for

Per Capita Tax\$ 488.80

Charter Fees 30.00

Supplies 447.41

Total Receipts\$ 966.21

\$1270.72

Expenditures—

By General Expenses\$1040.33

Office Expenses 11.22

Commander-in-Chief's Expenses 128.95

Total Expenditures\$1180.50

Balance, April 30, 1925\$ 90.22

ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

General Expenses—

For Supplies\$ 34.35

The Banner, Subscription, April, 1925..... 961.68

Printing 4.50

Shipping Supplies 8.28

Officers other than Commander-in-Chief and

National Secretary-Treasurer 31.32

\$1040.33

Office Expenses—	
For Postage, Telegrams	\$ 11.22
Commander-in-Chief's Expenses—	
For Postage, Telegrams, Traveling, Stenographer.....	\$ 128.95
Total Expenditures	\$1180.50
By order of	

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. VI.

Headquarters,

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

Office of Commander-in-Chief,
No. 3755 Hyde Park Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio

June 1, 1925.

FLAG DAY

I. June 14th is the anniversary of the adoption of our National Flag, the symbol of our birthright and of our liberties, the symbol for the preservation of which our fathers offered all. It is, therefore, most fitting that all Sons of Veterans should join in exercises commemorative of this day. See to it that the national colors are flown from every staff, at your residences and at your places of business.

MARKING GRAVES.

II. Attention is called to the resolution adopted at the recent Encampment of the Illinois Division (reported elsewhere in this issue of The Banner) making provision for the permanent marking of the graves of all Union Soldiers. This action is commended to the earnest consideration of all Divisions, as providing a program of worthwhile endeavor.

PASSWORD AND COUNTERSIGN.

III. A Justice of the Supreme Court, in writing an opinion which reversed a former ruling of that tribunal once said: "When the reason for a rule fails the rule itself should fail." There is no longer any reason for the use of the password and countersign in our Order. It is a relic of a ceremony and a formality which has long since vanished. No vestige of secrecy now remains in our ceremonies. I have seen many Camp meetings (and they were the best and most useful meetings at that) largely attended by persons not members of the Order, and who formed probably three-fourths of the audience. They were welcomed simply on their faces and rightly so; whereas, from about one-fourth of the assembly—from our own members—a secret password was demanded before they were allowed to retain their seats in peace. The lesson is obvious. Patriotism is not exclusive; it is neither secret, dark, nor sinister. It is just the opposite of these. Whatever may have been true in the past, the password and countersign serve now no useful purpose. The reason for the password and countersign has failed and the rule requiring it should also fail.

SECRETARY'S CONSOLIDATED

Division.	No. in Good Standing at Last Report.		GAIN								Aggregate.		By Dishonored	
			By Initiation.		By Transfer.		By Reinstatement.		Total Gain.					
	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members
Ala. & Tenn..	13	324	..	9	..	..	..	..	9	13	333	..	..
California . .	33	1409	..	21	..	1	..	1	23	33	1432	1	1	
Connecticut . .	41	2497	..	27	..	..	..	..	27	41	2524	..	..
Illinois	41	1826	..	22	..	..	..	4	26	41	1852	..	..
Indiana	32	2170	1	60	..	3	..	1	63	33	2233	..	..
Iowa	22	857	1	67	..	1	..	1	68	23	925	..	..
Kansas	22	644	..	2	..	..	1	25	27	23	671	1	3
Maine	45	2253	..	53	..	2	..	8	63	45	2316	..	..
Maryland . . .	10	660	..	10	..	..	..	..	10	10	670	..	..
Massachusetts	147	9355	1	202	..	19	..	1	221	148	9576	2	30	
Michigan . . .	22	900	..	18	..	..	..	..	18	22	918	..	..
Minnesota . . .	13	500	..	6	..	..	..	1	7	13	507	..	..
Missouri . . .	14	596	1	61	..	..	..	1	61	15	657	..	..
Nebraska . . .	15	503	..	19	..	..	..	..	19	15	522	..	..
New Hamp....	34	1208	..	11	..	2	..	..	13	34	1221	..	..
New Jersey . .	26	1829	..	41	..	1	..	2	44	26	1873	..	..
New York . . .	112	5216	1	103	..	..	..	2	105	113	5321	..	..
Ohio	91	4208	3	200	..	3	..	6	209	94	4417	..	..
*Oregon	13	413	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	13	413	..	..
Pennsylvania .	172	13135	..	120	..	1	..	4	125	172	13260	..	..
Rhode Island..	15	670	1	25	..	..	..	1	25	16	695	..	..
Vermont	37	1266	..	15	..	1	..	..	16	37	1282	1	10
Washington . .	1	630	..	4	76	..	..	4	76	16	706	..	..
Wisconsin . . .	27	1164	..	34	..	..	..	3	37	27	1201	..	..
	1009	54233	9	1126	4	110	1	56	14	1292	1023	55525	5	89

*No reports, no tax, received.

SECRETARY'S CONSOLIDATED REPORTS FOR QUARTER ENDING MARCH 31, 1925.

Division.	No. in Good Standing at Last Report.		GAIN								LOSS								No. in Good Standing Date of this Report.		Amount Received for Per Capita Tax.	Cash on Hand at Division Head- quarters.	Cash on Hand in Camps.	Expended for Relief.	No. Relieved or Their Families.						
			By Initiation.		By Transfer.		By Reinstatement.		Total Gain.		Aggregate.		By Disbanded.		By Death.	Honorable Discharge.	By Transfer.										By Dishon. Disch.	By Dropped.		Total Loss.	
	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Members	Members	Camps	Members	Members	Camps	Members	Camps					Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members
Ala. & Tenn..	13	324	..	9	9	13	333	..	1	8	..	9	13	324	..	25.92	..	16.00	..	125.00	
California ..	33	1409	..	21	..	1	..	1	23	33	1432	1	18	10	3	4	73	..	26	5	130	28	1302	104.16	25.39	1120.83	18.75		
Connecticut ..	41	2497	..	27	..	..	..	..	27	41	2524	..	8	9	..	3	..	85	..	105	41	2419	193.52	72.28	3233.23	..	..	..
Illinois ..	41	1826	..	22	..	..	4	..	26	41	1852	..	3	7	..	1	..	173	..	184	41	1668	133.44	79.93	3306.65	..	..	..
Indiana ..	32	2170	1	60	..	3	..	1	63	33	2233	..	6	1	..	..	2	207	2	214	31	2019	161.52	257.72	3708.89	344.50	14	5	
Iowa ..	22	857	1	67	..	1	..	1	68	23	925	..	1	..	..	..	..	22	..	23	23	902	72.16	471.50	433.35	..	..	..
Kansas ..	22	644	..	2	..	..	1	25	1	27	671	1	31	1	..	..	..	56	1	88	22	583	46.64	636.37	..	..	..	..
Maine ..	45	2253	..	53	..	2	..	8	63	45	2316	..	3	..	..	..	..	59	..	62	45	2254	180.32	374.05	2380.68	88.73	..	..	
Maryland ..	10	660	..	10	..	..	..	..	10	10	670	..	6	..	..	..	..	10	..	16	10	654	52.32	362.08	1843.10	550.00	..	..	
Massachusetts	147	9355	1	202	..	19	221	148	9576	2	30	31	35	..	21	..	122	2	239	146	9337	746.96	2640.56	24612.42	331.97	21	17		
Michigan ..	22	900	..	18	..	..	..	..	18	22	918	..	4	..	..	1	..	26	..	31	22	887	70.96	360.27	446.95	32.00	..	..	
Minnesota ..	13	500	..	6	..	..	1	..	7	13	507	..	3	1	..	1	..	18	..	23	13	484	38.72	110.68	562.67	6.35	4	..	
Missouri ..	14	596	1	61	..	..	..	1	61	15	657	..	1	2	..	..	..	16	..	19	15	638	51.04	438.13	968.98	20.00	..	..	
Nebraska ..	15	503	..	19	..	..	..	..	19	15	522	..	1	..	..	..	..	11	..	12	15	510	40.80	192.83	..	..	..	..
New Hamp...	34	1208	..	11	..	2	..	..	13	34	1221	..	4	2	..	2	..	56	..	64	34	1157	92.56	34.82	1767.83	..	..	..
New Jersey ..	26	1829	..	41	..	1	..	2	44	26	1873	..	2	1	..	1	..	24	..	28	26	1845	147.60	439.50	4325.56	1443.37	..	..	
New York ..	112	5216	1	103	..	..	2	1	105	113	5321	..	25	5	..	6	..	109	..	145	113	5176	414.08	1371.37	11271.22	840.60	29	50	
Ohio ..	91	4208	3	200	..	3	..	6	209	94	4417	..	6	2	..	5	..	63	..	76	94	4341	347.28	821.72	3096.98	16.77	..	..	
*Oregon ..	13	413	13	13	413	13	413		
Pennsylvania	172	13135	..	120	..	1	..	4	125	172	13260	..	36	1	..	3	..	190	..	230	172	13030	1042.40	1771.26	59777.25	8113.25	237	31			
Rhode Island..	15	670	1	25	..	..	..	1	25	16	695	..	2	4	..	..	..	..	6	16	689	55.12	80.22	986.43	..	..	..	..
Vermont ..	37	1266	..	15	..	1	16	37	1282	1	10	7	3	..	3	..	30	1	53	36	1229	98.32	283.07	873.17	22.23		
Washington ..	1	2	830	..	4	76	..	4	76	16	706	..	1	..	..	..	..	66	..	67	16	639	51.12	145.28	255.54	29.54	..	..	
Wisconsin ..	27	1164	..	34	3	..	37	27	1201	..	1	8	..	9	27	1192	95.36	195.99	568.25		
	1009	54233	9	1126	4	110	1	56	14	1292	1023	55525	5	89	163	76	4	119	1	2	1385	24	2246	999	53279	\$4262.32	\$11121.02	\$125665.08	\$11858.06	295	103
*No reports, no tax, received.																															

*No reports, no tax, received.

Therefore, a dispensation is hereby granted authorizing any Camp to dispense with the giving or taking of the password and countersign whenever in its discretion it may desire to do so.

Appropriate evidence of membership, or of a member's standing, may be obtained by requiring production of the current dues receipt or membership card (some Divisions issue membership cards.)

The rule requires the Commander-in-Chief to change the password and countersign "whenever in his opinion the interests of the order demand it." In the opinion of the Commander-in-Chief, the interests of the Order do not require a change in the password and countersign at this time.

DIVISION ENCAMPMENTS.

IV. The following Division Encampments are scheduled to take place during the month of June:

Indiana, at Princeton, June 9-10-11.

Iowa, at Mason City, June 9-10-11.

Maine, at Portland, June 10-11.

Maryland, at Baltimore, June 2-3.

Michigan, at Port Huron, June 10-11-12.

Minnesota, at St. Paul, June 16-17.

New Jersey, at Cape May, June 25-26.

New York, at Saratoga Springs, June 16-17-18.

Ohio, at Mt. Vernon, June 8-9-10-11.

Oregon, at Oregon City, June 23-24-25.

Pennsylvania, at Oil City, June 16-18.

Vermont, at Bennington, June 10-11.

Washington, at Centralia, June 22-23-24-25.

Wisconsin, at Sheboygan, June 15-16-17.

FORTY-FOURTH ENCAMPMENT.

V. In accordance with the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, the Forty-fourth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., will convene in the Auditorium of the Vocational School at Grand Rapids, Michigan, at 10 o'clock a. m. Tuesday, September 1st, 1925.

However, at 10 o'clock a. m. on Monday, August 31st. at the same place there will be a get-together conference of all Division Commanders. It is very earnestly desired that all Division Commanders who served during the past year, as well as all sitting Division Commanders, be present at this Conference; also all other past officers and members who have the interests of the Order at heart.

At the same time and place there will be organized a conference or "school of instruction" for Division Secretaries. Division Commanders are urged to see to it that their Division Secretaries are present at this Encampment and at this conference. One Division makes it a practice to send the Division Secretary to the National Encampment as a regular delegate. This practice is commended to all as being in the interests of good administration.

Membership of the Commandery-in-Chief: All Past Commanders-in-Chief, Past Grand Division Commanders and Past Division Commanders, in good standing, who have served a full term, or having been elected to fill a vacancy, have served to

the end of that term, Constitutional Life Members and Division Commanders.

Of one delegate from each Division, whatever its membership, and one additional delegate for every five hundred members, or major fraction thereof, in good standing, based upon the report next preceding the Encampment.

Its own elective and appointive officers (except members detailed for special duty).

A Division which fails to pay its per capita tax or other indebtedness, or fails to make reports, shall not be entitled to representation.

Temporary Headquarters will be established at the Hotel Morton, August 31st, 1925. Headquarters of the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary will also be at this hotel.

RATES at the Hotel Morton are on the European Plan, as follows:

Rooms with bath, full size bed, two persons, \$2.50 each; larger rooms with bath, full size bed, two persons, \$3.00 each; single rooms with bath, single bed, \$3.50 per day; rooms with bath and twin beds, \$3.00 and \$3.50 each person; large corner suites, \$12.00 and \$15.00 per day. Extra cots placed in rooms, \$1.50 each.

RESERVATIONS should be made through GEORGE E. COGSHALL, 741 Clancy Avenue, N. E., Grand Rapids, Michigan, Chairman of the Sons of Veterans Housing Committee, representing National Headquarters.

IT IS IMPORTANT in making reservations, that the day, and hour if possible, of arrival in Grand Rapids be stated; also how many days reservation is desired.

RAILROAD RATE will be one fare for the round trip.

Tickets will be sold August 27 to September 2, inclusive.

Tickets will be good going and returning via same route only, validation will not be required before return passage. Final return limit to reach original starting point not later than October 6, 1925. Stopovers will be allowed both going and returning upon application to conductor. Identification certificates and tickets issued thereunder are not transferable. Tickets may be used to start on the return trip on any date but will only be good to reach original starting point not later than midnight of the date set as "final return limit" as above.

Sale and use of such reduced fare is limited to the following: Members of the G. A. R.

Wife, or a dependent member of the family, of a member of the G. A. R.

Widow of a deceased member of the G. A. R.

Members and dependent members of the family of members of the following Auxiliary and Allied Organizations holding conventions in connection with the Encampment:

Woman's Relief Corps; Ladies of the G. A. R.; Daughters of Veterans; Sons of Veterans; Sons of Veterans Auxiliary; Army Nurses of the Civil War.

In order to purchase these round trip tickets at the reduced

fare, it will be necessary that those indicated as above present to the local ticket agent identification certificates.

Division Secretaries will secure railroad certificates or orders for reduced fare from the Assistant Adjutants-General of the respective Departments of the Grand Army of the Republic; and will make proper distribution thereof.

PROMPT RETURNS—FORM 49.

VI. The necessity for promptness in forwarding Form 49, Certificate of Election—Division Encampments,—cannot be too strongly impressed upon Division Commanders and Division Secretaries. This Form MUST be sent without delay to the National Secretary—with names and addresses distinct. The Commandery-in-Chief Encampment Roll must be made up from these reports and there can be no delay.

SECRETARY AND TREASURER REPORTS.

VII. ALL Camp Commanders will see that Forms 27 and 28, Camp Secretary and Camp Treasurer Reports, for June quarter, are forwarded on the LAST MEETING IN JUNE to their respective Division Headquarters with per capita tax for the June quarter. These reports must be sent without delay in order to have returns from Divisions for the Commandery-in-Chief Encampment.

Division Commanders will give this matter personal attention.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORTS.

VIII. Chaplains' Reports—Form 44—are due from all Camps. Camp Chaplains who are dilatory in this respect will give immediate attention to the forwarding of this report to their Division Chaplains.

Division Commanders will give this matter attention and inform Camp Commanders accordingly.

DIVISION OFFICERS—1925-1926.

IX. The following new Division officers were elected at Division Encampments:

Alabama and Tennessee—Commander, Frank M. Lane, 91 Illinois Ave., Memphis, Tenn.; Secretary and Treasurer, M. D. Friedman, 1237 So. 21st St., Birmingham, Ala.

Connecticut—Commander, Henry W. Storrs, 122 Clark St., Hartford; Secretary and Treasurer, Isaac T. Jenks, P. O. Box 1233, New Haven.

Illinois—Commander, E. F. Buck, 1220 Jefferson Bldg., Peoria; Secretary and Treasurer, Allan S. Holbrook, Dwight.

Kansas—Commander, L. L. Merrifield, Abilene; Secretary and Treasurer, L. E. Jeffcoat, Abilene.

Massachusetts—Commander, Henry F. Weiler, 88 Tremont St., 606 Tremont Temple, Boston; Secretary, Wm. L. Anderson, 88 Tremont St., 606 Tremont Temple, Boston; Treasurer, Fred E. Bolton, 88 Tremont St., 606 Tremont Temple, Boston.

Missouri—Commander, Charles A. Patterson, 2620 East Third St., Joplin; Secretary and Treasurer, A. J. Albrecht, 2405 So. Broadway, St. Louis.

Nebraska—Commander, J. C. Lee, Kipp Building, Hastings;

Secretary and Treasurer, Bert Mortledge, P. O. Box 566, Hastings.

New Hampshire—Commander, Daniel W. Cole, Hillsboro; Secretary and Treasurer, Jackson C. Carr, Hillsboro.

Rhode Island—Commander, John W. Maguire, 45 Firglade Ave., Providence; Secretary and Treasurer, Frank B. Wight, 44 Washington St., Room 4, Providence.

NEW CAMP.

X. Camp No. 50, Earl, Division of Wisconsin, was instituted March 20, 1925, with 24 members. Charter has been issued thereto.

CHARTERS REVOKED, CAMPS DISBANDED, ETC.

XI. The following Camps having been Disbanded and Dropped their Charters have been revoked, and record at Division Headquarters will be made accordingly:

California and Pacific—Disbanded: Camp No. 28, Ventura, with 18 members.

Indiana—Dropped: Camp No. 9, Rushville, with 10 members; Camp No. 138, Portland, with 10 members.

Kansas—Dropped: Camp No. 3, Dodge City, with 31 members

Massachusetts—Disbanded: Camp No. 91, Marblehead, with 16 members; Camp No. 119, Oakham, with 14 members.

Vermont—Disbanded: Camp No. 21, Bradford, with 10 members.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT NO. IX.

XII. Report of the National Secretary for month of May, 1925:

Receipts—

April 30, 1925, To balance\$ 90.22

Received for

Per Capita Tax\$3773.52

Charter Fees 5.00

Supplies 457.00

Miscellaneous, Interest on Bonds..... 42.50

Total Receipts\$4278.02

\$4368.24

Expenditures—

By General Expenses\$2259.00

Office Expenses 23.20

Commander-in-Chief's Expenses 200.00

Total Expenditures\$2482.20

To balance, May 31, 1925.....\$1886.34

ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

General Expenses—

For Supplies\$ 416.95

The Banner, subscription, May, 1925..... 957.49

Printing 8.75

Shipping Supplies 12.46

Salary	825.00
Other than Commander-in-Chief and National Secretary	28.35
	<hr/>
Office Expenses—	\$2259.00
For Postage, Express, Telegrams, Stationery.....	\$ 23.20
Commander-in-Chief's Expenses—	
For Traveling, etc.	\$ 200.00
	<hr/>
Total Expenditures	\$2482.20
	<hr/>

By order of

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. VII.

Headquarters,

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

Office of Commander-in-Chief,
No. 3755 Hyde Park Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio

July 1, 1925.

DIVISION COMMANDERS—SPECIAL ATTENTION!

I. The time for forwarding per capita tax and reports (Forms 35, 37 and 38) for quarter ending June 30th, 1925, has been fixed by special letter from these Headquarters. This is required because of the date of the Commander-in-Chief Encampment at Grand Rapids, Michigan. The tax and reports **MUST** be in the hands of the National Secretary **AT THE TIME** designated. Failure will deprive Divisions of representation at the National Encampment.

Division Commanders having Camps delinquent with their per capita tax and reports for the quarter ending June, **MUST NOT**, for that reason, withhold their Division reports and per capita tax to the Commandery-in-Chief Headquarters.

BONDS: All Division Commanders must have their bonds approved by the Commander-in-Chief. Each must be a "Position Bond"—in the sum of One Thousand (\$1,000) Dollars and made to the Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. **DIVISION SECRETARY AND DIVISION TREASURER** Bonds will **NOT** be made to the Commander-in-Chief—but to Division Officers as required by Division By-Laws. **ONLY DIVISION COMMANDERS** are required to give Bond to the Commander-in-Chief.

OTHER REPORTS: Division Chaplain's Report (Form 43) **MUST** be forwarded **AT ONCE** to National Chaplain Francis C. Hawthorne, 1227 West 49th Street, Los Angeles, California. Division Commanders will give this their personal attention.

Division Patriotic Instructors' Reports (Form 51) are **past due** and **MUST** be in the hands of National Patriotic Instructor Theodore C. Cazeau, 434 Mercantile Building, Rochester, New

York, immediately. Division Commanders will see that their Patriotic Instructors comply with this without delay.

CERTIFICATES OF ELECTION (Form 49) are required without delay by the National Secretary in order that he may complete the National Encampment Roll. These must be forwarded at once.

These requirements are obligatory and must be complied with immediately for a Division to be represented in the Grand Rapids Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief.

NECESSARY FOR CAMPS: Division Commanders will promptly forward to ALL Camps Forms 27 and 28—Camp Secretary and Camp Treasurer Reports for next quarter. Special efforts should be made by all Division Commanders and Secretaries to have these reports with per capita tax from ALL CAMPS—returned to Division Headquarters promptly.

ENCAMPMENT RESERVATIONS: All Division Commanders should immediately ascertain what hotel accommodations will be required by their Division delegations; and then on behalf of their delegations should make reservations at once through Brother George E. Cogshall. (See paragraph IV—Reservations). All reservations must give name and address of individual for whom reservation is asked, and expected date of his arrival in Grand Rapids.

WARNING—TO ALL CAMPS.

II. During the past few months several Camps throughout the country have been approached by individuals (who sometimes represented themselves as members of the Order or as eligibles), seeking a contract with the Camp or its Auxiliary to conduct a benefit dance or other entertainment for and in the name of the Camp, agreeing to give the Camp or its Auxiliary a stipulated percentage of the proceeds.

The methods followed by these individuals amounted solely to a commercialization of the name of the Order, and to say the least, were detrimental to its best interests. In some cases the individuals absconded with all the proceeds.

This word of warning to the Camps should be sufficient.

SPECIAL MILITARY AIDE.

III. At his own request, Past Division Commander Fred J. Phillips is hereby relieved from duty as Special Military Aide on the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief.

Past Division Commander Park F. Yengling, Bassett Road, Bay Village, Ohio, is hereby designated Special Military Aide on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief, and, as such, is charged with the duty of organizing a uniformed guard of honor to act as escort at the Grand Rapids Encampment, as specified in Paragraph VI, General Order No. 2, current series.

COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF ENCAMPMENT.

IV. As previously announced, the Forty-fourth Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., will convene at Grand Rapids, Michigan, in the Auditorium of the Vocational School, 10 o'clock a. m. Tuesday, September 1st, 1925.

For representation in this Encampment, Divisions must have all indebtedness paid, including per capita tax for the quarter ending June 30, 1925, and must have all reports in the hands of the respective National Officers as specified.

In addition to the program as published, the Federation of Patriotic Societies allied with the Grand Army of the Republic will hold its annual meeting Sunday afternoon, August 30th, at 3:00 o'clock, at the Pantlind Hotel. Further information will be later issued by the Secretary of the Federation.

The officers are:

President, Mrs. Drusilla I. Thayer, Past National President, Daughters of Veterans.

Vice President, Mrs. Ida S. McBride, Past National President, Woman's Relief Corps.

Secretary-Treasurer, Samuel S. Horn, Past Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans.

By virtue of their office All Past National Chief Executives of all Allied Orders, the present National heads, and one delegate from each Order in addition (preferably the National Patriotic Instructor) are members of the society.

Temporary Headquarters will be established at the Hotel Morton, August 31st, 1925. Headquarters of the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary will also be at this hotel.

RATES at the Hotel Morton are on the European Plan, as follows:

Rooms with bath, full size bed, two persons, \$2.50 each; larger rooms with bath, full size bed, two persons, \$3.00 each; single rooms with bath, single bed, \$3.50 per day; rooms with bath and twin beds, \$3.00 and \$3.50 each person; large corner suites, \$12.00 and \$15.00 per day. Extra cots placed in rooms, \$1.50 each.

RESERVATIONS should be made through GEORGE E. COGSHALL, 741 Clancy Avenue, N. E., Grand Rapids, Michigan, Chairman of the Sons of Veterans Housing Committee, representing National Headquarters.

IT IS IMPORTANT in making reservations, that the day, and hour if possible, of arrival in Grand Rapids be stated; also how many days reservation is desired.

RAILROAD RATE will be one fare for the round trip.

Tickets will be sold August 27 to September 2, inclusive.

Tickets will be good going and returning via same route only, validation will not be required before return passage. Final return limit to reach original starting point not later than October 6, 1925. Stopovers will be allowed both going and returning upon application to conductor. Identification certificates and tickets issued thereunder are not transferable. Tickets may be used to start on the return trip on any date but will only be good to reach original starting point not later than midnight of the date set as "final return limit" as above.

Division Secretaries will secure railroad certificates or orders for reduced fare from the Assistant Adjutants-General of the respective Departments of the Grand Army of the Republic; and will make proper distribution thereof.

NEW CAMPS.

V. Camps have been instituted and Charters issued there to as follows:

No.	Location and Division	Date Inst.	No. Mem.
1	Newport, Rhode Island	March 27	19
102	Falmouth, Massachusetts	June 24	26
70	Ontario, Cal., Cal. & Pac.	May 13	17
Applications for Charter have been approved as follows:			
...	Enid, Okla., Kansas	June 3	25
...	Rock Island, Illinois	June 29	39

FINANCIAL STATEMENT NO. X.

VI. Report of the National Secretary for month of June, 1925:

Receipts—	
May 31, 1925, To balance	\$1886.04
Received for	
Per Capita Tax	\$ 30.40
Charter Fees	10.00
Supplies	206.65
Total Receipts	\$ 247.05
	<u>\$2133.09</u>
Expenditures—	
By General Expenses	\$1031.20
Office Expenses	210.22
Commander-in-Chief's Expenses	321.58
Total Expenditures	\$1563.00
To Balance June 30, 1925	\$ 570.09

ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

General Expenses—	
For Supplies	\$ 34.50
The Banner, Subscription, June, 1925.....	955.99
Printing	14.00
Shipping Supplies	7.78
National Officers other than Commander-in-Chief and National Secretary-Treasurer .	18.93
	<u>\$1031.20</u>
Office Expenses—	
For Postage, Telegrams, Rent (quarter).....	\$ 210.22
Commander-in-Chief's Expenses—	
For Postage, Telegrams, Traveling, Stenographer.....	\$ 321.58
Total Expenditures	<u>\$1563.00</u>

By order of

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

NATIONAL SECRETARY'S CONSOLIDATED

Division.	No. in Good Standing at Last Report.		GAIN								Camps
			By Muster-In.		By Transfer.		By Reinstatement.		Total Gain.		
	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members		
Alabama & Tennessee	13	324	...	5	...	...	3	...	5	13
California & Pacific..	28	1302	1	249	...	...	...	1	252	29
Connecticut	41	2419	...	24	1	...	1	...	26	41	
Illinois	41	1668	1	54	...	...	13	1	67	42
Indiana	31	2019	...	61	...	...	7	...	68	31
Iowa	23	902	...	22	...	...	...	...	22	23
Kansas	22	583	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	22
Maine	45	2254	...	42	...	...	14	...	56	45
Maryland	10	654	...	5	1	...	...	...	6	10
Massachusetts .. .	146	9337	1	157	14	...	...	1	171	147
Michigan	22	887	...	9	...	...	...	...	9	22
Minnesota	13	484	...	9	...	...	1	...	10	13
Missouri	15	638	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	15
Nebraska	15	510	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
New Hampshire ...	31	1157	...	24	1	...	...	...	25	31
New Jersey	26	1845	...	12	...	...	...	...	12	26
New York	113	5176	1	69	3	...	2	1	74	114	
Ohio	94	4341	...	109	3	...	4	...	116	94	
Oregon	13	380	...	3	...	...	2	...	5	13
Pennsylvania	172	13030	...	239	1	...	9	...	249	172	
Rhode Island	16	689	...	8	...	...	...	...	8	16
Vermont	36	1229	...	9	...	...	...	...	9	36
Washington	16	639	...	1	...	...	1	...	2	16
Wisconsin	27	1192	1	61	...	...	4	...	65	28
Total	1012	53659	5	1174	24	...	61	5	1259	1017	

NATIONAL SECRETARY'S CONSOLIDATED REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDING JUNE 30, 1925.

Division.	No. in Good Standing at Last Report.		GAIN								LOSS								No. in Good Standing.		Amount Received for Per Capita Tax.	Cash on Hand at Division Head- quarters.	Cash on Hand in Camps.	Expended in Charity as Per Treasurer's Reports.	No. Relieved or Their Families.														
			By Muster-In.		By Transfer.		By Reinstatement.		Total Gain.		Aggregate.		By Disbanded.		By Death.		Honorable Discharge.										By Transfer.		By Dropped.		Total Loss.								
	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Members	Members	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Camps	Members	Members	Veterans											
Alabama & Tennessee	13	324	...	5	...	...	3	...	5	13	329	...	...	1	...	...	3	...	4	13	325	\$	26.00	\$	13.00	\$	100.00	\$	...	...	...	...			
California & Pacific	28	1302	1	249	...	...	1	...	252	29	1554	...	...	6	4	50	...	6	66	29	1488	119.04	197.47	1730.93	26.95	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Connecticut	41	2419	...	24	1	...	1	...	26	41	2445	...	...	4	1	1	...	9	15	41	2430	194.40	70.57	3185.31	6.41	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Illinois	41	1668	1	54	...	...	13	1	67	42	1735	...	...	2	3	1	...	29	35	42	1700	136.00	129.49	3372.96	153.78	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Indiana	31	2019	...	61	...	...	7	...	68	31	2087	...	...	2	1	...	...	54	57	31	2030	162.40	196.83	4281.29	378.00	6	4	...	...	...	...				
Iowa	23	902	...	22	...	...	...	...	22	23	924	...	...	1	1	...	...	8	9	23	915	73.20	278.53	167.97	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kansas	22	583	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	22	584	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	22	584	46.72	591.49	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maine	45	2254	...	42	...	...	14	...	56	45	2310	...	...	4	2	...	...	14	20	45	2290	183.20	260.41	2131.54	14.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maryland	10	654	...	5	1	...	...	...	6	10	660	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	6	10	654	52.32	185.71	2404.11	250.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Massachusetts	146	9337	1	157	14	...	...	1	171	147	9508	...	...	19	17	6	...	142	184	147	9324	745.92	2398.98	23131.29	485.22	19	14	...	...	...	...	...	...
Michigan	22	887	...	9	...	...	...	...	9	22	896	...	...	1	...	...	...	10	11	22	885	70.80	346.18	554.99	15.67	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Minnesota	13	484	...	9	...	...	1	...	10	13	494	...	...	1	...	...	...	12	13	13	481	38.48	93.28	345.41	28.00	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Missouri	15	638	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	15	639	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	4	15	635	50.80	316.56	595.23	2.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nebraska	15	510	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	15	510	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	510	40.80	187.16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
New Hampshire	34	1157	...	24	1	...	...	...	25	34	1182	...	...	1	...	1	...	8	10	34	1172	93.76	16.67	1923.49	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
New Jersey	26	1845	...	12	...	...	...	...	12	26	1857	...	...	2	...	...	...	41	43	26	1814	145.12	245.19	4169.38	560.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
New York	113	5176	1	69	3	...	2	1	74	114	5250	9	211	7	4	6	...	61	9	292	105	4958	396.64	1761.86	10550.50	258.00	14	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ohio	94	4341	...	109	3	...	4	...	116	94	4457	1	1	3	...	68	73	94	4384	350.72	777.30	2198.03		
Oregon	13	380	...	3	2	...	5	13	385	1	15	16	13	369	29.52	87.95	88.96		
Pennsylvania	172	13030	...	239	1	...	9	...	249	172	13279	1	10	25	163	1	198	171	13081	1046.48	597.85	57773.57	3583.58	94	4		
Rhode Island	16	689	...	8	8	16	697	1	18	19	16	678	54.24	17.00	948.36	
Vermont	36	1229	...	9	9	36	1238	4	10	14	36	1224	97.92	242.07	417.75	
Washington	16	639	...	1	1	...	2	16	641	36	36	16	605	48.40	108.54	277.14	
Wisconsin	27	1192	1	61	4	...	65	28	1257	5	1	57	63	28	1191	95.52	96.31	495.64
Total	1012	53659	5	1174	24	...	61	5	1259	1017	54918	10	224	88	53	68	...	755	10	1188	1007	53730	\$4298.40	\$9716.40	\$120843.85	\$5765.61	139	51

GENERAL ORDERS NO. VIII.

Headquarters,
COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF, SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.
Office of Commander-in-Chief,
No. 3755 Hyde Park Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio

August 1, 1925.

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT PROGRAM.

I. As heretofore announced, the Forty-fourth Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief will convene in Grand Rapids, Michigan, during the week commencing Sunday, August 30, 1925. Temporary headquarters will be established at the Hotel Morton, August 30, 1925. The Encampment program follows:
Sunday, August 30—

- 3 P. M.—Hotel Pantlind. The Federation of Patriotic Societies allied with the Grand Army of the Republic will hold its annual meeting. (All Past Commanders-in-Chief as well as the present Commander-in-Chief, and National Patriotic Instructor, are members of the Society).

Monday, August 31—

The Credentials Committee will be in session at Headquarters in the Hotel Morton 9-10 a. m. and 3-5 p. m., on Monday; thereafter at the Convention Hall, Vocational School Auditorium.

- 10 A. M.—Conference of Division Commanders and Division Secretaries at Vocational School Auditorium. It is very earnestly desired that all Division Commanders who served during the past year, as well as all sitting Division Commanders, be present at this conference. (All past officers and delegates are invited and expected to attend).

- 3 P. M.—Council-in-Chief meets at Hotel Morton.

- 8 P. M.—Greetings meeting presided over by the Commander-in-Chief of the G. A. R.

Tuesday, September 1—

- 10 A. M.—Encampment convenes at Vocational School Auditorium.

- 2 P. M.—Encampment session. (Greetings committees from allied organizations received).

- 4 P. M.—Joint Memorial Service with Auxiliary at their meeting place in the Elks Temple.

- 8 P. M.—Camp Fire for the G. A. R.

- 9 P. M.—Auxiliary reception to the Sons of Veterans in the Palm Room, Hotel Morton.

Wednesday, September 2—

- 10 A. M.—Annual Parade of G. A. R.—100 uniformed Sons of Veterans acting as escort. The escort will be in command of Lieut. Col. Park F. Yongling and will report to him at time and place to be designated at first session of Encampment.

- 2 P. M.—Third session of Encampment at Vocational School Auditorium.

- 8 P. M.—Reception to Commander-in-Chief of the G. A. R. tendered jointly by all allied organizations.

Thursday, September 3—

9:30 A. M.—Encampment session.

2:00 P. M.—Encampment session.

HOTEL AND OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS.

RATES at the Hotel Morton are on the European Plan, as follows:

Rooms with bath, full size bed, two persons, \$2.50 each; larger rooms with bath, full size bed, two persons, \$3.00 each; single rooms with bath, single bed, \$3.50 per day; rooms with bath and twin beds, \$3.00 and \$3.50 each person; large corner suites, \$12.00 and \$15.00 per day. Extra cots placed in rooms, \$1.50 each.

Reservations should be made before August 15th through George E. Cogshall, 741 Clancy Avenue, N. E., Grand Rapids, Michigan, Chairman of the Sons of Veterans Housing Committee, representing National Headquarters.

It is important in making reservations, that the day, and hour if possible, of arrival in Grand Rapids be stated; also how many days reservation is desired.

Those wishing accommodations in private dwellings or rooming houses should communicate directly with Mr. Henry L. Adzit, c/o Adzit Printers Supply Co., Grand Rapids, Michigan.

RAILROAD RATES.

RAILROAD RATE will be one fare for the round trip.

Tickets will be sold August 25 to September 2, inclusive.

Tickets will be good going and returning via same route only, validation will not be required before return passage. Final return limit to reach original starting point not later than October 7, 1925. Stopovers will be allowed both going and returning upon application to conductor. Identification certificates and tickets issued thereunder are not transferable. Tickets may be used to start on the return trip on any date but will only be good to reach original starting point not later than midnight of the date set as "final return limit" as above.

Division Secretaries will secure railroad certificates or orders for reduced fare from the Assistant Adjutants-General of the respective Departments of the Grand Army of the Republic; and will make proper distribution thereof.

MEMBERSHIP OF COMMANDERY.

All Past Commanders-in-Chief, Past Grand Division Commanders and Past Division Commanders, in good standing, who have served a full term, or having been elected to fill vacancy, have served to the end of that term, Constitutional Life Members and Division Commanders.

One delegate from each Division, whatever its membership, and one additional delegate for every five hundred members, or major fraction thereof, in good standing, based upon the report next preceding the Encampment.

Its own elective and appointive officers (except members detailed for special duty).

A Division which fails to pay its per capita tax or other indebtedness, or fails to make reports, shall not be entitled to representation.

NEW CAMPS.

II. Applications for Charter for Camps were approved as follows, and Camps instituted, Charters issued thereto:

Date	Approv.	No. Camp.	Location and Division	No. Applets.
July 1	33	Lockport, New York	19	
July 17	..	Grafton, Massachusetts	18	
Charters issued to Camps:				
Date	Inst.	No. Camp	Location and Division.	No. Members
June 10	33	Lockport, New York	20	
April 28	103	West Newbury, Mass.	20	

CAMPS DISBANDED, DROPPED—CHARTERS REVOKED.

III. The following Camps having been Disbanded and Dropped their Charters have been revoked, and record at Division Headquarters will be made accordingly:

New York—Dropped: Camp No. 5, Wollcott, with 18 members; Camp No. 17, Port Byron, with 26 members; Camp No. 24, Mill Port, with 10 members; Camp No. 32, Middletown, with 35 members; Camp No. 69, Dunkirk, with 10 members; Camp No. 109, Potsdam, with 35 members; Camp No. 123, Lyndonville, with 34 members; Camp No. 134, Fort Plain, with 25 members; Camp No. 193, Halsey Valley, with 21 members.

Pennsylvania—Disbanded: Camp No. 120, Scottdale, with 10 members.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT NO. XI.

IV. Report of the National Secretary for month of July, 1925:

Receipts—

June 30, 1925, To balance\$ 570.09

Received for

Per Capita Tax\$4298.40
 Charter Fees 10.00
 Supplies 103.05
 Miscellaneous50

Total Receipts\$4411.95

\$4982.04

Expenditures—

By General Expenses\$1516.71
 Office Expenses 20.72
 Commander-in-Chief's Expenses 58.51

Total Expenditures\$1595.94

Balance, July 31, 1925\$3386.10

ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

General Expenses—

For Supplies\$ 5.79
 The Banner, Subscription, July, 1925..... 954.89
 Printing 3.25
 Salary 550.00
 Shipping Supplies 2.78

\$1595.71

Office Expenses—	
For Postage, Telegrams, Stationery	\$ 20.72
Commander-in-Chief's Expenses—	
For Postage, Telegrams, Traveling, Stenographer.....	\$ 58.51
Total Expenditures	\$1595.94

By order of

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. IX.

Headquarters,

COMMANDEERY-IN-CHIEF, SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

Office of Commander-in-Chief,

No. 3755 Hyde Park Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio

September 1, 1925.

PLAN! PLAN!! PLAN!!!

I. Now is the time for all Division Commanders to lay their plans for the work of the Fall and Winter. All Division Officers should be assigned a definite task in connection with your general plan.

Particular attention should be given to the organization of new Camps, especially in those localities where no Camp now exists and where one may be profitably established.

The ways are many whereby you may keep alive the interest in current affairs. This must be done if interest of the membership is to be retained.

Don't let Camps and members fall behind. This is the first symptom that leads to the lists of "the dropped." CALL IN PERSON when the first symptom appears; don't wait until all hope is gone.

Keep your Camp Commanders alive to their obligation. A Division bulletin issued every little while to the Camp officers, and to the entire membership if possible, will help immensely. One of our chief troubles has been that a large percentage of the officers themselves exhibit hardly more interest than the membership at large.

PER CAPITA TAX AND REPORTS.

II. CAMP COMMANDERS, SECRETARIES, TREASURERS:—ATTENTION: Per capita tax and reports, Forms 27 and 28, for the Quarter ending SEPTEMBER 30th, MUST be forwarded to your Division Headquarters ON THE LAST MEETING NIGHT OF THIS (September) MONTH.

This is absolutely necessary and must have this attention.

Division Commanders will see that all Camps are provided with these Forms immediately and will take every means to have these returns with per capita tax at their Division Headquarters without delay at the end of the month—or quarter.

THE BANNER MAILING LISTS.

III. Camp Commanders will give attention to the matter of Camp Secretaries and Camp Treasurers having corrected and up

to date lists of their members—only those in good standing—supplied to THE BANNER. Send these lists with carefully written names of members and their addresses, through Division Headquarters. Division Secretaries will send all such lists PROMPTLY direct to "THE BANNER, DWIGHT, ILLINOIS."

By order of

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

DIVISION OFFICERS—1925-1926.

Alabama and Tennessee—Commander, Frank M. Lane, 91 Illinois Ave., Memphis, Tenn.; Secretary and Treasurer, M. D. Friedman, 1237 So. 21st St., Birmingham, Ala.

California and Pacific—Commander, D. B. Bowley, 2550 Pine St., San Francisco; Secretary and Treasurer, C. S. Scott, 2550 Pine St., San Francisco.

Connecticut—Commander, Henry W. Storrs, 122 Clark St., Hartford; Secretary and Treasurer, Isaac T. Jenks, P. O. Box 1233, New Haven.

Illinois—Commander, E. F. Buck, 1220 Jefferson Bldg., Peoria; Secretary and Treasurer, Allan S. Holbrook, Dwight.

Indiana—Commander, Frank C. Huston, 10 W. Ohio St., Indianapolis; Secretary and Treasurer, Newton J. McGuire, 1001 Peoples Bank Bldg., Indianapolis.

Iowa—Commander, H. M. Pratt, Fort Dodge; Secretary and Treasurer, F. M. Stull, 256 Denver St., Waterloo.

Kansas—Commander, L. L. Merrifield, Abilene; Secretary and Treasurer, L. E. Jeffcoat, Abilene.

Maine—Commander, Albert B. DeHaven, 35 Berwick Ave., Sanford; Secretary and Treasurer, Edward K. Gould, 375 Main St., Rockland.

Maryland—Commander, Howard Michael, 1314 Greenmount Ave., Baltimore, Md.; Secretary and Treasurer, Francis E. Cross, 319 Ninth St., S. E., Washington, D. C.

Massachusetts—Commander, Henry F. Weiler, 88 Tremont St., 606 Tremont Temple, Boston; Secretary, Wm. L. Anderson, 88 Tremont St., 606 Tremont Temple, Boston; Treasurer, Fred E. Bolton, 88 Tremont St., 606 Tremont Temple, Boston.

Michigan—Commander, Roy T. Kaywood, 205 N. Durand Ave., Jackson; Secretary and Treasurer, Glen F. Wigent, 161 W. High St., Jackson.

Minnesota—Commander, Eugene B. Smith, 4147 S. Wentworth Ave., Minneapolis; Secretary and Treasurer, George W. Turner, Temple Court, Minneapolis.

Missouri—Commander, Charles A. Patterson, 2620 East Third St., Joplin; Secretary and Treasurer, A. J. Albrecht, 2405 So. Broadway, St. Louis.

Nebraska—Commander, J. C. Lee, Kipp Building, Hastings; Secretary and Treasurer, Bert Mortledge, P. O. Box 566, Hastings.

New Hampshire—Commander, Daniel W. Cole, Hillsboro; Secretary and Treasurer, Jackson C. Carr, Hillsboro.

New Jersey—Commander, M. W. Ayers, 39 Edgewood Road,

Bloomfield; Secretary and Treasurer, George H. Carter, 205 S. Clinton Ave., Trenton.

New York—Commander, Walter S. Beilby, 164 Woodbine Ave., Rochester; Secretary, Julius Isaacs, City Hall, Room 5, New York; Treasurer, Edwin W. Sanford, 212 State St., Albany.

Ohio—Commander, Jacob Geib, New Philadelphia; Secretary, Ed. S. Wilson, 18 East Eighth Ave., Columbus; Treasurer, T. L. Aughinbaugh, New Philadelphia.

Oregon—B. F. Pound, U. S. National Bank Bldg., Salem; Secretary and Treasurer, Charles Fessenden, 1421 N. 17th St., Salem.

Pennsylvania—Commander, Frederic A. Godcharles, 125 N. Front St., Milton; Secretary, William R. McGirr, 667 N. 12th St., Philadelphia; Treasurer, John E. Wightman, Mt. Carmel.

Rhode Island—Commander, John W. Maguire, 45 Firglade Ave., Providence; Secretary and Treasurer, Frank B. Wight, 44 Washington St., Room 4, Providence.

Vermont—Commander, Fred C. Gilson, St. Johnsbury; Secretary and Treasurer, E. E. Perry, Williamstown.

Washington—Commander, S. A. Locke, 4106 South Yakima St., Tacoma; Secretary and Treasurer, Karl V. Cavnah, R. D. No. 6, 15-A, Tacoma.

Wisconsin—Commander, Henry A. Goldsmith, 1185 28th St., Milwaukee; Secretary and Treasurer, M. S. Hoover, 1614 Baxter Ave., Superior.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief: You have heard the report of the Commander-in-Chief, and unless there is objection it will be received and become a part of the official records. Hearing no objection, it is so ordered.

Commander-in-Chief, I return the gavel:

Commander-in-Chief: Information has just come to me that one of the greatest privileges we will have in this Encampment is about to be conferred upon us, a visit from the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic. (Applause). Will all Past Commanders-in-Chief present retire to the outer door to act as an escort to the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic.

(Whereupon Past Commanders-in-Chief Russell, Speelman, Sheldon, McGuire, Grant, Sherman, Stephens, Sisson, Church, Johnson, Shellhouse, Horn and Sautter retired and returned to the room, acting as an escort to the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic and Past Commander-in-Chief Wm. J. Patterson of Pennsylvania).

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: I have great pleasure in presenting to you the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, Dr. L. F. Arensberg of Pennsylvania. (Applause).

Past Commander-in-Chief Russell: I desire to present Past Commander-in-Chief Patterson of Pennsylvania. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief: This is the most distinguished privilege that I expect shall fall to my lot during my incumbency as Commander-in-Chief of this organization. Will you come upon the platform and assume command. We are yours to command.

Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic L. F. Arensberg: My son—for every son I have, and grandson, is a member of your organization—(Applause)—I have a deep interest in the welfare, in the increasing prosperity and membership of your Order.

I would like to see you increase in numbers so that some of the things that I have said about you would come true. I have told some of the senators and congressmen of these United States that we had not less than six million of our descendants at our back, at the backs of the Grand Army of the Republic. I believe we have probably more than that, possibly eight or ten million; and in the years to come I hope you will increase in numbers so that you will be enabled to carry out the aims, objects and purposes of the Grand Army of the Republic, and the aims and objects of all of us and teach patriotism, love of country and veneration for the flag. (Applause).

My time this morning is limited. I have many calls upon my time, and I try to get around to all of the different organizations. I want to meet with them if but for a few moments, but I particularly wanted to come to see you this morning because of my great feeling of love and respect for your Commander-in-Chief. (Applause). We have been traveling companions together, and he has shown me the attention of a good son, and I, in appreciation of that, want to come here and look in your faces and assure you that while my tenure of office will soon be over, I still expect to have something to say and do in the ranks of the Grand Army of the Republic as long as I live, and you may know while I am there I am your friend. I thank you. (Prolonged applause—audience joining in singing "Marching Through Georgia.")

Now, my sons, I take great pleasure in introducing to you one of my closest friends, and a co-worker with me, and I know he bears a very good feeling towards the Sons of Veterans. I want to present to you my good friend Past Commander-in-Chief William J. Patterson of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. (Applause).

Past Commander-in-Chief of the G. A. R. William J. Patterson: Sons of Veterans, I need not assure you and those that know me that I have always been a friend of your organization.

I appreciate what the Commander-in-Chief said, that all his relatives are aligned in your organization. I regret to say in my travels throughout the North, that such is not the case with the great bulk of soldiers that served in the Civil War. When I went to the South things were different there. They look with contempt on a Son of a Confederate Veteran that is not in the organization of their Sons of Veterans. (Applause). Therefore, I think the time has come when every Grand Army man that is on earth yet should urge his descendants to join this organization.

It is natural to suppose, and we cannot suppose anything else, but that the Sons of Veterans, our Sons of Veterans, will carry on the work of the Grand Army of the Republic when the last comrade crosses the Great Divide. So I think that while we live and while we have any influence with our descendants they ought to be urged to unite with the Sons of Veterans—the sons of Union soldiers.

We want to have you, as I intimated before on one occasion to have a name somewhat more definite. The Sons of Veterans now don't mean what it did twenty years ago. You may be sons of the Spanish-American War Veterans, or sons of the World War Veterans, and there is no distinction. The title you have is not distinctive enough to my mind. We want you to be known, however you fix your title, we want you to be known by such a title that it will clearly convey the idea that you are sons of Union soldiers who saved this country from destruction. (Applause).

I sometimes think that I served in the wrong bunch of people during the Civil War the way they love Jackson and Lee and those other rebels, and even make us think we are of the lower order of things and not entitled to much credit in putting them down in their efforts to destroy this country.

They style Lee as a great general and a great Christian. I don't know what a Christian consists of, if it is one who violates the solemn obligations he has taken to his country. He had taken the oath of allegiance to this country five or six times when the rebellion broke out. He had been educated by this government; he had been clothed and fed by this government; and when the hour came he deserted our ranks and went over to the enemy in an effort to destroy this land.

In my communications with some of the people of the South I met an old gentleman that was a judge down in Houston, Texas. It was a rainy day, the rain was coming down and I could not go out and I was sitting looking out the window, and the old chap came and sat down by the side of me, and he said "You seem to be a stranger here;" and I said "Yes." "Where are you from?" And I said "Pennsylvania." "What part?" "Pittsburgh." "Oh, that is where we send our niggers to be spoiled!" And I said "It is pretty hard to spoil a rotten egg." And I said "I notice you have greater prosperity now than you ever had before the war." "Oh, yes," he says, "but you had no business to come down here and correct our sins for us." "Well" I said, "you do not like to admit that you are more prosperous and your effort to destroy this nation was a failure."

What would we have amounted to if we had had a southern confederacy? First they claimed they were not licked, they were not whipped; they were simply overpowered. Well I don't know what "overpowered" means if it don't mean licking the fellow that is against you.

Down there I want to say, as I remarked before, that the Sons of Veterans all take great pride in their organization and they blow about "I am a rebel and my father was a rebel, and I am glad of it." Glad of their efforts to destroy this country. I think they ought to hide their heads in the sand like an ostrich, and keep their mouths shut on that subject. What do they want, and what do they mean today?

They are continually shouting into our ears the fact that they were right and we were wrong. One of the papers in the South said a year ago that they wanted us to forget the past. Ye Gods! They won't let us forget. They are always stirring up something new. Stone Mountain! You are familiar with that. The Lee Mansion they want to get back. And all these

things they are everlastingly bringing forth. They talk of Andersonville prison and they blow of how they killed tens of thousands, how they poisoned and put them to such terrible sufferings for want of food and starved them for the wants of the necessities of life. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Arensberg of the G. A. R.: I want to say one word, Mr. Commander-in-Chief, I want to say to you and to the Sons of Veterans, that I appreciate very much the help and assistance that you gave through your Commander-in-Chief to me in my efforts to conduct some of the legislation during the session of Congress.

Our efforts failed because they were too busy minding their own business. They wanted to increase their own salaries and had no time for us old fellows. (Laughter).

Now I want to say that I appreciate what your Commander-in-Chief did. He responded nobly when I asked him for assistance in trying to put this legislation over. That legislation we have not been able to complete, and no doubt there will be some matters and things we are vitally interested in come before Congress at the next session, and what I want to call your attention to is that words and resolutions amount to very little. It is work that counts and I want you to get busy when you see and take notice of what is going on in Congress, and write to your congressmen and your senators and let them know just where you stand. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: My Commander-in-Chief; our Commander-in-Chief: The representative on earth of my father, I welcome you here. I want to bring to you the assurance of that filial devotion which a son should always bear to a father. The emotion of the moment prevents me from doing adequate justice to the theme. I ask your permission to call upon one of our brothers whom I feel can do it greater justice, whom I know has been close to you,—if I have your permission?

Commander-in-Chief Arensberg of the G. A. R.: You have our permission. And I want to return this gavel to you and let you conduct the balance of the meeting. My time is limited, but I will be pleased to hear from your representative.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: I will ask Brother Sautter to respond.

Commander-in-Chief Arensberg of the G. A. R.: Yes, sir, I know the gentleman well.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: Sit down, Doctor. I am going to tell these boys of the sort of a man you are. He honored me by referring to the fact that he knew me well. Well, Doctor, it is only because I know you so well that I am going to talk to these boys about you just now.

First, you must realize, my brothers, that you are in the presence of a young fellow only eighty-three years of age, do this when you look at his black hair and my bald head. (Laughter). And then can you think that this young fellow thinks nothing of stepping on the gas and driving his own Lizzie hundreds of miles in order to get to a meeting of the comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic or the Sons of Veterans. He only failed once, and that was about ten days ago when we were

looking for him in McKeesport. He did not get there. He told me the other day that he had a breakdown.

Commander-in-Chief Arensberg of the G. A. R.: Old Lizzie went bad.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: At the wrong time as it always does; and Doctor Arensberg was unable to meet that one engagement, and I will vouch that it is the only engagement of the entire year that he had with the Sons of Veterans that he did not fulfill; and you can blame it on Lizzie and not on Doctor Arensberg.

Now I want to say just seriously, brothers, a word concerning this man who represents this year the beloved Order the Grand Army of the Republic, and that actions speak louder than words because there is in the Pennsylvania Division of the Sons of Veterans a splendid Camp that is doing a fine work and that I had the personal pleasure of instituting after Doctor Arensberg organized it. (Applause).

And then a few months ago the good wife had the pleasure of going down to Uniontown and instituting an equally good Auxiliary to that splendid Camp after Doctor Arensberg organized the Auxiliary. (Applause).

Doctor, I just want to correct one misstatement you made, at least as it pertains to one particular person, and I am sure you will permit me to do it. You said that in Washington in the recent past those persons who were sent there to represent or misrepresent us were too much interested in increasing their own salary so that they could not take the time to increase the paltry pensions of the Veterans of the Civil War.

Now I want one man over here to stand up for a minute. Stand up, Stephens. (Past Commander-in-Chief Stephens of Ohio stood up).

I want you to know that the House of Representatives had among its number one member at least who put forth every effort that that pension bill might be put across, and he is going back in December to do it again. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Arensberg of the G. A. R.: If I have said anything to hurt the feelings of my good comrade, I beg his pardon; but I sort of felt sore when I went down there and spent so much time and was not able even to get the bill out of the committee. I certainly felt sore. And especially when the question of the Stone Mountain came up and some of them had never even heard of it. And you know how they put through the proposition on the Lee Mansion, and Lee never had a dollar in it. You know more about it than I do. And I would like to see you scrutinize closely everything that is done down there at the next session and prevent the passage of the bill to restore that Lee Mansion.

Past Commander-in-Chief Stephens: If you will give me the privilege, Commander-in-Chief, I will say that you have not said anything that hurts my feelings in the least. Your remarks generally are true, of course. There are a few exceptions as to some of the members of Congress.

In regard to the Veterans of the Civil War, and in regard to the Lee Mansion, I want to say the bill was introduced to restore the Lee Mansion in Arlington Cemetery. It was called the

Lee Mansion because Lee had lived there; the family of Lee had lived there before the Civil War. The government took over that place and bought it and it became Arlington Cemetery.

Now the bill was introduced and it was put on the "unanimous consent calendar." In order that you may understand what the "unanimous consent calendar" is, I will say the House is given notice that the "unanimous consent calendar" will be taken up on a certain day. In looking over the calendar, I discovered this bill that was going to restore the Lee Mansion, restore it and call it the Lee Mansion, collect all the old furniture, all the old heirlooms of the Lee family and put them in the mansion. It came up at the latter part of the session, and the objection of one person lays the bill aside, but it can be taken up again, and at that time it requires three objections to put it off the calendar. When it came up I objected to it. (Applause). It was stricken from the calendar at that particular time; not absolutely stricken, but placed at the foot of the calendar to be taken up again whenever it was reached on the "unanimous consent calendar."

At the next session, which was the last session of Congress, we had the "unanimous consent calendar" up again, and I discovered that this bill was on there and we would reach it some time that day. I hunted up six or seven fellows, and I think they were all from Ohio, and I told them that this was going to come up and it required three objections and I wanted to get enough there so that when it came up again and I objected I would have the backing of at least two more. So I had six all fixed to object, but when it came up, I got up and objected and I noticed it did not have the mark that it had been objected to before, so one objection then put it off the calendar. It did not take it clear off, but it placed it in the same position it was before so that it could come up again and would require three objections.

I figured that that was a little slick business of theirs, that is, of those who wanted to get it through. And I want to say here gentlemen, that I noticed that bill was Crampton's of Michigan, and I think he belonged to the Sons of Veterans at one time. He introduced the bill, Loose of Massachusetts was the father of it as chairman of the library committee.

When I objected to it the first time, they came to me and asked me what my objection was, and I said "My objection is that Lee was a traitor to his country," (Applause) "and I don't believe in keeping alive the memories of these men who were traitors to the country." And I called their attention to the fact that James G. Blaine in his "Twenty Years of Congress" devoted a paragraph to Robert E. Lee, and he stated that he did not deserve many of the good things that had been said about him; that he left the federal service and went into Virginia before Virginia had seceded from the Union. Now it is generally said and I suppose understood that Lee followed his State. Blaine says that he did not follow his State. He left the federal service and went into Virginia and he loaned his eminent name to secession; if Lee had stayed with the Union until after Virginia had voted upon secession that the great probability was that Virginia would have stayed in the Union and would not have voted for secession.

I told them that and discussed it with them. But later the unanimous consent calendar was called up without notice. I guess I was out in the cloak room some place and did not know the unanimous consent calendar was up, and some time later, I remember I came in and they were on the unanimous consent calendar, and I asked when they had started that, and I looked and they had passed without any objection the Lee Mansion bill. That is the way it went through.

I went over to the Senate and saw Senator Watson of Indiana, Fess of Ohio, and several other senators and we tried to stop it. And that is the history of that.

Now I want to say to you here that what we want is a representative that will watch all legislation.

You speak of Stone Mountain. I never heard of the bill until two, three, four or five months afterward, something about Stone Mountain and getting out half dollars or dollars with Jeff Davis on them and Lee and Stonewall Jackson. And I was a member of Congress and ought to have known something about it. And I began inquiry to find out how it passed, and nobody knew, and I found out it came up under the committee on mails, or something else, and maybe twenty-five or thirty were there. There are times when it is not necessary to be in the House, when it is understood that matters of unimportance are coming up; and I supposed at this time this committee was taking up some of its business, and it passed.

Now what I want to say is this: The Sons of Veterans, the Grand Army of the Republic, and all of these societies, ought to have some representative that watches every bill introduced, and when a bill like the one restoring the Lee Mansion is introduced, every member from the North should get a letter stating that this bill has been introduced, we want you to watch it, we want you to oppose it; and we have back of us the Grand Army of the Republic and all patriotic organizations of the North. And then the people ought to know it. Keep your Congressmen posted on the bill. The people of Michigan, I don't know what district Crampton represented, he used to belong to the Sons of Veterans—the people in his district ought to know that.

If we are going to do anything, you have got to stand together, and watch because those on the other side are on guard all the time. We are not on guard. I am there, and some of the rest of us, but with all the work these things slip through. That bill would not have slipped through if it had been called to the attention of the different members of the northern states particularly and they had the courage they should have, but I want to say to you that many of the old soldiers of the Union have passed away, and so far as Congress is concerned I want to say to you that Congress has lost its backbone. (Applause).

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: This is rather an unusual response to the address of the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, but I am absolutely certain it has been educational to us, and brings home this one thought; Doctor, you remember when I met you in the lobby of the Union Station at Pittsburgh and I said to you that the Grand Army of the Republic had never made full use of the organization of the Sons of Veterans. I want to emphasize that fact

again and convey to you a little more strongly the words of Past Commander-in-Chief Stephens.

There are in the Senate of the United States today at least six members of the organization of the Sons of Veterans who are looked upon as the leaders in that body. I don't know how many members of the Sons of Veterans are in the House of Representatives, but I am certain that there are within the ranks of that body of more than four hundred men at least several score of them whose fathers were the comrades of these men and we ought to, as Brother Stephens says, when legislation in the interests of the Grand Army of the Republic and their widows is presented, reach these men in our legislature and with particular emphasis call their attention thereto, and especially should this be so when legislation objectionable to the Grand Army of the Republic is presented. (Applause).

We can do it, and we can do it with telling force.

Now Stephens said, another thing that I want to refer to, and I am not attempting to quote his exact words, but the meaning is that the tremendous decrease in the members of the Grand Army of the Republic has been such that the influence they once exerted in legislation is practically nullified. I said before the Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Department of Pennsylvania, recently,— that what we ought to do is to bring to the minds and the hearts of the men who represent us in the Halls of Congress that they are not dealing with an organization of sixty-five thousand men composed of the Grand Army of the Republic, but they are dealing today with a family of a strength of more than seventy-five thousand men and women in excess of the maximum strength of the Grand Army of the Republic in their best days because, brothers, the maximum strength of the Grand Army of the Republic, and it was then that they exercised and exerted this tremendous influence, was four hundred and nine thousand and some hundred, and we have today in the Grand Army of the Republic, in the Woman's Relief Corps and in the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic and in the Daughters of Veterans, and in the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary and in the Sons of Veterans of this day more than four hundred and seventy-five thousand men and women who ought at least be tied together in that one thing, standing for that which they feel and they know is for the interests of these men and their comrades. (Applause).

And brothers, if you are looking for a work that the Sons of Veterans can do, that will be a telling work for good, follow the advice of Past Commander-in-Chief Stephens. Every man and every woman counts. Don't think that because you are only one person that your communication won't have an influence.

Now, Commander-in-Chief, may I say just this, that there is within the hearts of these boys and our brothers everywhere a most profound sense of gratitude to you for what you have done this year for our organization; and I know that I can pledge for them to you and to your noble organization the absolute assurance that the Sons of Veterans will stand as they have always stood, four square for everything that is to the interest of you and your comrades.

Now, Doctor, God bless you. Go back to your city of Union-

town, not Pittsburgh, and rest well. We know that you will not forget your comrades, and we know that you will not forget the Sons of Veterans. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Arensberg of the G. A. R.: I just want to say this to you, that while my tenure of office will soon be over, my interest in the work of the Grand Army of the Republic does not cease. I have still work to do, and all during the month of September I will still be busy, notwithstanding I will not be the Commander-in-Chief. So I will take my rest a little later.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: Now this other splendid Past Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic in traveling over this great country of ours with our beloved Doctor has always, whenever he had an opportunity, just as he did this morning, said a good word for the Sons of Veterans, this other representative of the splendid city of Pittsburgh, Past Commander-in-Chief Patterson.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: May I just place on your breast, Commander-in-Chief, this token of this most pleasant reunion.

Commander-in-Chief Arensberg of the G. A. R.: I thank you.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: And you too, Past Commander-in-Chief Patterson, let me pin this little token on your breast.

Past Commander-in-Chief Patterson of the G. A. R.: I thank you.

(Whereupon Commander-in-Chief Arensberg and Past Commander-in-Chief Patterson of the G. A. R. were conducted from the room by an escort of thirteen Past Commanders-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, all members of the organization joining in singing "The Battle Hymn of the Republic.")

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Information has just come to me that there is a delegation of ladies who desire to visit us and I will name Brothers Isaacs, James, and Ireland a committee to present them to the Encampment.

Past Division Commander Joseph M. James, of Illinois: I have the honor to introduce to you Mrs. Darling, Past Department President, Woman's Relief Corps, of Illinois, who wishes to have Mrs. Furland sing a patriotic song, accompanied by Mrs. Buchan on the piano.

Commander-in-Chief: We will be pleased to have the lady sing the song.

Mrs. Darling: Commander and Brethren, we have a song composed by one of the buddies in Chicago who is disabled. The Illinois Department of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Sons of Veterans have seen fit to endorse this song and I could read their endorsements to you, but your presiding officer has said we could sing it, and I am going to ask Mrs. Furland to sing this for you and then if you like it we would like an endorsement, and if we can get the endorsement of these patriotic organizations, the Board of Education will adopt it, and then the boy will be taken care of in the future.

(Mrs. Furland then sang the song entitled "To Our Loyal Countrymen" by William G. Jahnke.

Mrs. Darling: I think Mr. James, who was the presiding

officer at the last session of the Sons of Veterans of Illinois, whose Department endorsed this song is in the room, and I believe he is willing to make the motion.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: The motion for what?

Mrs. Darling: I am simply asking an endorsement of this convention of this patriotic song. You well know that the "Star Spangled Banner" is so complex that everybody cannot sing it, but you will note that this is so simple and easy that everybody and anybody can sing it.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Mrs. Darling, we are very glad to have you here and to have had the presence of these other accomplished artists. I will be very glad to take this resolution you have and present it to the Resolutions Committee in connection with the usual order of business. A motion would not be in order at this time.

Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman: I move that the matter be referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

The motion was duly seconded, and carried.

Past Commander-in-Chief Church: I think it would be very helpful to the Committee on Resolutions if a copy of this song could be handed to us.

Mrs. Darling: I will leave one with you.

(Whereupon the ladies were escorted from the room by the committee).

Council-in-Chief Park F. Yengling: The escort asked for by the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic is one hundred uniformed men. May I inquire how many men present have uniforms. Please rise. That is not one hundred. That is something. Tomorrow morning be at the Morton Hotel. We want to get into formation and leave there at nine for the Armory to receive the rifles we will carry on the parade.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: I have to announce that I have appointed a special committee concerning the question of changing the name of our organization composed of all Past Commanders-in-Chief, and Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter is now waiting to present a resolution.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: I desire to present on behalf of the committee just referred to by the Commander-in-Chief the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans in regular session in Milwaukee in 1923, adopted a resolution asking the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic to name a committee representing that organization to confer with a committee to be named to represent the Order of the Sons of Veterans to consider, among other things, a change in the name of the Order of the Sons of Veterans that would more clearly indicate and designate of whom the Order consists, and,

WHEREAS, Dr. L. F. Arensberg, Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic has named a committee to represent that organization consisting of Past Commanders-in-Chief Willett, Burton, and King, and

WHEREAS, That committee has communicated to the committee representing our Order that they have unanimously de-

cided to recommend to the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic that the Order of the Sons of Veterans, United States of America, adopt the name

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

be it

RESOLVED, That the Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans in regular session do hereby adopt the recommendation of the committee representing the Grand Army of the Republic, and subject to the approval by the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic of the recommendation of their committee, such portions of the Constitution and Regulations of the Order of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., as pertain to the name of the Order be repealed, and in lieu thereof the name Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War be adopted and inserted, and be it further

RESOLVED, That a committee be named by the Commander-in-Chief, with full power to act upon such details as may be found necessary to change the constitution and regulations, ritual, badges, and all forms, reports and papers to conform to the name SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR, and further to take such legal action as may be necessary to cause the corporate name of the Order of the Sons of Veterans, United States of America, to be changed to that of SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR.

Commander-in-Chief, I move the adoption of this resolution.

Delegate W. J. Schultz, of Ohio: I second the motion.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: I think the proper order of things would be to refer this to the Committee on Resolutions. Personally I am inclined to agree with the resolution. I know what is behind it, but I do not believe in snap action, and I will hold that it will take a two-thirds vote to suspend the rules and take this up out of regular order and immediately rather than to refer it to the committee.

Past Commander-in-Chief Church: Can I ask Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter if there is any occasion for haste, or if there is any reason why we cannot fix some particular time for consideration of this resolution.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: There is urgent necessity for prompt action on this resolution. It is necessary that we communicate to the committee representing the Grand Army of the Republic the action of this Encampment. However, I have no objection to it being made a special order of business the first thing following this business session of the Commandery-in-Chief, finally to be acted upon at that time.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: You mean today?

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: Yes.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: It will hardly be in order then because this afternoon has been set aside for greetings.

Past Commander-in-Chief Church: It ought not to be the first order of business upon the reconvening of the Encampment because we never have a full attendance at that time.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: I want to say that there

is practically a full attendance of the members of this Encampment at this time, and if they be not sufficiently interested to be here promptly this afternoon to take action upon this resolution, I have nothing more to say.

Delegate W. J. Schultz, of Ohio: I seconded the motion with the thought that we were all for the Grand Army of the Republic. The Grand Army of the Republic comes here and asks us to take that name, and we are in duty bound to do it whether we do it now or later. We are in duty bound to do it some day.

Past Commander-in-Chief Church: That is just one reason that I asked for a little time to consider this resolution, that is, because the Grand Army of the Republic has not acted upon it and has not asked us to take this action. This communication comes from a committee of that Order. I move you sir, that the motion before the House be postponed until the session this afternoon.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: The Chair would like to entertain a motion from you authorizing this special committee of all Past Commanders-in-Chief to confer with the Grand Army of the Republic on this matter, with power to act.

Past Commander-in-Chief Church: I cannot make that motion because that committee has already acted and has conferred with the committee of the Grand Army of the Republic. This is the committee action that we are asked to consider now, and I am very glad to consider it but I don't want to vote on it now.

Past Commander-in-Chief Russell: I second the motion.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Motion has been made and seconded that the resolution now presented be taken up at the afternoon session. Is that correct?

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: May I state that the motion that I made was regularly seconded, and in order that the record may be clear, with the consent of my second, I will withdraw my motion.

Delegate W. J. Schultz, of Ohio: I withdraw my second to the motion.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: I thought the Chair ruled your motion out of order at that time.

Past Division Commander D. A. Carrick, of Maryland: I move that this matter be made a special order for 2:30 this afternoon.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Do you offer that as a substitute to the motion by Brother Church?

Past Division Commander D. A. Carrick, of Maryland: As a substitute for his motion, and to make it a special order.

Delegate W. J. Schultz, of Ohio: I second the motion.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: The question is on the adoption of the substitute. All those in favor of the adoption of the substitute say aye, those opposed no. It is carried and the substitute motion adopted. The question now recurs on the original motion as amended. All those in favor of the original mo-

tion as amended say aye, contrary no. The ayes seem to have it.

A Voice: A division of the house is asked for.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: A division is called for. The motion is that this question about the name be taken up as a special order of business at 2:30 this afternoon. Those in favor of the adoption of the motion as amended please rise, those opposed please rise. Clearly the ayes have it and you have adopted the motion that this resolution be taken up for consideration this afternoon at two-thirty.

Is there any other business to come before the Encampment before we proceed to close? There does not appear to be.

(Whereupon at 1:30 o'clock p. m. the Encampment took a recess until 2:30 o'clock p. m.)

TUESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Vocational School Auditorium,
Grand Rapids, Michigan.

2:30 o'clock, September 1, 1925.

The Encampment was opened in due and regular form, the Commander-in-Chief, William M. Coffin, presiding.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: The special order of business as fixed at the time of adjournment of our last session is now in order. Brother Sautter is recognized.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: Commander-in-Chief, may I have the indulgence of this body in making a brief explanation concerning the resolution which I read this morning?

The resolution itself is I believe quite specific in its character. Last night a number of the Past Commanders-in-Chief, at the invitation of the committee representing the Grand Army of the Republic, met with the committee of the Grand Army of the Republic. We had a plain, extremely so, frank discussion with their committee, and they explained to us in some detail why they recommended the name SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR, and why they could not recommend the name Sons of the Grand Army of the Republic.

I believe that possibly many were favorable, in view of the previous action, to the name Sons of the Grand Army of the Republic. I, if you please, was one of them, but after the explanation of that committee, to my mind at least, there is an unsurmountable power not of the making of the Grand Army of the Republic, and not of their unmaking, that absolutely prevents them from permitting us, if you will permit me to put it in that way, at least with their consent, to take the name Sons of the Grand Army of the Republic.

I am not able to quote the members of the committee but they said this with reference to the name SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR. There is an organization known as Sons of Confederate Veterans, and they believe that there ought to be an organization using the name of UNION VETERANS, and consequently suggested the adoption, insofar as their committee is concerned, unanimously by them, the name SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR.

It appeals to me, brothers, that coming as it does, meaning much to us as I believe it does, the committee representing this body was entirely justified in presenting the resolution worded as it is which provides specifically that the name is changed only upon the approval by the Commandery-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic of the recommendation of their committee.

The lack of any action, or adverse action upon the part of

the Grand Army of the Republic leaves us exactly where we are at this time. Now, Commander-in-Chief, with this explanation, I beg to renew the motion of this morning by moving the adoption of the resolution as read.

Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman: I second the motion.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: The motion before us is that the resolution read and explained to you be adopted. Are there any remarks?

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I request that the resolution be read.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Please read the resolution; and please read it slowly, and I ask all to give close attention.

(The resolution offered at the morning session was read by Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter).

Delegate A. W. Scott, of Pennsylvania: May I ask whom you designate as the Union; Union Veterans of the Civil War? What is the Union—the United States of America? Were not the confederate soldiers of the Union?

Cries of No! No!

Delegate E. M. Lowe, of Ohio: Abraham Lincoln pronounced the Grand Army of the Republic the Union Veterans.

Past Division Commander G. W. G. Estover, of Illinois: I am the son of a veteran of a soldier of the Union who died in the service. I have been active in Camp work. I have filled the position of Division Commander. If we in the assembly adopt the name of UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR, in ten years from now you will be out of existence.

The Grand Army of the Republic stands alone in its service. We have no desire as sons to take from them any of the honors which they won on the field, but we do believe that we should be allowed to remember their name as the Grand Army of the Republic as long as this nation stands, and as SONS OF UNION VETERANS we can only take within our ranks the sons of men of that enlistment because that is the only organization and name that is recognized by the War Department.

Now then, brothers, let us think of this seriously. I have mingled in the rank and file of the Grand Army of the Republic since 1868 and I positively know that the rank and file of the Grand Army of the Republic want us to adopt that name and no other.

It was a great mistake that was made when we first organized. The Sons of the Revolution, the Sons of the War of 1812, the Sons of the Spanish-American War, the Sons of the World War; and we should be known as, and distinguished certainly as the Sons of the Grand Army of the Republic. Let us perpetuate that name. God knows I will not be with you many times; many years at least, comrades and brothers, but I want to greet my father by the hand when I reach that place which I hope to go to and tell him that I have been faithful to him on earth as I was when I was a boy, and I have left behind me a record that shall stand in the name of the Grand Army of the Republic which he represented on the field of battle, and the flag for which he gave his life.

I well remember that morning, brothers, as we sat at the breakfast table, father said "Have you, my son, resolved to go again?" And I says "I have." And he put his hand down on the table and used a swear word, the only one I ever heard him use, "Mother, if my son can give his life twice for his country I will give mine once for my adopted country."

Now then let us stop and think. We can wait. We can wait even another year. I came to this Encampment under some difficulty, but I came for fear that that question would come up and in a moment of haste we might do something for which in after years we would be sorry.

I thank you brothers, for your attention.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: The Chair would like to announce with reference to the resolution offered, in order to correct a possible wrong impression, that the resolution, the Chair understands, comes from a duly authorized suggestion of the Grand Army of the Republic themselves; and that it does not make a definite change. The adoption of the change is subordinate under this resolution to further conference with and adoption by the Grand Army of the Republic. It affords, in other words, a common ground of meeting between this Order and the Grand Army of the Republic not hitherto offered. I want to make that very clear. Is there any further discussion on the resolution?

Past Commander-in-Chief Sisson: I agree heartily with those brothers of this Encampment who do not want to see anything railroaded through, but I think that even at this stage of the proceedings we might be acting without definite information if we let this go without a little further discussion. I can appreciate the standpoint of my brother veteran who has just spoken and who served two enlistments. I can appreciate his enthusiasm for the name Grand Army of the Republic. I can appreciate my own respect and regard for that name, but I am willing to subordinate that to the request of the Grand Army itself that we adopt the other name.

As a matter of fact it makes very little difference to you and me what the name may be, provided we get the authority from the Grand Army of the Republic to carry on after they are gone, and that is just exactly what this resolution means.

A similar request will be made to the Daughters of Veterans by the Grand Army of the Republic. I have no right to anticipate their action because I do not know what it will be, but anyway this is a request from the Grand Army of the Republic and it is opening up the proposition that we have been looking for for a long time. This is the most important legislation that has come before this body according to my judgment, in twenty years, and I have attended most of the Encampments in that time.

Now we have the promise, so far as a promise can be made without the authority of the Encampment itself, that if we ask for the adoption of this name, in the Grand Army of the Republic tomorrow a fight will be made upon the floor, if necessary backed by some of the strongest men that they have in the Encampment, guaranteeing to us in a way the authority of the Grand Army of the Republic itself to carry on and perpetuate

Memorial Day, a day which they instituted, organized and made, keeping that as Memorial Day and giving us authority to do it for all time to come.

I say this legislation is important and I feel you should know exactly the situation so far as it relates to our authority to carry on.

Past Division Commander William L. Barnum, Jr., of Illinois: I would like to ask a question, and I think I will ask a question that will probably answer a good deal of indecision of all brothers present. I was at Milwaukee but I did not happen to get to the Encampment last year. I understood that this request for this change of name came from the Grand Army of the Republic. If it did, how in God's name is there going to be a fight on the floor of the Encampment? If they wanted us to change the name to John Brown or Tom Smith, or Union Veterans or Sons of the Grand Army of the Republic, or anything else, we will do it, but how in the dickens are we going to know what they want unless they tell us?

Now I have understood all along that this was a request from the Grand Army of the Republic Encampment. It turns out now that it is a request, according to the unbiased opinions here, of three or four Past Commanders-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, saying that they will get behind and fight for the name SONS OF UNION VETERANS.

I have talked with possibly one hundred or one hundred and fifty members of the Grand Army of the Republic, none of whom were Past Commanders-in-Chief, and they have advised me that the majority of the rank and file of the Grand Army of the Republic wants us to take the name Sons of the Grand Army of the Republic, and I don't know which is which; and I will say here and now if this is a request from the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic why should there be any guarantee that there will be a fight by the best men they have got on the floor to carry it through, unless they are trying to railroad something through the Grand Army of the Republic?

Junior Vice Division Commander Crittenden, of Missouri: I would like to speak as a representative of one whose father fought on the northern side, whose ancestors held Kentucky in the Union—

National Secretary Hammer: Let me ask, has the brother any credentials entitling him to a seat in this Encampment?

Junior Vice Division Commander Crittenden, of Missouri: I am not a delegate. I am sitting here with the delegation.

National Secretary Hammer: I am sorry to rise to the point of order, but the brother is not properly enrolled.

Junior Vice Division Commander Crittenden, of Missouri: I am the Junior Vice Commander. The Senior Vice Commander is not here and the Commander is not here.

National Secretary Hammer: The Committee on Credentials has not enrolled the brother and nobody can act here for the Division Commander.

Junior Vice Division Commander Crittenden, of Missouri: I supposed I had a voice to say something, and I was just going to state my position as a southern man.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: As much as the Chair dislikes to do it, the Chair is compelled to sustain the point of order.

Past Division Commander Henry M. Austin, of Alabama & Tennessee Division: I have been a member of the Grand Army of the Republic since 1867. I have attended twenty-eight of our National Encampments, and at various times the question of recognizing an organization using the name Grand Army of the Republic, or the initials G. A. R., was brought up and it has always been voted down in the National Encampment. The Grand Army men are very jealous of the name Grand Army of the Republic, and they do not want any other organization to bear that name, and I do not think they will countenance it for a moment, and that is the reason that the committee took this action.

Commander-in-Chief: Are you a member of the Grand Army of the Republic?

Past Division Commander Henry M. Austin, of Alabama & Tennessee Division: Yes.

Commander-in-Chief: I wish you would pay attention to this brother.

Past Division Commander Henry M. Austin, of Alabama & Tennessee Division: I have attended twenty-eight different Encampments of the Grand Army of the Republic, and at different times this matter has come up of recognizing an organization bearing the name Grand Army of the Republic, or the initials G. A. R., and it has always been turned down. There is an organization of ladies who call themselves the Daughters of the G. A. R. and they have tried for several years to get recognition from the National Encampment of the Grand Army and they have been refused unanimously every time they have appeared before that body.

As I said before the Grand Army of the Republic is very jealous of their name, and the initials that stand for it, G. A. R., and they won't recognize any organization as an auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic that adopts that name.

Past Division Commander Estover, of Illinois: I desire to say that I pledge you that that is not the sense of the meeting of the Grand Army of the Republic as a mass. The rank and file of the Grand Army of the Republic arising today, want us to perpetuate their name; and I assure you that if you adopt the name UNION VETERANS, this organization dies.

Past Division Commander William M. P. Bowen, of Rhode Island: I do not see how the Order can die at all and I cannot see how the Order would fare any better if it was to adopt the name Sons of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Past Division Commander F. P. Corrick, of Nebraska: You might omit the word "Veterans" entirely from our name. The eligibility clause of the constitution fixes those who are entitled to membership, and there would be no question in my mind about it at all. We decide that by the eligibility clause of the constitution. Whether we use the term "Veterans" or G. A. R. is immaterial.

Past Division Commander Will F. Jenkins, of Illinois: What becomes of those soldiers who are not members of the Grand

Army of the Republic? They fought just as hard as any member of the Grand Army of the Republic. You know all the soldiers of the Civil War were not members of the Grand Army of the Republic, and their sons are eligible to this organization. The son of any Union veteran soldier, according to our constitution, is eligible to this Order. If we change the name, the organization cannot die any more under the name UNION VETERANS than it can under the name Sons of the G. A. R., and if it is confined to those whose sires fought in the war and afterwards became members of the G. A. R., and only those who became such members, we are cutting out sixty per cent of the soldiers. So it doesn't make a bit of difference which way we work, but I believe in complying with the request of the Grand Army of the Republic, and doing as they want us to do. It has been a long time since they have asked us for anything, and now that they have asked us, let us not fail.

Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman: I move the previous question.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: The question is called for. All those in favor of the adoption of the resolution offered by Brother Sautter, please rise. Those opposed please rise. Clearly the ayes have it, and the resolution is adopted. (Applause).

The next order of business is the reception and reference of the Officers' Reports.

Secretary Hammer: We have the reports of the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary-Treasurer, National Counselor, National Chaplain and the National Patriotic Instructor; all printed and ready for distribution.

REPORT OF SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

Pawtucket, R. I., July 1, 1925.

To William M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief, and the Members of the 44th Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.:

I herewith submit my report for the year ending June 30th, 1925.

When I accepted the unexpected honor you conferred on me at the last Encampment I did so with considerable fear as to meeting the duties of the office, but I pledged myself to do so to the best of my ability, and to that pledge I have tried to be true. There follows a report of my activities and some reflections or recommendations suggested by my experience.

I waited for some time before definite orders came to me that would give me specific work to do, and in the meantime made a number of visits to individual Camps, and interviewed many individuals as to the conditions in the Order as they found them.

I attended many public meetings under the auspices of Divisions, Camps and the G. A. R., making addresses at most of them, and deriving from the mixing with the brothers on these occasions, impressions as to spirit and conditions.

On December 11th I received the order of the Commander-in-Chief assigning me to charge of District 1, comprising the Divi-

sions of New England, and immediately began correspondence with them. Pursuant to a request of the Commander-in-Chief a meeting was called of the Commanders of these Divisions at Boston, February 6th, where the Division headquarters were placed at our disposal, which was attended by all Division Commanders, the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, and the Commander-in-Chief. This meeting was one of great interest, and I believe its value is not to be underestimated; for results are shaping to accrue from it that will have a real significance for the Order at large.

During the year the District shows a loss of five Camps and a gain of four Camps leaving a net loss of one Camp. For the same district there is shown a loss of 294 members and a gain of 60 members, leaving a net loss of 234 members. The Camps were lost from Connecticut, Massachusetts and Vermont, while the greatest membership losses were in the Divisions of Massachusetts and Connecticut. Maine and Rhode Island show no losses in Camps or members, while Vermont shows loss of one Camp but a gain in membership. So far as the facts show the actual loss is numerical rather than actual, being made up almost entirely of members dropped for non-payment of dues over a period of years, as for instance in Connecticut, where 85 were dropped for that reason.

In spite of these figures there seems a noticeable increase in the sense of responsibility we owe to our father's memories, and a new realization growing steadily that we must express it by doing more than caring for Memorial Day. There is a feeling that we have a year-round duty to perform, not a once-a-year duty, and the rapidly growing appreciation of the G. A. R.'s need and desire for us to do the things they ask of us is bringing a new quality of loyalty and service to our Order.

I regret to have to inform you of the death during the year of the Junior Vice Commander of Rhode Island, Brother Charles Copeland, and of the removal to Detroit, Michigan, of our brother, Past Division Commander Robert L. Ward.

In conclusion, may I be permitted to offer some comments that may offer material for thought in our next Encampment.

It seems to me that we as an Order lack a continuing policy, and that naturally there is a lack of co-ordinating work in our Divisions. To remedy this there should be provision for an administrative board or committee, one-third of which only should be elected annually for a three year term, which should act as an Advisory Board to the Commander-in-Chief. Such committee or board would naturally provide for a continuing policy which would be taken up at once on the new Commander-in-Chief assuming office and prevent the delay of several months in which he is necessarily learning the ropes.

There should be definite plans and aims looking toward certain results in

- (1) Education of the community in Americanism.
- (2) Development of the ideals of the Republic in
 - (a) Children in our schools,
 - (b) Immigrants in our land.
- (3) Development of a sense of personal responsibility in Sons of Veterans and all other citizens.

- (4) Co-operation of all the allied organizations to a plan or plans that will secure these results.
- (5) Overtures to other patriotic and veteran organizations to secure their joint action in at least some of these activities.

We have too much wasted effort because it is much too general. Our many visits, courtesies and social functions are good, and we cannot afford to do without them, but they are only social. They should be linked with more positive and definite effort.

In obedience to your orders I visited the annual Encampments in the Divisions of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maine, and would have visited Vermont had they not held their Encampment on the same dates as Maine. In each Encampment I noted the increased sense of new duties to do, new willingness to be of real service, and I wish to thank the brothers of those Divisions for their many courtesies and uniform kindness shown me, and for the honors accorded me.

I desire to express to you, sir, my thanks for your courtesy. It has been a real pleasure to work with you. I wish I could have done more.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES P. HALL,
Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

REPORT OF JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

Winchester, Ind., June 17, 1925.

To Wm. M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.
Dear Sir and Brother:

At any and all times "an honest confession is good for the soul." My election as Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., at the Forty-third Annual Encampment held in Boston, Mass., August 12, 13, 14, 1924, was a complete and dumbfounding surprise. While I had been a member of this patriotic order for over thirty-seven years, I had never thought of holding an office higher than Camp Commander, and had never sought one. My business relations were such that it would be impossible to travel and work for the benefit of the Order. Therefore the actual work done by myself on behalf of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., in the last year, has been confined to a limited area.

I have visited no Camps, aside from my own, but Division Orders have been received regularly from Illinois, California, New York, Michigan, and Oregon. These Divisions are all alive to the issue, but there is a general falling-off in membership. My own Division has not materially prospered, and the many plans for obtaining new members have not functioned. However, we have kept things alive here in "Old 44," Indiana Division. Our Auxiliary instituted a series of social sessions that have been of great benefit to both Orders, especially in keeping what members already belonged.

In September, 1924, I gave a talk before the local chapter D. A. R. that was well received.

In December, 1924, the Sons of Veterans, "Old 44," and Ladies Auxiliary No. 16, Indiana Division, gave a reception and banquet, followed by work, in honor of the newly elected Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief. This function was attended by Commander-in-Chief Wm. M. Coffin, and nearly all the state officers of the Indiana Division Sons of Veterans and the Auxiliary.

In January, 1925, the Installation of Officers, Auxiliary No. 16, Indiana Division, was attended by state officers who inspected work, and initiation of a large class. The Grand Army of the Republic Post always has an invitation to all our meetings, and attends in goodly numbers.

In April, 1925, a social session of the Auxiliary was well attended by Sons of Veterans, Grand Army men, and Woman's Relief Corps members.

May 18, 1925, Auxiliary memorial services were attended by G. A. R., W. R. C., and S. of V., Past Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief F. C. Focht and myself taking part in the exercises.

May 21st, Past Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief F. C. Focht, Past Division Commander J. D. Miller, Secretary-Treasurer C. H. Beeson and myself attended "Candy Day," an annual affair at Knightstown's beautiful Indiana Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphan Home, where over one hundred officers and past officers of Indiana Division, Sons of Veterans, and Auxiliary, and visiting committees from other allied patriotic orders of G. A. R., with trustees, and the Indiana Division Commander, G. A. R., were entertained by the children with an excellent program, and a splendid dinner by the Superintendent and his wife. There are three hundred and thirty inmates in this home, boys and girls ranging in age from three to eighteen years. This institution is under direct supervision of the State of Indiana, and is the source of education of many children who otherwise would be left in ignorance.

Sunday, May 24, 1925, the Sons of Veterans, in a body, attended the memorial sermon of Rev. L. H. Graham at the Main St. Church of Christ, Winchester, Ind. There was also a fair representation of the G. A. R., W. R. C., and Auxiliary.

True patriotism consists of self-denial and sacrifice, and, while we view with profound regret the recognized fact that all citizens do not think it their duty, nor a service to our government, to make Memorial Day a sacred time each year, it was a pleasure to see the large crowd of those who are true to the "Boys in Blue" assemble in the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Winchester, Ind., May 30, where an excellent program was rendered, together with an address by our Representative in Congress, Hon. A. H. Vestal. From the church, the assembly marched to our beautiful Fountain Park Cemetery, where the G. A. R. went through their Ritualistic work and read Lincoln's Gettysburg speech. After a volley by the firing squad, and the benediction, Taps was sounded. Thus ended a day well done. Every soldier's grave in our County was decorated by the Sons of Veterans Committee, and I had the honor of presiding over the services at the church. While we had, two miles from our city, automobile races on the finest half mile dirt track in the

world, for big money prizes, a 60 piece band, and all the amusements possible to crowd into one hundred acres of space, all this in competition with our Decoration ceremonies, the day proved that all citizens, patriotic or otherwise, are not interested in sports on the 30th of May. This amusement feature of Memorial Day is general all over the United States, but it has never yet succeeded in suffocating the patriotic devotion existing for the men who made the supreme sacrifice, that our Union might not be disrupted. As time passes, new events are encountered and, with them, there are brought to us new problems requiring solution.

I attended the Thirty-ninth Encampment, Indiana Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., at Princeton, Ind., June 8 to 12, where the paramount issue "Education, Organization and Efficiency of the Camp Treasurer" was stressed and re-stressed as never before. Of course "The Banner" is doing everything in its power to *educate* the people along lines of patriotism, but it does not reach enough people. It should be sent into a million homes. *Organization* is subject matter for grave consideration, and while there are many schemes to get members, they all resolve themselves into the one problem of *Individual Work*. Many men can be reached and held by the "reverence to their fathers" appeal, which is the bulwark of our organization. *Efficiency of the Secretary-Treasurer* is the big thing, because he handles the money, and of course, to handle any he has to collect some. Just how well he does this depends on the man. If *he* will work he will be successful. If he depends on *someone else*, he will be a failure; because men are not going to leave their work and go out to collect dues for some lodge.

Indiana Division has suffered a severe loss in membership this year, and yet we deem it rather holding our own, for those that have been dropped have not been workers in the Order, and their loss only incites those left to do better and more efficient work. It did not seem possible that, in that wonderful parade at our State Encampment where we had only 100 men in the line of march, there could possibly exist such lethargy in the Camps throughout the state.

I think the "personal appeal" plan no doubt would be of benefit in getting new members. IF we could get them to make the personal appeal. Everybody seems to be "busy," and the volunteers for actual work are not on the job, and the treasury is not in condition to hire special solicitors. Therefore things will wend their same old way of spurts and stops. In our Camp we have instituted a plan to re-instate dropped members for the payment of one year's dues. In this manner several of the eighty that were out will probably come back.

With all this, not a new member to "Old 44" out of 3000 eligibles in the County, and many that have been dropped will never re-instate! This looks bad for a Camp which was second in Indiana Division for a long time.

What's the matter with the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.? There is nothing the matter with the Order, but some of the people that should belong are putting their money on wheels and it's running away with them. Then it is a fact that there are many so-called "Patriotic Organizations" that have mixed

in the political field to such an extent that the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.—which is not a political organization—has been relegated down the line. Our paramount duty to the G. A. R. has always been fulfilled to the letter everywhere in this United States of America. Our affiliation with the other patriotic Orders, as Orders—except our own Auxiliary, the G. A. R., and W. R. C., has been aloof. A man may be chuck full of love of his country, and have patriotism oozing out of him all over, but when he is called upon to expend all his energy on the Sons of Veterans, and the G. A. R., there is going to be a division. All patriotic men and boys are not eligible to be Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., and, while I think every patriotic citizen has the greatest reverence for those grand men who saved our Union, there is a host that belong to other organizations and work for the advancement of their particular lodges, regardless of anything and everything. While they will do nothing to discredit our Order, at the same time there is nothing they can do to help us. Our young members do not seem to take hold of the executive part of our Order, but leave all the business to the men who have been in the harness for years. We should encourage them in the work, for some day age will slip upon us like it has on the G. A. R. We all know that it is impossible to legislate patriotism into any one, and if the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., only have a certain amount of eligibles, and can't even get them to become members, there is going to be a reckoning some day. How far off that day may be I don't know, but it is coming, and, from the amount of Camp members dropped for non-payment of dues all over the United States of America, things look rather blue to me.

You can't drive any man into an organization, and a few members of a Camp can't forever carry a lot of members that won't pay their dues. As financial conditions are today, it takes hard work to get new members, and maybe they won't stick when you get them. Those who are in good standing are loyal, and the new members are spreading the spirit in the by-ways and hedges for those who didn't even know they were eligible. If the light is thrown in all the dark places, I am sure some may be made to see.

Every person in the United States eligible to be a member of our Order should enroll himself under its banner, for three, if not many more reasons. 1st—To protect the Union his Father and Grandfather fought and died to save; 2nd—To preserve his home, which is the foundation and security of our Government; and 3rd—To keep unsullied the one Flag, the stars and stripes, which carries with it freedom and protection to all supporters of our wonderful Republic.

This great melting pot, the United States, is today boiling and seething with many peculiar ideas of government that, when sifted to the dregs, are all of foreign origin. How then can our Constitution and our Flag be protected and preserved except by those who believe in our institutions? I say again, there is no such a thing as "legislative patriotism." It must be born in the blood, or acquired by intelligent and supporting education. When the very foundation of our Union is threatened today, as of yore, why should men, patriotic men, sit idly by and listen? We are now not only threatened from without, but

the boring from within is coming to the surface in many places. We must get our eligibles to help us. It is not only the Sons of Veterans' duty, but the duty of every patriotic citizen to post themselves regarding all this foreign propaganda that is being circulated all over the United States, poisoning the minds of unsuspecting people against our institutions.

Patriotism and Americanism have been preached and sounded from every nook and corner of the United States, yet, two men in the United States Army were recently arrested and found guilty of sedition.

Just why the most prosperous nation on earth, and the one working under the most wonderful constitution of all ages, should be subject to attacks of discontent, and the people allow themselves to be led away by false gods, is beyond me. President Coolidge very significantly said, in his inaugural message: "I do not propose to barter away for the privilege of trade, any of the cherished rights of humanity. I do not propose to make merchandise of any American principles. These rights and principles must go wherever the sanctions of our Government go. The favor of America is not for sale." These statements surely should meet with the approval of all patriotic citizens, and especially Sons of Veterans. Foreign countries have tried in every manner imaginable to gain a foothold in the United States, but so far, the patriotic, home-loving people of our nation have kept them out; and let us hope that the loyal sons of those who preserved our Union, will continue to make it their business to spread the light of understanding, that all may see what a wonderful place the United States of America is, in which to have a home.

We should never lose sight of the fact that there are patriotic and home-loving people in the United States other than Sons of Veterans; and, if our Order is perpetuated, we must work not only for the principles for which our fathers fought, but for the advancement of civilization, and the continued progress of the Union they loved so well.

The two most famous men who ever lived in our United States, gave utterance to words which, when fitted together, make a motto to be highly revered by all our people, and more especially those who are patriotic. "Let us raise a standard to which the wise and the honest may repair." (Washington). "That government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth." (Lincoln).

This standard is surely wonderful, and should be inscribed as with pen of steel in the mind of every American citizen; especially when we know that every year there are more men and women turned out of prisons in the United States than graduate from all our colleges and universities.

The United States needs YOUR help; not only as a Son of Veteran but as a loyal citizen. We have many things to do besides honoring our fathers and grandfathers for saving the Union. If they *saved* it, we should *preserve* it! We may be sailing along in smooth water now, without a care as to the future, but don't feel too safe; don't rely on seeming friendliness for true friendship. Preparedness should be our watchword, and the continued burning of home fires, which prevented

so many catastrophes in the past, will do so again. The acting friend of today may be the enemy of tomorrow. Remember that Napoleon once said, "The Lord is on the side of the fellow with the most cannon."

Our country today is at peace with the world, and can only be kept that way by eternal vigilance. The size and enthusiasm of the Vigilance Committee depends, in a great measure, upon the patriotic organizations, of which the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., is one. *We cannot afford to sleep at the switch!*

I hope you will bear with me in my small effort to help perpetuate our Order in its splendid work.

Respectfully submitted in F., C. & L.

G. C. MARKLE, M. D.,
Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Considering the recommendations which the National Secretary has been kind enough to make in his report, it is my thought that this Encampment will not know of those recommendations unless the report of the National Secretary, or such part of that report as he may deem important, should be read to this Encampment as the average member taking the printed report does not read it closely.

We had the benefit of the report of the Commander-in-Chief this morning, and I think there is no one here that would have been satisfied to have had that report presented without reading by yourself. Therefore I ask that the National Secretary be requested to read such portion of his report as in his judgment is important at this time, and the other reports be presented as printed.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sisson: If that is in the form of a motion, I second the motion.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Before the question is put the Chair would like to announce that it had cherished the hope of being able to call on every National Officer for a period of five minutes for the presentation of his report. The Chair is of the opinion that a man who has been called to service in the national body at least should be extended in his own right the privilege of the floor for at least five minutes to give this body some ideas that he might have gained during the year. Unfortunately our program has been rather full. We have a greetings committee awaiting now, and it seems to me in order that we have a motion to refer all the reports, with the exception that the Secretary's be read.

Past Commander-in-Chief Stephens: I move that Brother Sherman read the report of the Secretary.

The motion was seconded.

Delegate A. E. Deems, of California & Pacific Division. I move that each officer be extended five minutes time.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: We have a delegation from the Auxiliary that has been waiting fifteen minutes. We are due at the Auxiliary meeting at four o'clock. The motion before the house is that the reports of officers be received and referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports, with the exception that

the National Secretary be requested to read such parts of his report as he feels important. Those in favor say aye, and those opposed no. The ayes have it and it is so ordered. The reports are referred with the exception of the report of the National Secretary-Treasurer.

National Secretary-Treasurer Hammer: In the report presented, I give particular attention to twenty years of the membership, number of Camps, of members, new Camps organized, with losses and gains for each of the years, to show that we are today in our membership just where we were twenty years ago. There were 1677 Camps instituted in the past twenty years, only 149 were organized with 50 or more members, and 137 Camps were instituted and chartered with only 15 members. I contend you cannot expect anything of a Camp instituted with fifteen members, and in my report I tell about it. I felt that I ought to submit something by way of a plan or method whereby the Order may be established to be more effective, substantial and permanent; and prevent or overcome the enormous losses and have the Order advance. There is some way to do it. I may not have it; I may not be able to suggest it, but possibly in what I have brought out there may be some other mind that can produce a way to establish ourselves to become a real Order, or convince ourselves that we are just going along year after year, content with what we have. I come to you with a report like this:

"No Camp be instituted with less than fifty members, each of whom shall pay at least \$20.00. Charter fee to be \$50.00. Initiation fee in new and old or established Camps to be not less than \$20.00."

In other words no Camp should be instituted with less than fifty members, each member of which should pay at least \$20.00 and the charter fee should not be less than \$50.00. This is rather drastic. I do not recommend anything. The initiation fee in new, old or established Camps should be not less than \$20.00, and every Camp that may be organized, capitalize, if that is the proper term, every member in every Camp at \$20.00.

I go on to state that if you get \$20.00 from every member of the organization and the same should be invested in sound interest paying securities, first mortgage loans at six per cent, the interest on that \$20.00 will bring in \$1.20 a year and that will take care of your per capita tax. The per capita tax paid in every Division runs from sixty cents to one dollar. I am in this suggestion, providing for the per capita tax on every member at four, five or six per cent. A Division will always have a per capita tax on every member of the Camp, and the Camp itself will have the difference of whatever the investment brings in. That means, once a member, always a member. The only way you could get rid of him is by dishonorable discharge or death. I won't argue this. I have no arguments to make. I offer it to get it into your heads, let it sink in, and if you want to adopt it, come along in a year from now and say what you want to do.

With reference to a beneficial Camp: We have lots of Camps that are beneficial. Some members do not know what that is. It means a brother who is sick gets four or five dollars a week from a Camp, and when his wife dies the member gets fifty

dollars; if a member of that Camp dies, the widow gets fifty to one hundred dollars, or whatever it may provide. We have some of these Camps. The Camp I belong to has a membership of close to four hundred. Under my beneficial membership, if I die my wife will get one hundred dollars. If she should die, I would receive fifty dollars. If I were to get sick, I would receive four dollars a week. That comes out of the general revenue. I say in my report that our organization is too cheap, that the man who invests only a dollar and a half for membership fee or two dollars, has not enough at stake, is not interested. But take the Shrine, it costs over \$100 to join it. Many who do have no thought about joining the Sons of Veterans. Many of them say it is too cheap and you don't get that fellow for even a dollar and a half.

But if we want our Order on a level for competition, and to get it where we want it to be, it don't make any difference what sign we wear we must figure that the man who puts up \$20.00 is not going to drop out as quick as the man that pays \$1.50. I also say something about a uniform. Can you think of anything worse than the way many of our Camps turn out on Memorial Day? Do we make an impression? Some of them do make a good impression, but lots of them do not. Stop this fellow who wears a straw hat smoking a cigar, or cigarette, as an escort to the Grand Army of the Republic. I suggest a head-gear. I suggest the Grant hat. We might put a cord on it. Another reference: Nobody has more respect for the Grand Army men than I. I submit in this respect that the time has come for the Grand Army of the Republic, that it is up to them—to say where we are and what we are to be to them now. If we are to be their successors; if we have any right, or if we have any authority on Memorial Day, it is theirs to tell us now. I want to know hereafter, if I go out with my Camp on Memorial Day, whether I have any right as a son of a veteran or to have no consideration. Therefore I think it is up to this committee of Past Commanders-in-Chief to get from the committee of National Officers of the Grand Army of the Republic a statement of where we are and what we are to be to the Grand Army from now on. If anything, say so. If nothing, say it, and then we will know where we are to be on Decoration Day hereafter. (Applause).

REPORT OF NATIONAL SECRETARY-TREASURER.

Reading, Pa., August 10, 1925.

Hon. Wm. M. Coffin,
Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.,

My Dear Commander-in-Chief:

I have the honor to submit the following report as National Secretary-Treasurer:

Our finances need attention in order that our affairs may be properly conducted. In the term closing, as in several Administrations preceding, we have been unable to meet promptly our obligations. It has been necessary several times, in various months to defer payment of expenses, notably The Banner, the Commander-in-Chief and National Secretary-Treasurer. These

experiences are new in comparison with past years. The Camps are not in a mood to increase their contributions, and Divisions are not prepared to favor increase in per capita tax. The solution is increase in membership; the active efforts of Division and Camp Officers to secure members and have a basis or foundation that will be safe and certain of producing revenue and income necessary.

FINANCIAL.

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS.

DR.	CR.
Aug. 14, 1924, To balance	By General Expenses. \$17179.35
.....\$ 1651.08	Office Expenses 1072.91
Received for:	Commander-in-Chief's
Per Capita	Expenses 1175.03
Tax .. ...\$17314.64	
Charter Fees 125.00	By Total Expenditures.\$19427.29
Supplies ... 3606.57	
Miscellaneous,	By Balance, Aug. 10,
Interest, etc. 116.10	1925 3386.10
Total Receipts ....\$21162.31	
\$22813.39	\$22813.39

Receipts were \$1010.89 less than last (1923-'24) year—

For Per Capita Tax by, approximately.....\$ 9.00

Charter Fees 150.00

Supplies 776.40

Miscellaneous (Interest, etc. 75.65

Based on an estimated membership of 55,000 the budget provided for total receipts of \$27160.31, from which they were less by \$5998.00. Disbursements were less by \$7107.71 than estimated for the year by the budget. Needless to assure that the most economical conducted and unusual effort and care in the disbursements.

RECEIPTS FROM DIVISIONS.

Division:	Per Capita	Charter				Total
	Tax	Fees	Supplies	Misc.		
Ala. & Tenn.....\$	103.20	\$	\$ 16.79	\$	\$	119.99
Cal. & Pac.	452.24	5.00	138.61			595.85
Connecticut	786.96		159.57			946.53
Illinois	576.16	5.00	124.08			705.24
Indiana	678.96	5.00	92.16			776.12
Iowa	281.60	10.00	61.55			353.15
Kansas	196.48	5.00	51.97			253.45
Maine	725.92	10.00	198.97			934.89
Maryland	210.32		53.60			263.92
Massachusetts . .	2992.56	15.00	687.15			3694.71
Michigan	286.32	5.00	63.92			355.24
Minnesota	156.72		15.48			172.20
Missouri	199.76	10.00	76.30			286.06
Nebraska	164.00	5.00	13.63			182.63
New Hampshire...	377.84		126.65			504.49

New Jersey	585.20		127.60		712.80
New York	1648.08	10.00	289.23		1947.31
Ohio	1369.92	15.00	353.10	.50	1738.52
Oregon	125.28				125.28
Pennsylvania . . .	4203.28	10.00	570.85		4784.13
Rhode Island	216.24	5.00	49.16		270.40
Vermont	398.88		96.62		495.50
Washington	200.24		41.95		242.19
Wisconsin	378.48	10.00	197.63		586.11
Miscellaneous . . .				115.60	115.60
Total	\$17314.64	\$125.00	\$3606.57	\$116.10	\$21162.31

ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

General Expenses:

For Stock and Supplies	\$ 1968.45
The Banner, Subscription, September, 1923- July, 1925, inc.	10614.56
Encampment (1924), Printing and Promul- gating Journal to Divisions.....	626.94
Printing	138.76
Shipping Supplies	107.12
Salary, June 21, 1924-July 20, 1925, inc.....	3575.00
Bonds, National Officers	27.50
Officers other than Commander-in-Chief and National Secretary-Treasurer	121.02
	<u>\$17179.25</u>

Office Expenses:

For Wrapping Paper and Twine.....	\$ 3.38
Postage	120.93
Express	8.47
Telegrams	17.01
Stationery, National Officers	143.12
Rent	780.00
	<u>\$ 1072.91</u>

Commander-in-Chief's Expenses:

For Postage	\$ 33.40
Telegrams	37.64
Traveling	1006.59
Stenographer	94.00
Miscellaneous	3.40
	<u>\$ 1175.03</u>
	<u>\$19427.29</u>

VOUCHERS.

No.	To Whom Paid:	Account:	Amount
1.	Thos. Parry's Sons Co., supplies		\$ 80.00
2.	The Robbins Co., supplies		260.00
3.	Quaker City Stencil Work, supplies		5.75
4.	The L. S. Ramsey Co., supplies		140.00
5.	H. H. Hammer, National Secretary-Treasurer, sal- ary, June-September, inc., and expense a/c June- September, inc.		904.47

6.	Peabody Printing Co., printing	37.00
7.	Wm. O. Flatt & Brother, printing and stationery National officers	107.31
8.	Maryland Casualty Co., bonds National officers....	27.50
9.	Colonial Trust Co., rent, October-December, inc....	195.00
10.	Wm. M. Coffin, expense a/c August-September.....	12.80
11.	Quaker City Stencil Works, supplies	16.35
12.	The Banner, supplies	35.03
13.	G. B. Kostenbader, printing	2.25
14.	Wm. O. Flatt & Brother, stationery National officers	26.65
15.	The L. S. Ramsey So., supplies	24.57
16.	The Robbins Co., supplies	260.00
17.	The L. S. Ramsey Co., supplies	66.80
18.	Wm. O. Flatt & Brother, supplies	4.50
19.	H. H. Hammer, National Secretary-Treasurer, ex- pense a/c October-November, inc.	99.51
20.	The Banner, subscription— September ... ..\$969.76 October 975.08 November 971.70—\$2916.54 Printing, etc., 1924 Journal Encampment Proceedings 647.00—	3563.54
21.	Wm. M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief, expense a/c October-November, inc.	34.91
22.	Quaker City Stencil Works, supplies	10.38
23.	The Banner, printing	35.45
24.	Wm. O. Flatt & Brother, printing	4.50
25.	H. H. Hammer, National Secretary-Treasurer, sal- ary, September-December, inc., expense a/c De- cember	847.67
26.	Colonial Trust Co., rent January-March, inc.....	195.00
27.	Wm. M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief, expense a/c December	31.00
28.	The Robbins Co., supplies	372.20
29.	Wm. O. Flatt & Brother, supplies.....	33.50
30.	Wm. M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief, expense a/c January	90.25
31.	Quaker City Stencil Works, supplies.....	5.19
32.	Wm. O. Flatt & Brother, supplies and stationery..	25.75
33.	The Banner, subscription— December ... ..\$969.00 January 969.54 February 964.11—\$2902.65 Supplies 28.66—	2931.31
34.	H. H. Hammer, National Secretary-Treasurer, ex- pense a/c January-February, inc.	44.75
35.	Park F. Yengling, Council-in-Chief, expense a/c conference	35.32
36.	Wm. M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief, expense a/c February	280.27
37.	The Banner, subscription, March	965.32
38.	Theo. C. Cazeau, National Patriotic Instructor, Tele- grams and Postage	7.10
39.	H. H. Hammer, National Secretary-Treasurer, sal- ary, December-February, inc., expense a/c March	574.75
40.	Colonial Trust Co., rent April-June, inc.....	195.00

41.	Wm. M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief, expense a/c March	16.75
42.	Quaker City Stencil Works, supplies	11.16
43.	The Banner, supplies, \$3.89; subscription, April, \$961.68	965.57
44.	Wm. O. Flatt Co., supplies and printing	24.00
45.	H. H. Hammer, National Secretary-Treasurer, expense a/c April	19.50
46.	Geo. B. Holmes, National Counselor, expense to St. Louis, Mo.	31.32
47.	Wm. M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief, expense a/c April	128.95
48.	Wm. M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief, expense a/c May	200.00
49.	Thos. Parry's Sons Co., supplies	120.00
50.	The Robbins Co., supplies	257.72
51.	Quaker City Stencil Works, supplies	5.23
52.	The Banner, subscription, May	957.49
53.	G. B. Kostenbader, printing	6.75
54.	H. H. Hammer, National Secretary-Treasurer, salary, February-May, inc., expense a/c May, supplies	898.16
55.	Chas. P. Hall, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, expense Division Encampments	28.35
56.	Wm. O. Flatt Co., stationery	8.50
57.	Wm. M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief, expense a/c May	153.14
58.	Wm. M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief, expense a/c June	168.44
59.	Wm. O. Flatt Co., supplies and printing	39.00
60.	The Banner, subscription, June	955.99
61.	G. B. Kostenbader, printing	9.50
62.	H. H. Hammer, National Secretary-Treasurer, expense a/c June	23.00
63.	George B. Holmes, National Counselor, expense Division Encampment (Wisconsin)	18.93
64.	Colonial Trust Co., rent, July-September, inc.	195.00
65.	Quaker City Stencil Works, supplies	5.79
66.	The Banner, subscription, July	954.89
67.	G. B. Kostenbader, printing	3.25
68.	H. H. Hammer National Secretary-Treasurer, salary, May-July, expense a/c July	573.50
69.	Wm. M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief, expense a/c July	58.51
Total		\$19427.29

PERMANENT RESERVE FUND.

Aug. 14, 1924 - Aug. 20, 1925, To Second Liberty Loan Bonds, 4¼%

\$2000.00

Interest on this fund as directed by previous Encampment, is accredited to our General Fund, and is accounted for therein at interest paying periods under Miscellaneous.

Since the purpose for which this Reserve Fund has been diverted and otherwise applied the general revenues have the benefit of the investment.

NUMBER OF CAMPS—MEMBERSHIP IN DIVISIONS.

Returns for the year indicate that the change in eligibility from eighteen (18) to sixteen (16) years of age had no effect to increase the number of initiations and the membership:

Division:	June 30, 1924		June 30, 1925		Gain		Loss	
	Camps	Mem.	Camps	Mem.	Cps.	Mb.	Cps.	Mb.
Ala. & Tenn....	12	302	13	325	1	23		
*Cal. & Pac....	35	1483	29	1488		5	6	
Connecticut ..	42	2529	41	2430			1	99
Illinois	54	2272	42	1700			12	572
Indiana	32	2345	31	2030			1	315
Iowa	21	846	23	915	2	69		
Kansas	22	639	22	584				55
Maine	42	2225	45	2290	3	65		
Maryland	10	671	10	654				17
Massachusetts ..	149	9490	147	9324			2	166
Michigan	22	906	22	885				21
Minnesota	14	499	13	481			1	18
Missouri	13	607	15	635	2	28		
Nebraska	14	507	15	510	1	3		
New Hampshire.	34	1188	34	1172				16
New Jersey	27	1847	26	1814			1	33
New York	112	5256	105	4958			7	298
Ohio	91	4033	94	4384	3	351		
Oregon	13	399	13	369				30
Pennsylvania ...	171	13250	171	13081				169
Rhode Island ..	15	677	16	678	1	1		
Vermont	37	1210	36	1224		14	1	
Washington . . .	11	600	16	605	5	5		
Wisconsin	27	1180	28	1194	1	14		
Total	1021	54961	1007	53730	19	578	32	1809
Loss							14	1231

*As to California & Pacific: Four (4) Camps were transferred from that Division to the Division of Washington, January 1, 1925.

The membership June 30, 1923, was as this year, 53,730, with 1003 Camps.

RECAPITULATION.

	Camps		Members	
In good standing June 30, 1924.....	1021		54961	
Gain—	Camps		Members	
By Organization and Initiation.	24		4610	
Transfer	4		173	
Reinstatement	1		213	
Total Gain		29		4996
Aggregate		1050		59957
Loss—	Camps		Members	
By Disbanded	24		664	
Death			522	
Honorable Discharge			245	
Transfer	4		261	
Dishonorable Discharge			2	
Dropped	15		4733	
Total Loss		43		6227
In good standing June 30, 1925.....	1007			53730

Amount reported expended for Relief.....	\$ 38418.68
No. Veterans or their Families relieved.....	266
No. Members or their Families relieved	884
Amount in Division Treasuries	\$ 9716.40
Amount in Camps' Treasuries	\$120843.85

NEW CAMPS.

Number of Applications for Charters, new Camps and number of Applicants and Charter Members are shown as follows:

Division:	Camp Applications	Number Applicants	Camps Instituted	Charter Members
Alabama & Tennessee..				
California & Pacific....	1	22	1	17
Connecticut				
Illinois	1	39		
Indiana	1	24	1	22
Iowa	2	40	2	45
Kansas	1	25		
†Maine	3	84	3	83
Maryland				
*Massachusetts	3	64	4	97
Michigan	1	15	1	20
Minnesota				
Missouri	2	61	2	63
Nebraska	1	27	1	21
New Hampshire				
New Jersey				
New York	2	34	2	35
Ohio	3	190	3	140
Oregon				
Pennsylvania	2	83	2	89
Rhode Island	1	19	1	19
†Vermont	1	28	1	27
Washington				
Wisconsin	2	48	2	42
Total	27	744	26	720
1923-1924	56	1706	54	1818

*Two approved in preceding administration.

† Fees accounted for in Supplementary Report.

In this report is shown the membership, number of Camps, new Camps instituted, members initiated, gains and losses, the past twenty (20) years, as follows:

June 30th.	Commander-in-Chief.	No. of Camps.	No. of Members.	Organized New Camps.	No. Members Initiated in New Camps.	No. Members Initiated in New and Old Camps.	Total Gain, Members.	Total Loss, Members.
1905	Dustin	778	29558					
1906	Speelman	782	30601	85	2383	6663	8685	7642
1907	Amies	776	31650	85	2421	6973	10028	10020
1908	Sheldon	869	35425	133	4419	9358	11447	7672
1909	Allan	853	35139	121	3695	7764	9851	10137
1910	Pollitt	901	37531	128	3719	8281	11213	8821
1911	Bolton	962	41350	121	3499	9137	11707	7888
1912	McGuire	1036	44252	137	4117	9840	12226	9323
1913	Grant	1080	45887	153	4228	8772	11162	9528
1914	Sautter	1147	49987	133	4154	11217	13186	9086
1915	Sherman	1225	53607	147	4750	10094	12106	8486
1916	Stephens	1216	55055	109	3073	9371	11115	9667
1917	Church	1274	57824	70	1857	8151	10243	7474
1918	Johnson	1163	54298	29	945	4418	5244	8800
1919	Callahan	1125	51819	12	427	3468	4141	6620
1920	Sisson	1057	51062	37	1115	5909	6391	7148
1921	Barrows	1022	52135	38	1210	6539	7102	6029
1922	Ireland	1018	53549	37	1221	6241	6719	5305
1923	Shellhouse	1003	53730	24	632	5070	5625	5444
1924	Horn	1021	54961	54	1818	5650	6449	5209
1925	Coffin	1007	53730	24	578	4610	4996	6227
Total				1677	50261	147526	179636	156525

If we are satisfied with these conditions we are fulfilling our mission. It is not conceivable that these results have accomplished our desires. Numerous features must be assigned as causes or reasons; that the results are not reversed; that we have not many more Camps and members enrolled to the number of hundred thousands.

We have had innumerable changes in Ritual, in the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, in methods, system, etc., until comparatively revolutionized from the early days of the Order. Organized to operate similar to the Grand Army of the Republic it has not brought the success the purposes and objects of an Order like ours had anticipated or planned for it.

The patriotic and sentimental features of our Order are not sufficient. Our system and methods do not impress for permanency or real appreciation of membership. Our value is not compensatory or attractive for the return. What we have is

not valuable or attractive enough to be sought, secure and to possess.

To take our rightful place as a great, influential, patriotic Order in the Country, with principles and objects second only to the G. A. R., we must provide the attractions for the conditions and meet the necessary qualifications. Undoubtedly this is to be desired. Our first necessity and object therefor—STOP THE LOSSES!

Realize that of the 1677 Camps instituted in these past twenty (20) years only 149 were organized with fifty (50) or more members; that 137 Camps were instituted and Chartered with only fifteen (15) members, and the root or primary cause for our condition will be apparent.

No Camp with fifteen (15) members—can carry on or function. Usually after instituted a Camp is left to its own resources. The small membership becomes discouraged, finances are not sufficient, per capita tax and expenses become due, no meetings are held because of lack of a quorum, Camp is lost. The Charter fee (generally \$25.00) to a Division has been paid—that is the record of many former Camps. The Order suffers by reflection.

The same experience applies to members, not alone in new Camps. The initiation fee is so small, insignificant really, that it is not appreciated—not regarded with dignity. The investment of an eligible makes no impression upon him, is not of consequence to a member to be concerned in the amount paid. The Camp's affairs do not attract or hold him; its patriotic work and general affairs are of no interest. Camps in this respect fail in their duty—as, such members are lost to the Order—to the number of 156,525 in the past twenty (20) years!

Regarding it incumbent as the Finance Officer, with these years of experience and service to offer some course, plan or method whereby the Order may be established as more effective, substantial and permanent, prevent or overcome the enormous losses, the following is submitted as an outline or basis:

No Camp to be instituted with less than fifty (50) members, each of whom shall pay at least Twenty (\$20.00) Dollars. Charter Fee to be \$50.00.

Initiation fee in new and old or established Camps to be not less than Twenty (\$20.00) Dollars.

Every Camp and each Camp that may be organized—capitalize or value each member at Twenty (\$20.00) Dollars.

Each Twenty (\$20.00) Dollars representing the individual member in the entire or aggregate amount for all members of a Camp, to be paid to or deposited with respective Division Treasurers or Headquarters—the Treasurer to be bonded in a Surety Company, in amount to be fixed by a Division and the bond held by the Division Council.

That the Division Treasurer under the supervision of the Division Council invest the aggregate of each and every Camp's amount for all of the members of each Camp, in sound interest paying securities—first mortgage loans, paying not less than six (6) per cent interest per annum.

The interest i. e. six (6) per cent per annum on each Twenty

(\$20.00) Dollars, realizing one dollar and twenty cents (\$1.20) per annum, to be accredited by Division Treasurer or Headquarters Officers, to the member as payment by the Camp for and on account of per capita tax for the year.

The per capita tax from each Camp to a Division to be not more than One (\$1.00) Dollar per annum; from each Division to the Commandery-in-Chief not less than fifty (50) cents per annum.

That the balance of twenty (20) cents realized from interest by a Division, be accredited to each Camp as the fund or interest separately and individually applies to or is received from the account of each Camp's interest fund to the Division.

A plan of this character unquestionably would establish a membership; it would retain a member; "once a member always a member." It could be put into operation in most—a vast majority of the Camps; those with membership in the aggregate of fifty or less, and even more than fifty. It is a question as to just how many would favor a proposition of this character. Taking into consideration the objection and opposition of some, perhaps many, it should not be considered; for, it is not the object of this nor the purpose to lose one member, or to drive from the Order any. The vital feature is how to capitalize and secure the valuation of Twenty (\$20.00) Dollars on each member now enrolled in Camps. Those with a membership as cited will not be greatly affected. The Camps with a membership of several hundred, or over a hundred would have the greatest problem. The Camps known as "Beneficial," paying sick and death benefits to members—would have a financial experience difficult of disposition but if such would acquiesce, approve and agree to the method set forth they could without doubt meet and have the benefit thereof and would have better results and be more firmly financially established, assured of their income and members, than the smaller Camps.

For instance: A beneficial Camp with 300 members to capitalize or value its members at \$20.00 each—would have an aggregate fund of \$6,000 drawing interest amounting annually to \$360.00. In the Divisions in which the per capita tax is the highest it is One (\$1.00) Dollar. The credit to such a Camp—where tax is \$1.00 per annum, would be \$60.00.

To obtain the capitalization or valuation of a member—\$20.00 on each, the holding of entertainment or public affair from which revenue sufficient in the aggregate to cover and apply to all members of a Camp could be held. Some method could be resorted to so that the necessary amount could be realized. This would be the proposition or problem, only for the members of established Camps, those at present enrolled. It would not affect new members or those of a new Camp.

Unless all Camps and every Member would be participants and all concur in and adopt something as outlined, it would be useless to consider it. If to have consideration it should be acceptable to all Camps and all members, not to some or rejected by others. All Camps and each member or none. There may be some other system or plan that could be put into execution. The suggestion of this outline is intended for something that will improve our conditions.

Any proposition or action of this character, it must be realized, will not, for the first few years possibly, result in 5,000 to 11,000 initiations of new members in a year as has been our record in the past twenty years. But, rather fewer initiations and members who will be permanently enrolled than the thousands to join Camps and dropped within a short time thereafter.

As to the feasibility of a proposition of this character, whether or not acceptable to and concurred in by the Camps and Members, is a matter of environment, composition of and material comprising Camps, their facilities, means and ability to effect and put it into operation. This is most important in the consideration of the subject, every Camp should consent and every Member, as though he were to join as a new member—agree, accept, subscribe to it.

In the consideration of an amount for per capita tax, based on payments made by Camps to Divisions now, the following is shown as paid in the various Divisions:

In the Division of Alabama & Tennessee, and the Division of Kansas, the Camps pay sixty (60) cents per annum.

In the Division of New Hampshire the Camps pay sixty-four (64) cents per annum.

In the Divisions of Connecticut, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, the Camps pay eighty (80) cents per annum.

In the Divisions of Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Rhode Island, the Camps pay one dollar (\$1.00) per annum.

In the Division of California & Pacific, the highest amount of per capita tax is paid by Camps—\$1.20 per annum.

THE G. A. R.—WHAT ARE WE TO IT?

For some years our relations and associations with the heads, National and in many of the Departments, as well as active and influential members of the Grand Army of the Republic have been most cordial. In many sections of the Country these are especially strong and close. The personal feature is and has been intimate. This is particularly the fact this term. In Commander-in-Chief L. F. Arensberg, who has rendered wonderful service in our behalf, we have splendid endorsement, most cordial and sincere consideration and influential co-operation. All he has done like himself—was outstanding for our Order. He has greatly favored us and we are under obligations to him therefor. This applies to many other influential members and Department officials of that Order who, with a number of and in the Divisions are warmly and intimately co-operating. In many instances Camps, their officers and members attend meetings of Posts regularly, have a hearty welcome, and render excellent and valuable service to the Comrades. This is commendable and leads to a proposition that should have serious thought, viz:

What as an Organization are or shall we be to the Grand Army of the Republic?

What will it have us if anything, be to it? Shall we be a recognized ally in the full sense and meaning of the term?

If we are to be associated with and perform the service, have our part, obligation and responsibility variously considered, construed by many, declared by the intimates in the co-operating Departments, and the endorsements accorded us then, the action by the Grand Army of the Republic should seal, determine and definitely establish it.

We should know without doubt our position and relation--whether or not we are assuming an affiliation or usurping a tie or connection not ours to have or a relationship that is not to exist, not to be recognized, is disapproved of and unauthorized.

It is realized that perhaps in many respects and places we are at fault, remiss in affairs that could and should be rendered or a part performed for the Comrades and Posts. This may be neglect; it may also be due to omitted recognition of Camps by the parent Organization. These can be readily adjusted.

It is a fact that notwithstanding the Grand Army of the Republic has honored us by designating our Order as its official escort to Posts, Departments and the National Body, our Camps in many places and number are not given this opportunity nor recognition. This relates to our experience as to our part and service to render on Memorial Day; in the disbanding and the disposition of effects of Posts--throughout various parts of the Country. It is not overlooked and not unappreciated that in many instances the relations, recognition and association is most intimate, warm and cordial and could not be more so, all of which is most gratifying and permits us of executing the service expected and an obligation a pleasure and an honor to carry out. This should be universal and absolutely strictly ours to render; it should be so from our inherent right and connection.

That we may know our place, relationship with, duty and responsibility to the Grand Army of the Republic, it is again urged that the Commandery-in-Chief designate a Committee composed of Past Commanders-in-Chief to confer with the National G. A. R. officials to ascertain and have determined what relationship shall exist between us.

It would be a commendable act for us to participate with and follow the example of our affiliated Orders in the annual tender of their testimonials at the National Encampments to the Grand Army of the Republic to its fund to maintain and assist needy Posts, which by reason of time's inroads upon the membership have become almost negligible in numbers and unable to continue existence. It is realized that Camps have their part in this connection locally, their financial obligations in many instances for their Memorial Day duties. A number of Divisions have their liabilities in service to Posts and the G. A. R. where the recognition is given and the relationship congenial. The Commandery-in-Chief as the National Head and Source to identify, stand for the Order, if it participated or figured in some manner of a similar character, would make it outstanding, give it official prestige and reflect emphatic action in executing the objects and principles for which we exist, deed and action accomplished, instead of words. Our relationship, filial, if acknowl-

edged by the Grand Army of the Republic would afford the opportunity for performing services and rendering duties a pleasure for us not only in matters of this kind but in manner and effect otherwise almost without limit, at least to the extent of our ability.

PUBLIC APPEARANCE—IMPRESSION.

This has reference to our display, turning out in demonstrations or parade on Memorial Day, and other patriotic occasions; for, Camps do participate in numerous places in such. In general do we make the proper impression? Do we have the respect we are entitled to and is our appearance creditable, or reflect the distinction and honor of Sons of Veterans of the War for the Union? In civic our present provision for Camps turning out in parade, in a body, we lose our identity and do not leave the effect that we should take the opportunity to produce and advantage to obtain. Not to advocate a uniform, but to have the impression, be accorded the honor and to have a reflection that other Orders and Societies have from their appearance in public—some distinct feature in head-piece and a style of dress could be provided or adopted for our Camps to appear in. This could not consistently be opposed by the most strenuous objector to a uniform. On the contrary it would dignify, distinguish and show us to be what we should be proud to have known—that, on Memorial Day, we represent and demonstrate in a body honored Ancestors having that right and privilege peculiarly ours, Memorial Day is our inspiration, a time we rededicate ourselves to our duty as Sons of Veterans, and as descendants of honored sires who saved the Nation. A member participating in the Memorial Day exercises considers it a duty—and appearance in parade in a body will add to that obligation and impress upon him more than ever the example he is showing, and following the Flag with an inappropriate regalia will demonstrate to those who are to be informed and impressed, the lesson and full meaning of Memorial Day; and what our Order—he as a member thereof in line—stands for and proudly represents.

SUPPLIES.

Receipts were less approximately \$800 and profit smaller by over \$600, than last year. It is astonishing as to the little regard this important feature has in the Divisions with smaller membership. Few carry any stock of consequence and many are unable to fill requisitions from Camps. Supplies must first be procured from Commandery-in-Chief Headquarters before Camp's order can be filled in many instances. This is a habit, bad practice and no business. Time and again has it been emphasized that every Division Headquarters should always have a stock of supplies on hand so that requisitions from Camps can be promptly filled, business conducted with method, system and favorably impress for importance these necessities.

The number of requisitions for ridiculously small amounts would amuse if this feature had not its serious side. The delay incident to inability to forward supplies to a Camp is harmful and reflects discreditably upon the conduct of affairs and the Order in the estimation of Camp Officers and Members. Promptness with Camp Officers brings or influences expeditious returns

and these should always be the aim of Division Officers. They should set the example; it is expected of them.

The transactions were:

Cost of supplies on hand August 1, 1924.....	\$2908.92
Cost of supplies purchased	1968.45
Cost of supplies to account for.....	\$4877.37
Cost of supplies on hand August 1, 1925.....	2484.30
Cost of supplies sold	\$2393.30
Amount received for supplies	\$3606.57
Cost of supplies sold	\$2393.39
Cost of supplies to National Officers.....	3.75
Cost of shipping supplies	107.12
Cost of wrapping paper and twine.....	3.38
Express on supplies received	4.75
Total cost	\$2512.30
Profit	\$1094.27

THE BANNER.

The Official Organ should be used more by Division Officers for purposes of propaganda, publicity, reaching Camps and members for the interests and advantages apparent. THE BANNER if resorted to for the end, and, if it covered such a field direct—could draw public interest, influence eligibles favorably for membership in the Order, create a stronger attraction to Camps, than, almost any other method, and be an asset of very great value for the Order. In its articles patriotism should be a stressed feature; matter to inspire, interest and make for activity in Camps and among members should comprise the general composition. As our official publication it would be a great advantage and its use for that object put to good effect.

Provision is made for every member of the Order in good standing to receive the publication each month. This is frequently emphasized to Camp Secretaries and Commanders of Camps and Divisions. It is unfortunate that this is not complied with as strictly and names and addresses of members promptly and regularly furnished. It is also impressed upon these officers that names of dropped members be immediately reported, so that payment for such will not unnecessarily be made and the Commandery-in-Chief obliged to make disbursement which should not be. This is a matter hard to secure the co-operation and prompt compliance with on the part of Camp Secretaries.

As provided by the Commandery-in-Chief annual count of the number of members receiving the paper is made and checked with the publishers. The Editor, Past Division Commander A. S. Holbrook, is always helpful and is at the service in behalf of all for the advancement of the Order and to the benefit of Camps.

SONS OF VETERANS AUXILIARY.

Our immediate ally—Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, U. S. A.,

is rendering patriotic service and proving a valuable help in many sections. Many Camps are and have been profiting from mutual interests, successful functions and aid on the part of Auxiliaries. Especially on Memorial Day are the local Auxiliaries helpful and important in their assistance to Camps. The National organization with the various Divisions of this Order has been most successful and affairs very ably conducted by National President Miss Ida H. Rokes, who has been unceasing in her interest and service in behalf of our Order.

CONCLUSION.

Separating at the end of another term from official associates with whom relations were most agreeable and cordial, a Commander-in-Chief with whom to have fellowship, constant communication and a tie personal as well as fraternal, has been a privilege and a pleasure of no small moment, due appreciation of the many courtesies is acknowledged and sincere thanks are returned therefor. You as Commander-in-Chief devoted your valuable time, energy, splendid ability which your high qualifications so ably fitted you for, unstintedly and without limit. The Order, and all benefited thereby. Your excellent service is duly appreciated and you have the good will, esteem of all.

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

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary-Treasurer.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT.

DR.		CR.	
Aug. 31, To balance...	\$3386.10	By General Expenses..	\$2613.86
Received for		Office Expenses	17.68
Charter Fees..	\$10.00	Commander-in-Chief's	
F. E. Upham,		Expenses	216.09
Nat'l Org. Com.	16.48		
Interest on Bank		Total Expenditures..	\$2847.63
Balances	52.02		
Total Receipts	78.50	By Balance, Sept. 3, 1925	616.97
	<u>\$3464.60</u>		<u>\$3464.60</u>

ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

General Expenses—	
The Banner, Subscription, August, 1925.....	\$ 958.66
Encampment	1299.30
Salary	275.00
Miscellaneous	69.50
Other than Commander-in-Chief and National	
Secretary-Treasurer	11.40
	<u>\$2613.86</u>
Office Expenses—	
Postage, Telegrams, Stationery	17.68
Commander-in-Chief's Expenses—	
Postage, Traveling	216.09
	<u>\$2847.36</u>

VOUCHERS.

70. L. H. Bierce, invitations reception.....	\$ 13.13
71. Wm. M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief, expense a/c August, and Encampment expenses	354.57
72. Chas. P. Hall, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Encampment Expenses	64.23
73. G. C. Markle, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Encampment expenses	7.55
74. Park F. Yengling, Council-in-Chief, Encampment expenses	91.83
75. Wm. H. Cressey, Council-in-Chief, Encampment expenses	114.00
76. Herbert D. Williams, Council-in-Chief, Encampment expenses ...	90.83
77. Theo. C. Cazeau, National Patriotic Instructor, Encampment expenses, and postage	39.66
78. F. C. Hawthorne, National Chaplain, Encampment expenses	139.73
79. Geo. B. Holmes, National Counselor, Encampment expenses	7.38
80. Geo. E. Cogshall, Encampment expenses	75.00
81. H. H. Hammer, National Secretary-Treasurer, Encampment expenses, and salary, miscellaneous, postage, telegrams, stationery	470.09
82. The Banner, Subscription, August, 1925, Encampment Roll, Reports Officers, etc.	1116.36
83. John A. Harrison, typewriting Division Secretary matter for H. F. Weiler	22.75
84. H. F. Weiler, postage "School Instruction".....	2.20
85. Harry E. Beach, Encampment Stenographer (report)	238.32
Total	\$2847.63

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary-Treasurer.

REPORT OF NATIONAL COUNSELOR.

Chicago, Illinois.

William M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

When, shortly after the last National Encampment in 1924, you appointed me as National Counselor of the Order, I felt extremely honored both because you were the man who appointed me and because of the position itself.

In making this, my report for the year, I wish to express to you my thanks for the courtesies you have extended to me, and also my thanks to many other officers and members of the Order, for courtesies likewise extended in my own Division and when I have been in other Division of the Order.

During the year, I have been called on to render only three formal Opinions, to visit another jurisdiction for the purpose of taking testimony and to attend still another jurisdiction as your Official Representative at your request.

OPINION I.

In November, 1924, I received from you the files in the case of Robert Rimmer of Reno Camp, Division of New York, bearing upon a trial of charges originated in Reno Camp against said Rimmer.

The Division Commander of New York issued a decision sustaining the findings of the Trial Commissioner and expelling the defendant from membership in the Order.

The matter came to you as Commander-in-Chief, apparently, for approval, but considering the state of the records, the jurisdiction of the Commander-in-Chief could be only appellate. No one appeared to be appealing, and the approval of the Commander-in-Chief of such a decision of the Division Commander, is not required by the Regulations. The evidence as shown by the record sustained the findings and the decision.

I suggested to the Commander-in-Chief that he return the files to the Division Commander without action, calling attention to the fact that if an appeal was taken by the expelled Brother, it would have to be taken within a reasonable time, as no definite time for appeal is stated in the Regulations, and that if the Commander-in-Chief should approve them, it might embarrass him if an appeal was thereafter taken by the expelled Brother.

I also suggested that the attention of the Division Commander of New York be called to the fact that there did not appear any showing of record that the ten (10) days' time in which to file objections to the report of the Trial Commissioner as provided in Article 7, Section 4 of the Regulations, had been given, and that this be cured, the record completed and placed on file with the Division Secretary.

This Opinion was approved by the Commander-in-Chief and action taken accordingly.

OPINION II.

On January 2, 1925, I received from the Commander-in-Chief a letter to him from the Division Commander of the Wisconsin Division with attached papers, one of which was a ruling of the Division Counselor in the matter which concerned Harnden Camp No. 2 of the Wisconsin Division.

The members of this Camp evidently had in mind provisions of the former Constitution and some argument arose as to suspended or dropped members.

I wrote you January 14, as follows:

Hon. W. M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.
3755 Hyde Park Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio.

In re—Harnden Camp No. 2 of Wisconsin Division.

My Dear Commander:

In response to your letter of 2nd inst., in the above matter, I beg leave to report that I entirely agree with you and with the Division Counselor of Wisconsin Division.

As you point out Section 3, Article 2, Chapter 1, of Regulations on Page 10 of the C. R. seems to me to cover the matter beyond question. It says

"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 * * * a dropped member may be admitted into the Order in the same manner as a new member."

If these members of Harnden Camp No. 2 were "dropped" then there can be no valid objection to them joining another Camp whether they pay up back dues or not.

If however they were merely "suspended," then they are still members of Harnden Camp and the act of joining the other Camps means nothing.

Whether they were "dropped" or "suspended" is a fact to be ascertained and when ascertained action should follow on the lines of the opinion of the Wisconsin Division Counselor.

Yours in F., C. and L.,

GEO B. HOLMES,
National Counselor.

This Opinion was approved by the Commander-in-Chief.

OPINION III.

As to propriety of accepting "position form" of bond, which covers the Commanders of two separate Divisions in the same instrument.

July 25, 1925.

William M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Brother Coffin:

Yours of the 27th of June with inclosed bond I find in the office on my return from vacation today. I am returning the bond approved as to form.

I think it probably is proper enough, and we probably could collect if it was necessary. If, however, we had to sue for a deficiency of the Division Commander of Maryland, and also had to sue for a deficiency of the Division Commander of Vermont, this bond could be introduced in evidence in only one of such cases, and we should have to get a leave to withdraw it, it being the original bond; in each case it being necessary that the original bond be introduced in both cases. As a matter of covering this point, I think the Order had better ask that we get two bonds, one for each Division Commander. Although, of course, such an instance as I am reciting will probably never happen.

Fraternally,

GEO B. HOLMES,
National Counselor.

IN THE MATTER OF: Past Division Commander William Schumacher of the Missouri Division.

In January, 1925, I received from the Commander-in-Chief a letter transmitting to me a formal commission as Trial Commissioner, appointing me as such to "hear, ascertain and determine all of the facts relative to the issue therein; namely,

whether or not said William Schumacher, Jr., is eligible to membership in the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A." together with numerous documents, more or less bearing on the matter, and also citations of the proceedings in various National Encampments, bearing on this matter.

I acknowledged receipt with the following letter:

February 3, 1925.

My Dear Commander:

Your letter of January 24, 1925, to me calling my attention to the action of the Forty-third Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, in which it was recommended "That the incoming Commander-in-Chief acting under Section 1 and Article 7 of the Constitution and Regulations assume original jurisdiction and cause said William Schumacher to establish his eligibility in conformity with the constitutional requirements, fixing the time he shall be allowed for such purpose" was duly received.

You instruct me that in accordance with such recommendation you have so assumed original jurisdiction for that purpose and under date of January 25, 1925, you appoint me Trial Commissioner, for that purpose and send me the necessary written authority over your official signature to so act.

I would have acknowledged this officially before this but for the reason that I had an accident that kept me in bed for a week.

I will take the matter up and act at once,

Fraternally,

GEO. B. HOLMES,
National Counselor.

Through the kindness of Division Secretary Brother A. J. Albrecht of the Missouri Division, who resides in St. Louis, I secured a room for the hearing and notified Past Division Commander Schumacher that I would attend at such place on March 14, 1925, at 9 o'clock in the morning for such purpose, by Registered Mail. My letter to Past Commander Schumacher was as follows:

February 25, 1925.

Mr. Wm. Schumacher,
3013 Merramec Street, St. Louis, Mo.

My Dear Sir:

The last Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief directed Wm. M. Coffin, the Commander-in-Chief, to "assume original jurisdiction and cause said Wm. Schumacher to establish his eligibility in conformity with the constitutional requirements, fixing the time he shall be allowed for such purpose." This is in pursuance of the recommendation of the Past Commander-in-Chief, Horn, (see page 39 of 43rd Encampment proceedings) and the report of the committee to which the matter was referred (see page 182 same proceedings), which report was adopted.

In pursuance of said instruction by the Commandery-in-Chief, the Commander-in-Chief has in writing, under date of

January 24, 1925, turned over to me evidence in his possession in the case and has further under date of January 25, 1925, duly appointed me as Trial Commissioner, "to hear, ascertain and determine all of the facts relative to the issue therein; namely whether or not said Wm. Schumacher, Jr., is eligible to membership in the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A." and to make due report to him in writing, with my recommendations.

In this matter I call your attention to Section 1, Article 5, page 33, of C. & R. adopted in 1920, and which among other things provides the Commander-in-Chief shall * * * perform such other duties as may be prescribed * * * by the action of the Commandery-in-Chief, also: Section 1, Article 7, page 54 of the C. & R. adopted 1920.

"Section 1. The Commander-in-Chief shall have original jurisdiction over charges * * * and also against members of Camps when Camps or Divisions fail or neglect to act upon any breach of discipline within their jurisdiction."

In pursuance of the foregoing, I beg leave to notify you that for that purpose, I shall attend at the City of St. Louis, Missouri, on the 14th day of March, A. D., 1925, at the following address, to-wit: Laclede Hotel, 6th and Chestnut St., at room reserved for me, to start at the hour of 9 o'clock, a. m., the hearing, and will receive at that time such testimony as you may desire to submit to me as such Trial Commissioner, either oral or documentary.

At such time and place I shall have with me the original order appointing me as such Trial Commissioner.

Also at such time and place I will have with me among others, the following papers furnished me by the Commander-in-Chief, which will be used in evidence in this case, to-wit:

1—Letter of Edward Brandle, Secretary of Major Leo Rassieur Camp No. 4, Sons of Veterans, Missouri Division, dated July 29, under seal, in which is shown a copy of the record from the Descriptive Book of Gen. Schaefer Camp No. 28, as follows:

"Wm. Schumacher, aged 27, born in St. Louis, Mo.; date of muster October 13, 1905."

"Father's name Wm. Schumacher, Sr., enlisted May 5, 1861, as private, Co. C, 4th Mo. Volunteer Infantry; length of service, three months. Member of Post 13, Dept. of Mo., G. A. R."

"In 1907 Gen. Schaefer Camp consolidated with Major Leo Rassieur Camp No. 4."

2—A "request for certificate of service" from S. S. Horn, under date of August 2, 1924, through Division and National Headquarters, to the Adjutant General's Office of the War Department, in Washington, was honored and returned from said Adjutant General's Office, War Department, under date of the 9th of August, 1924, with the following endorsement:

"The name of Wm. Schumacher has not been found on the rolls of any Company, 4th Mo. Cavalry or Infantry, Civil War."

3—A letter from Assistant Adjutant General W. F. Henry, of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Missouri, dated January 21, 1925, in which it is stated among other things as follows:

"The files of this Department show that the said Schumacher (record of Wm. Schumacher, Sr.) was mustered into the G. A. R. by John D. Rohye Post No. 314, in the 3rd Quarter, in 1888, upon his statement that he entered the service May 5, 1861, private in Co. 1, 1st Mo. H. G. (Home Guards), that he was finally discharged August 10th, 1861, as private, same Co., by reason of expiration of service."

"In the last half of the year, 1894, he was admitted to membership in Post 13, by transfer from Post 314, and the statement of his services appears on the roll of Post 13, as follows:

"That he entered the service as private in Co. 1, 1st Mo. Vol. Infantry, May 5, 1861, and was discharged from that Co. August 10, 1861, by reason of expiration of service."

4—A letter from Mr. W. F. Henry, A. A. G., Dept. of Mo. Grand Army of the Republic, also dated January 21, 1925, states that "the 1st Mo. Home Guards were never in the United States Service."

Same letter also states that "the name of Wm. Schumacher does not appear on the roll of the 1st Mo. Infantry or any roll in the office of the Adjutant General of Missouri. The same letter further states:

"Evidently the alleged soldier was erroneously admitted to membership in the G. A. R."

I desire also to call your attention to the Constitution of the Order of Sons of Veterans, adopted at Providence, R. I., in 1901, which provided as follows:

"All male descendants, not less than 18 years of age, of soldiers, sailors, or marines who served in the Union Army or Navy, during the war of 1861-5 and who were in the service at the close of said War * * * * or whose ancestor is admissable to the Grand Army of the Republic shall be eligible to membership, etc." However, in the Constitution, adopted in 1904, which went into effect January 1st, 1905, the eligibility clause was substantially like the present one, and the words, "and whose ancestor is admissable to the Grand Army of the Republic" were left out.

Also please note, that this new constitution took effect January 1st, 1905, and over eight months before you were mustered into the Order.

I am sending this letter by registered mail.

Please refer to Article 7, page 54, of the C. & R. of 1920, and particularly to Section 4, on page 55, and Section 5, on page 56, and Section 8 on page 56.

Very truly,
(Signed) GEO. B. HOLMES,
National Counselor.

On March 14, I attended at St. Louis, at the time and place in question, and was met by Past Division Commander Schumacher, Past Division Commander Helm, who appeared in behalf of Brother Schumacher, and others.

I showed Past Division Commander Schumacher all the documents, letters, etc., in my possession. We were together

about two hours. Past Commander Behnke and Division Secretary Albrecht were there for a considerable time. All the exhibits received in evidence were shown Brother Schumacher and discussed and our ideas exchanged.

I told him I should make a written report to the Commander-in-Chief of our discussion of the papers submitted and my recommendations. These were discussed at considerable length. Our discussions were entirely friendly and frank, and when we parted, Past Division Commander Schumacher was informed as to what the substance of my report would be.

My report of said hearing was mailed to Commander-in-Chief March 20, 1925, for such action as he chose to take in the matter. Inasmuch as this hearing was in the Division of Missouri, I deemed it the necessary courtesy to notify the Division Commander of my action, and on February 26, 1925, I wrote to him the following letter for his information:

Geo. A. Wood, Esq., Division Commander,

Missouri Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.,

2809 Linwood Blvd., Kansas City, Mo.

My Dear Commander:

Re: Wm. Schumacher, P. D. C., Mo. Div.

The Commander-in-Chief in pursuance of resolution of the Forty-third Commandery-in-Chief, has appointed me as Trial Commissioner to ascertain the status of Past Division Commander Schumacher and report, etc.

Brother Albrecht at my request has secured me a room for the purpose of the hearing at the Laclede Hotel, 6th and Chestnut Street, St. Louis, Mo., for March 14, 1925. The hearing will commence at 9 o'clock a. m.

I have sent by registered mail direct to Brother Schumacher the formal official letter of notification of such matter as provided by Section 4, Article 7, page 55 of C. & R.

This for your information.

Fraternally,

GEO. B. HOLMES,

National Counselor.

The following is my report to the Commander-in-Chief: State of Missouri, City of St. Louis—ss.

In Re: William Schumacher, Jr.—

An Inquiry Relative to Eligibility.

March 14, 1925.

Proceedings held at the City of St. Louis, Mo., on Saturday, the 14th day of March A. D. 1925, at Room 311, Laclede Hotel, in said city. Proceedings beginning at 9 o'clock, a. m., on said day for the purpose of ascertaining the eligibility of William Schumacher, Jr., to membership in the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Present—Geo. B. Holmes, National Counselor, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., of Chicago, Illinois, as Trial Commissioner.

William Schumacher, Jr., Past Division Commander of the Division of Missouri, as Defendant, and others.

The Trial Commissioner: The order of the Commander-in-

Chief appointing me as Trial Commissioner for this proceedings, which order is as follows: will be admitted in evidence and attached hereto as Exhibit "A."

January 25, 1925.

To Hon. George B. Holmes,
National Counselor, Sons of Veterans,
Chicago, Illinois.

In Re: William Schumacher, Jr.—
An Inquiry Relative to Eligibility.

Pursuant to the action of the Forty-third Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., and in conformity with Article VII of Chapter V of the Regulations of said Order, you are hereby designated and appointed a TRIAL COMMISSIONER, in the matter of William Schumacher, Jr., a member of Rassieur Camp No. 4, Missouri Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., to hear, ascertain and determine all of the facts relative to the issue therein; namely, whether or not said William Schumacher, Jr., is eligible to membership in the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.;

And you will make due report thereof, together with your recommendations in the premises, in writing, to the undersigned authority.

You are hereby authorized to do all and singular the things necessary in carrying out the foregoing charge, in accordance with the said mandate of said Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, and the terms and conditions of the Constitution and Regulations of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., in such case made and provided.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

The Trial Commissioner: Mr. Schumacher, I mailed you by registered mail, on February 25, 1925, in accordance with Article 7, Chapter 5, page 54, of the C. & R. adopted in 1920, a letter dated February 25, 1925, signed by me informing you that I would hold a session here beginning at 9 o'clock a. m. March 14, 1925, which letter recited the order of the last National Encampment directing Commander-in-Chief Coffin to assume original jurisdiction of your matter and take all proper and necessary actions. The same letter called your attention to a certificate of the Adjutant General's Office of the War Department and to two letters of the Adjutant General of the Department of Missouri of the G. A. R., to a copy of your record in the Descriptive Book of your Camp, and a copy of your father's record from his two Posts, also a further short letter to you in which I asked you to write me. Did you receive them?

P. D. C. Schumacher: Yes, I received them and signed the red return receipt card. I did not write you because I thought the receipt card would be enough.

The Trial Commissioner: An exact, true and correct carbon copy of both my letters to you of February 25, are now admitted in evidence as Exhibit "B" and "C."

Also the Red Return Receipt Card signed by P. D. C. Schumacher, is admitted in evidence as Exhibit "D."

Also the receipt for said registered letter from the Chicago Postoffice, dated February 26, is admitted as Exhibit "E."

The Trial Commissioner: I did not actually receive the return receipt until March 3rd, and fearing it had been missent, I sent to A. J. Albrecht two duplicate letters addressed to you, dated March 2nd, notifying you of this date of hearing. I received one back from Brother Albrecht with his certificate on the back of same under date of March 4th, in which he certifies he personally served you with same. Did you receive that?

P. D. C. Schumacher: Yes, I received that.

A. J. Albrecht, Division Secretary-Treasurer, Missouri Division: I received the letters of Brother Holmes and took them right out to Brother Schumacher's house and gave one to him personally.

The Trial Commissioner: The letter of Brother A. J. Albrecht, dated March 7, 1925, to me is received in evidence as Exhibit "F."

Also my letter of March 2, to Wm. Schumacher, with the certificate of A. J. Albrecht, on the back thereof, is admitted as Exhibit "G."

The Trial Commissioner: Brother Schumacher I show you this certificate of Edward Brandle, Secretary of Camp 4, showing your Descriptive Book record; this requisition of S. S. Horn, dated August 31, 1924, calling for the service of your father and the endorsement thereon; the letter of the Department Commander of Mo. Dept. G. A. R., dated January 19, 1925; these two letters of W. T. Henry, Asst. Adjt. Gen. of Mo. Dept. G. A. R. Please look at them.

P. D. C. Schumacher: I know about those, you included the main parts of them in your long registered letter to me.

The Trial Commissioner: Then, there is admitted in evidence the following Document, to wit:

As Exhibit "H," a carbon copy of a letter from S. S. Horn, Commander-in-Chief, dated July 22, 1924, directed to Brother Schumacher through Division Channels, requiring a certified copy of the record of Rassieur Camp No. 4, on which his membership is based.

As Exhibit "I" a certificate of Edward Brandle, Secretary of Rassieur Camp, dated July 29th, under seal, showing the Descriptive Book record of Gen. Schaefer Camp, Missouri Division, as follows:

"Wm. Schumacher, age 27, born in St. Louis, Mo., date of muster, October 13th, 1905.

Fathers name Wm. Schumacher, Sr.; enlisted May 5th, 1861, as Private in Company G, 4th Missouri Volunteer Infantry, length of service three months, member of Post No. 13, Dept. of Mo. G. A. R."

"In 1907, Gen. Schaefer Camp consolidated with Major Leo Rassieur Camp No. 4."

This certificate is O. K'd by the Division Secretary-Treasurer, as correct as per Headquarters Records, also under seal.

Admitted as Exhibit "J," a requisition for Certificate of Service of Wm. Schumacher, late Co. C, 4th Regt. Mo. Vol.,

signed by S. S. Horn, dated August 2, 1924, on which appear various endorsements and a rider attached, which rider on War Department Stationery under date of August 9, 1924, says:

"Respectfully returned to Samuel S. Horn, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., City Hall, Easton, Pa.

"The name William Schumacher has not been found on the rolls of any Company, 4th Missouri Volunteer Cavalry or Infantry, Civil War." Signed Robert C. Davis, Major General, etc. etc.

Also as Exhibit "K" a letter from Alfred Zartman, Dept. Com., Mo. Dept. G. A. R., to Commander-in-Chief Coffin, dated January 19, 1925, in which is said (extract): "Your letter in reference to Wm. Schumacher, Sr. has been received and I have sent your letter to Assistant Adjutant General W. F. Henry, St. Louis, to give you the desired information."

Also as Exhibit "L" a letter from W. F. Henry, Assistant Adjutant General, Mo. Dept. G. A. R., dated January 21, 1925, to Commander-in-Chief Coffin, in which it is stated:

"The files of this Department show that the said Schumacher was mustered into the G. A. R. by John D. Robye, Post No. 314, in the 3rd Quarter 1888, upon his statement that he entered the service May 5, 1861, as a private in Co. 1, 1st Mo. H. G. (Home Guards); that he was finally discharged August 10th, 1861, as a private, same Company, by reason of expiration of service."

"In the last one half of the year 1894 he was admitted to membership in Post No. 13, by transfer from Post 314, and the statement of his service appears on the roll of Post 13, as appears by the report of the latter Post on file in these Headquarters, as follows: that he entered the service as a private in Company I, 1st Mo. Vol. Infantry, May 5, 1861, and was discharged from that Company, August 10, 1861, by reason of expiration of service."

Also admitted as Exhibit "M" another letter from General Henry dated January 21, 1925, to Commander-in-Chief Coffin, from which I quote extract, "I have found that the First M. Home Guards were never in the United States Service: I have found too that the name of William Schumacher does not appear on the roll of the 1st Mo. Inf. or any roll in the office of the Adjutant General of Missouri."

"Evidently the alleged soldier was erroneously admitted to membership in the G. A. R."

All these exhibits are attached hereto.

The Trial Commissioner: Brother Schumacher, have you not been able to get something to counteract these papers?

P. D. C. Schumacher: No, I have not. I talked to my father before he died about his discharge papers but he always said they became mixed up with those of other men and he did not know what became of them. I have no other evidence at all but I hate to leave the Order because there is so much to do in the Order in Missouri Division and I would like to stay awhile and do it. How about the Constitution when I was mustered in?

The Trial Commissioner: Here is a bound copy of the Constitution and Laws, governing the Sons of Veterans, adopted at

the Twenty-third Annual Encampment at Boston, August 17-18-19, 1904, in force after January 1st, 1905. Article 4, page 2, which is headed, "Eligibility to membership" is as follows: "All male descendants, whether through the paternal or maternal line, not less than 18 years of age, of soldiers, sailors, or marines, who were regularly mustered and served honorably in, or who were honorably discharged from the Army or Navy of the United States during the War of 1861-65, and whose ancestors through whom membership is claimed have never voluntarily borne Arms against the government of the United States of America." We will attach this as Exhibit "N."

P. D. C. Schumacheer: I had thought it was different. I had thought a Son of a member of the G. A. R. was eligible just because his father was a member of a Post.

The Trial Commissioner: No, that is a mistake. The Constitution adopted in 1901, among other things had this clause "or whose ancestor is admissible to the Grand Army of the Republic." It did not say that if the father was in the G. A. R. that his son was admissible.

There was considerable discussion between the Trial Commissioner and P. D. C. Schumacher, P. D. C. Wm. G. Helm, Brother A. J. Albrecht, Division Secretary-Treasurer of Missouri Division, and P. D. C. Behnke.

But there was no other or further testimony or evidence offered or admitted other than the above and foregoing in this matter.

The Trial Commissioner hereby certifies that he has heard, ascertained and determined all the facts relative to the issue herein and that the above and foregoing is a true and correct record of the proceedings in this matter, held in St. Louis, Mo., on March 14, 1925.

GEO. B. HOLMES,
Trial Commissioner.

The Trial Commissioner in accordance with the Commands of the Authority given him as such Trial Commissioner, now therefore makes this his report of his finding and recommendations in this matter to the Commander-in-Chief, Wm. M. Coffin, and he finds:

1st—That the father of said Wm. Schumacher, Past Division Commander of Missouri Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., was never in the Military Service of the United States during the Civil War.

2nd—That whatever service Wm. Schumacher, Sr., rendered in a military way was not in the service of the United States.

3rd—That the said Wm. Schumacher, Sr., was never "Admissible to the Grand Army of the Republic" as provided in the Constitution of this Order adopted in 1901.

4th—That the mere fact that Wm. Schumacher, Sr., was actually a member of the Grand Army of the Republic for many years, and was buried while a member of his Post is not in itself sufficient to make his son eligible to this Order.

5th—That the said Wm. Schumacher, Jr., Past Division Commander of the Missouri Division, was never eligible to membership in this Order.

AND THEREFORE the Trial Commissioner recommends, that—

First—The Commander-in-Chief in pursuance of Section 4, Article 7, of Chapter 5, of the C. & R. on page 55 and 56, write P. D. C. Schumacher, giving him ten days time to file objections to this report.

Second—That if no objections are filed within said ten days, the said Commander-in-Chief shall decide the case by approving this Report and these Recommendations and mail an Official Communication to the Commander of the Missouri Division, and to the Commander of Rassieur Camp No. 4, Missouri Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., instructing them to strike the name of Wm. Schumacher, Past Division Commander of Missouri Division, from the Rolls of the Division and the Camp, on account of his ineligibility. And—

Third—That the Commander-in-Chief make such other and further Orders, and such Declarations as may be required or he may deem necessary for the purpose of carrying out the mandate of the last Annual Encampment.

The Trial Commissioner further reports that—at the last and Forty-third Annual Encampment of the Order held in Boston, Mass., August 12-13-14, 1924, the then Commander-in-Chief, S. S. Horn, among other things recommended as follows, to-wit:

"Recommendation No. 8: That the incoming Commander-in-Chief take such action as will secure all available evidence to establish or deny the eligibility of William Schumacher, Camp 4, Division of Missouri, in accordance with the requirements of the C. & R. and that he make declaration accordingly as may be required."

(See page 39 of said Proceedings).

Said recommendation was referred to a committee, which committee thereafter during the same Encampment reported as follows, to-wit:

"We had before us certain evidence in documentary form that we gave consideration to and having in mind the importance of this question as it pertains to the real fundamentals of our organization, the right not only to membership now, and we feel in fairness and in full measure of fairness to the brother interested and to the Division of Missouri and to this Commander-in-Chief, to offer this similar report."

"Sufficient evidence of a convicting character having been presented to your committee to cause at least the establishment of a reasonable doubt as to the right of William Schumacher of Camp 4, Division of Missouri, to membership in the Order of the Sons of Veterans, it is recommended that the incoming Commander-in-Chief acting under Section 1, Article 7, of the Constitution and Regulations assume original jurisdiction and cause said William Schumacher to establish his eligibility in conformity with the constitutional requirements, fixing the time he shall be allowed for such purpose."

The Committee then moved the adoption of this recom-

mendation and such report was so adopted (see page 182 of the same proceedings).

Commander-in-Chief Wm. M. Coffin received on November 1st, 1924, from the National Secretary, the various papers bearing on the matter which had been in the possession of or were secured by Past Commander-in-Chief S. S. Horn, and immediately assumed original jurisdiction of this matter as he had been directed to.

He had considerable correspondence with various officers of the Grand Army of the Republic and secured certain papers, letters and documents which under date of January 25, 1925, he transmitted to me.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Dated at Chicago, Illinois, March 18, 1925.

GEO. B. HOLMES,
Trial Commissioner.

* * * *

Pursuant to the foregoing Findings and Recommendations, due notice thereof having been given said William Schumacher, Jr., in accordance with the Regulation in such case made and provided, the Commander-in-Chief issued the following Decision and Order, promulgating copies thereof to the Commander of Missouri Division and to the Commander of Major Leo Rassieur Camp No. 4, Missouri Division:

Cincinnati, Ohio, April 30, 1925.

In Re: William Schumacher, Jr.—

An Inquiry Relative to Eligibility.

DECISION AND ORDER.

The Commander-in-Chief, pursuant to the direction of the Forty-third Annual Encampment of the ,Commandery-in-Chief Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., having assumed original jurisdiction in the matter of William Schumacher, Jr., a member of Major Leo Rassieur Camp No. 4, Missouri Division, a controversy involving the eligibility of said William Schumacher, Jr., to membership in the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.;

And in conformity with Article VII of Chapter V of the Regulations of said Order, having appointed Brother George B. Holmes a Trial Commissioner to hear, ascertain and determine all of the facts relative to the issues in said controversy;

And said Trial Commissioner having made due report of his findings and recommendations in said matter;

And said William Schumacher, Jr., having been given due notice of said report and opportunity to file objections thereto, and having failed throughout the required period of time to file any such objections, except a statement (after notice of the report of the Trial Commissioner) that he had withdrawn his membership and had been granted an honorable discharge by the aforementioned Camp;

NOW THEREFORE, The findings and recommendations of said Trial Commissioner, to the effect that said William Schumacher, Jr., is not eligible to membership in the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., are hereby sustained and approved;

CONSOLIDATED

Divisions.	Name of Division Chaplain Reporting.	Date the report was received.
Alabama & Tennessee.....	E. H. George	June 13
California & Pacific.....	Fred E. Carr	June 25
Connecticut	F. A. Haviland	July 1
Illinois	A. S. Holbrook	July 6
Indiana	Rev. O. L. Hull	July 20
Iowa	John Hildebrand	June 21
Kansas	Rev. Eugene Kramer	July 21
Maine	Geo. S. Robinson.....	
Maryland	Samuel M. Zinn	July 9
Massachusetts	Rev. Allen A. Bronsdon	July 17
Michigan	W. I. Cogshall	June 10
Minnesota	E. J. Storms	July 17
Missouri	A. W. Mueller	July 17
Nebraska	O. M. Pine	July 8
New Hampshire	Howard B. Stevens	June 27
New Jersey	Paul F. Albright	July 6
New York	Rev. Gilbert A. Shaw	June 27
Ohio	Rev. J. W. Giffin	June 18
Oregon.....	Rev. F. M. Fisher	June 20
Pennsylvania	A. W. Mason	June 28
Rhode Island	Chas. P. Hall	July 16
Vermont	Rev. C. C. Creegan	July 11
Washington.....	Floyd R. Levee	June 19
Wisconsin	Rev. J. H. Barnett	Aug. 11

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF THE NATIONAL CHAPLAIN.

Divisions.	Name of Division Chaplain Reporting.	Date the report was received.	Number of Brothers Belonging to Camp.	No. of Brothers Participating in Mem. Day Observances.	Number of Brothers Armed and in Line.	Number of Brothers Unformed in Line.	Number of Firing Squads Furnished.	Number of Memorial Day Addresses by S. of V.	Number of Brothers Attending Services Memorial Sun.	Number of Camps Observing Union Defenders Day.	Number of Deaths in Camp in last 12 Months.	G. A. R.	S. V.	Number of Funerals attended by Camp in a Body.	G. A. R.	S. V.	Did Camp Use Memorial Service?	Number of cemeteries covered by members of the Camp.	Number of flags placed on Veterans' graves.	Number of graves of Veterans given attention.	Number of Camps Reporting.	Number of Camps Not Reporting.	Per Cent of Camps Reporting.	
Alabama & Tennessee.....	E. H. George	June 13	324	269	0	0	4	16	266	11	6	70	2	3	2	0	0	0	37	32660	32660	13	0	100
California & Pacific.....	Fred E. Carr	June 25	997	539	29	29	4	10	445	8	21	29	12	11	4	0	0	0	43	4420	4725	15	12	55
Connecticut	F. A. Haviland	July 1	2447	653	13	83	1	46	409	7	16	0	13	0	0	0	0	188	9752	8534	20	21	48	
Illinois	A. S. Holbrook	July 6	1111	430	53	51	7	51	202	9	10	52	5	13	2	1	0	94	7380	6120	19	22	46	
Indiana	Rev. O. L. Hull	July 20	1874	603	18	9	4	37	454	8	17	41	11	7	6	0	0	128	12814	9313	12	19	38	
Iowa	John Hildebrand	June 21	587	282	30	30	2	7	194	9	3	31	3	4	2	0	0	72	2706	2706	11	11	50	
Kansas	Rev. Eugene Kramer	July 21	152	68	2	2	0	2	63	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	849	831	5	20	20	
Maine	Geo. S. Robinson.....		1743	824	127	434	7	39	575	20	17	22	9	4	2			315	11241	8562	.....	.....	.....
Maryland	Samuel M. Zinn	July 9	648	395	82	110	14	19	324	10	13	7	2	3	0	0	0	50	6134	9628	10	0	100	
Massachusetts	Rev. Allen A. Bronsdon	July 17	8284	4101	674	2286	92	153	2399	74	81	155	53	42	26	0	0	824	52764	52764	0	0	0	
Michigan	W. I. Cogshall	June 10	390	126	14	16	2	11	81	4	5	6	2	3	0	0	0	41	3221	1968	8	14	36	
Minnesota	E. J. Storms	July 17	455	239	30	47	8	24	127	6	10	13	6	5	5	0	0	62	4270	4014	11	2	85	
Missouri	A. W. Mueller	July 17	299	94	21	23	2	7	83	4	5	11	4	8	8	0	0	51	3840	2786	7	7	50	
Nebraska	O. M. Pine	July 8	93	45	0	0	0	1	27	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	1016	1016	2	13	13	
New Hampshire	Howard B. Stevens	June 27	891	379	44	209	7	18	306	13	11	5	4	1	4	1	0	148	6819	4499	21	13	60	
New Jersey	Paul F. Albright	July 6	1639	759	224	204	10	30	400	16	16	34	15	22	12	0	0	176	13613	11284	21	6	77	
New York	Rev. Gilbert A. Shaw	June 27	3624	1685	194	429	14	109	1288	44	50	109	36	33	20	0	0	1365	41182	41182	69	44	61	
Ohio	Rev. J. W. Giffin	June 18	1983	812	102	101	8	25	467	18	12	75	5	8	4	0	0	154	21806	23286	23	71	24	
Oregon.....	Rev. F. M. Fisher	June 20	154	82	1	7	1	12	47	2	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	16	2093	1189	3	10	23	
Pennsylvania	A. W. Mason	June 28	8718	3782	1252	1572	51	225	2301	54	110	171	77	86	55	0	0	767	50475	35313	74	98	43	
Rhode Island	Chas. P. Hall	July 16	444	291	143	174	9	12	169	7	7	12	3	5	3	2	0	173	7206	7206	11	4	73	
Vermont	Rev. C. C. Creegan	July 11	470	234	64	74	2	8	231	4	10	33	6	6	0	0	0	119	3252	2752	16	20	80	
Washington.....	Floyd R. Levee	June 19	172	87	0	0	1	6	52	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	8	778	778	3	13	20	
Wisconsin	Rev. J. H. Barnett	Aug. 11	1064	495	52	172	3	26	303	7	13	45	4	5	1	3	1	93	6607	6607	21	8	72	
			38513	17244	3069	6162	253	894	11211	339	434	945	270	269	151	7	1	4922	306898	279667	395	438		

AND IT IS ORDERED, That the name of said William Schumacher, Jr., be stricken from the rolls of said Major Leo Rassieur Camp No. 4 and from the rolls of said Missouri Division; and that this decision be entered in the records of said Camp and Division, as well as in the records of the Commander-in-Chief.

By the Commander-in-Chief.
(Seal) H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

AT THE WISCONSIN ENCAMPMENT.

In accordance with a telegram from the Commander-in-Chief, I left Chicago June 15th for Sheboygan, Wis., to act as Official Representative of the Commander-in-Chief in the Encampment of the Division of Wisconsin. I arrived that night in time to attend the Camp Fire where I spoke for him.

I also attended the Reception and Drill and Dance of the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary held later that evening. I was in attendance at the Encampment during the entire next day, and with the entire Encampment was privileged to attend a session of the Grand Army of the Republic Encampment, where Commander Donaldson made a most eloquent address.

We then all went to the Cemetery where a fine monument to the Unknown Dead was unveiled.

I was treated with the utmost courtesy while there, and found a fine bunch of men. I was very glad I had the privilege of attending their Encampment. I duly reported to the Commander-in-Chief on my return.

During the year I have been in receipt of general orders of practically every Division of the Order and nearly all the Allied Orders. This has been very interesting to me.

Fraternally,

GEO. B. HOLMES,
National Counselor.

REPORT OF NATIONAL CHAPLAIN.

Los Angeles, Cal., July 15, 1925.

Hon. William M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,
U. S. A.

My Dear Commander:

I herewith submit report of National Chaplain, and in doing so, wish to again thank you for the very great honor entrusted to me by yourself.

I feel as many an officer has felt after a year's work, having fallen far short of my expectations. Yet, some things have been accomplished worthy of mention, and caused happiness to many comrades who have served their country under "Old Glory."

It has been a pleasure, as well as a fortunate opportunity, to work with my friend and co-worker, Mamie M. Deems, our Auxiliary National Chaplain.

There is at Sawtelle, California, the largest National Soldiers and Sailors Home in the United States. The National Chaplain of this Home is a member of our Order and a personal friend, and it has been my privilege to assist him in his services at the Home. With our Auxiliary National Chaplain and many members of our Orders, we have taken part in, and attended several services on the Sabbath, as well as giving entertainments on week nights, the comrades were always delighted to have us come, and we hope to keep the good work going as long as we have our comrades with us. As there was no piano in the Protestant Chapel, and there was need of one, at the suggestion of the Chaplain of the Home, I took up the plan of placing a piano in the Chapel. With the help of our Auxiliaries and Camps in the Division, we placed a piano in the Chapel. The presentation was made at a Christmas entertainment we put on at the Home. The gift was accepted by the Chief Surgeon, in behalf of the Governor and Comrades of the Home. Something of this nature might be taken up by other Divisions, as there are National as well as State Soldiers Homes in nearly every Division.

We note a serious falling off, in number of Camps reporting, 120 less than last year and 198 less than year before. Brothers, brace up. As usual Alabama & Tennessee and Maryland carry off the honors for 100% reporting. Michigan was first to report with only 36% reporting.

It is gratifying to report an increase in number of Cemeteries covered and Flags placed. We regret to report "No Report" from Maine and Wisconsin, but hope to have report from these Divisions at Grand Rapids for the Proceedings.

The Commandery-in-Chief as well as the different Divisions mourn the loss of eight members during the past year. We extend loving sympathy to the bereaved families.

The following brothers have passed to their reward:

January 4, 1925—Paul Smyser, York, Pa. Past Division Commander, Pennsylvania Division.

January 3, 1925—Bradford S. Sheire, Spokane, Wash. Past Division Commander, Minnesota Division.

January 6, 1925—John M. Diven, Troy, N. Y. Past Division Commander, New York Division.

February 3, 1925—David J. Snavelly, Johnstown. Past Division Commander, Pennsylvania Division.

February 22, 1925—Job E. Hedges, New York. Past Division Commander, New York Division.

February 25, 1925—Ned Withers, Washburn, Wis. Past Division Commander, Wisconsin Division.

March 2, 1925—Frank O. Peterson, Baltimore. Past Division Commander, Maryland Division.

April 6, 1925—Charles H. Bissell, Southington. Past Division Commander, Connecticut Division.

Yours in F., C. & L.,

FRANCIS C. HAWTHORNE,
National Chaplain.

REPORT OF NATIONAL PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR.

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

First, let me say that I appreciate the honor conferred on me by Commander-in-Chief Coffin, in appointing me National Patriotic Instructor for the year 1925. I accepted the position with a due sense of its importance and its possibility for exemplifying the meaning of patriotism, especially of that part of our Country's history from 1861 to 1865. I am sure that we all agree that there is a need for a better understanding of that period in American history and what it involves in making our Country great among the nations of the world.

There are some things connected with our work as an Organization relating to the extension of patriotism that have been impressed on me the past year. May I take this occasion to mention them?

First: Blank Form No. 51 for the annual report of Division Patriotic Instructors, in my opinion, needs revision. Much of the information called for in these blanks is useless when obtained. What need, for instance, is there in asking if certain Holidays are observed in the respective states, when we all know that through the efforts of the Grand Army of the Republic laws have been passed in all the States compelling observance of these patriotic days by the children in the schools.

Only such questions should be asked in these reports, the answers to which can be intelligently compiled and put to some practical use for the Organization.

Another thing that has impressed me as Patriotic Instructor the past year is the apparent lack of interest in the Sons of Veterans Organization by that large group of Sons of Civil War soldiers and sailors unaffiliated with the organization. What can be done in the way of patriotic instruction to interest them?

I find that with many of them there is no lack of interest in historic and patriotic things, but when asked to affiliate with the organization so as to give it the benefit of their influence and interest, they do not respond to the suggestions. What is the matter? Why do they not come in? Is it because our program lacks sufficient appeal or is our leadership at fault, or is it because our objective is not well enough understood? These are the questions that arise in my mind.

One answer given me has the charm of novelty, and while it is not convincing it does suggest a line of possible education. One affiliated Son told me that his reason for not joining the Sons of Veterans was that he did not desire to capitalize his father's patriotism and service to the Country. Just as he would refuse to enter heaven on his father's record for piety.

Possibly a more independent and definite program nationally and locally and certain education of the public along the lines of that program, would tend to check the decrease in the number of members in Camps and turn the current the other way. At the risk of seeming to go afield of what a Patriotic Instructor's report should be, may I suggest one or two lines of action which would well engage the attention of the organization and provide the basis for constructive, patriotic instruction?

While it is true that time to write history is after the events have receded far enough to get a proper perspective, it is equally true that the proper time to collect the data is while the persons who can provide it are still living.

As a perpetual lesson in patriotism and history, why could not the Sons of Veterans of America inaugurate a movement for the proper marking of the sites of all the recruiting camps of the Civil War? In every county of the North and West there are places where regiments were recruited and drilled. These places will acquire growing interest with the passing of the years, just as the historic places of the Revolution have done.

Will not an undertaking like this stimulate patriotism in the rising generation? Would not these markers and inscriptions in bronze tell a never-ending story of the service and sacrifices of the fathers?

Recently I compiled a brief record of the first regiment to leave Rochester for the front in May, 1861. Because of loss of faculty or other disabilities not a single survivor of that old regiment was able to assist me in the slightest degree in the preparation of that history. This suggests that the work, if undertaken, must be done soon. Next year or the year after that, may be too late.

Another perpetual lesson in patriotism, it seems to me, would be the proper marking and recording of the graves of all Civil War Soldiers and Sailors. I believe some such record is now being made under Government auspices. But copies of these records, however they may be obtained, should be retained in the community in the keeping of some patriotic society, or town or city official.

This recommendation was made by me in 1915, in my report as Division Patriotic Instructor to the National Patriotic Instructor.

In New York State an Act of the Legislature made it mandatory for the Superintendent of Cemeteries to keep accurate records of all veterans' graves. In Rochester the Sons of Veterans decorate more than 4,000 soldiers' graves each Memorial Day. Cemetery officials are able to report as to burials but there is nothing on record to show what war or wars these men served in. Some day this information will be wanted. Whose task is it to do and when is it to be done?

To check up and verify these records is a task that can well engage the attention of the Sons of Veterans. The publicity that would come from such an undertaking would be an important factor in patriotic instruction to the country.

If it is left to the next generation to do this work, will it be more difficult to accomplish if not indeed, impossible?

A few days ago I had the privilege to accompany a group of men and women representative of the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution on a trip through the Genesee Valley. Our route followed that of the army of De Nonville, Governor General of Canada, which came by boat across Lake Ontario on a punitive expedition to destroy the villages of the Senecas because of the latter's friendliness to the English.

Two very instructive addresses were given by speakers in

CONSOLIDATED REPORT
National Patriotic Instructor
for year ending Dec. 31,
1924.

Names of Divisions and
Division Patriotic Instruct-
ors making Reports.

Are all public schools in your
Division supplied with Flags?

Is the salute to the flag given in
schools?

Is there observance as special Pa-
triotic Days? Birthdays of Wash-
ington, Lincoln, Grant, McKinley,
Memorial Sunday, Memorial Day,
Flag Day?

Alabama and Tennessee U. A. Burgess	not at all	occasionally	yes generally	
California and Pacific W. M. Peak	so reported	Daily	yes	
Connecticut Stephen F. Degnan.....	24 yes	19 yes, 5 no	yes	
Illinois L. H. Boehm.....	yes	Daily	yes	ma
Indiana George H. Padgett.....	yes	occasionally	yes generally	1
Iowa R. G. Bowen	yes	occasionally	yes generally	3
Kansas L. L. Merrifield.....	yes	some	yes generally	m
Maine Harry W. Wing.....	yes	Daily	yes generally	y
Maryland Samuel M. Croft	yes	Daily	yes generally	gene
Massachusetts William E. Choate	yes	yes	yes generally	y
Michigan B. L. Snook	yes	Daily	yes generally	y
Minnesota William A. Downs	yes	occasionally	yes	y
Missouri William Schumacher	yes	Daily	yes	ye
Nebraska Fenton B. Fleming	yes	occasionally	yes	ye
New Hampshire Clarence G. Chase	yes	yes	yes generally	ye
New Jersey Samuel Sutton	yes	Daily	yes	ye
New York Walter K. Bailey	yes	Daily	yes generally	ye
Ohio J. W. Brown	yes	occasionally	yes	ye
Oregon Gail P. Dibel	yes	occasionally	yes generally	yes
Pennsylvania D. D. Hummelbaugh	yes	Daily	yes	yes
Rhode Island Anton J. Verrill	yes	Daily	yes	yes
Vermont E. T. Griswold				
Washington T. A. Randall	yes	occasionally	yes generally	yes
Wisconsin J. E. Waldron	yes	Daily	yes	yes

*Too much Catholicism.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT

National Patriotic Instructor for year ending Dec. 31, 1924.

Names of Divisions and Division Patriotic Instructors making Reports.

	Are all public schools in your Division supplied with flags?	Is the salute to the flag given in schools?	Is there observance as special Patriotic Days? Birthdays of Washington, Lincoln, Grant, McKinley, Memorial Sunday, Memorial Day, Flag Day?	Do teachers show a lively interest in Patriotic Observance?	How many flags have been donated to schools in your Division during the year?	Are prizes offered by individuals or Camp to public school pupils for Patriotic essays?	Has Lincoln's Gettysburg tablet been placed in any public schools in your Division?	Were the Sunday Schools invited to have special services on Sunday preceding Memorial Day and other National holidays?	Were the public school pupils generally invited to take part in Memorial Day and other national holidays?	Was Memorial Sunday generally observed by the Churches with Patriotic services.	Are there any objectionable school histories used in the public schools of your Division? If so, designate them by name and reference to part that is objectionable?	What amount has been expended by your Division in furthering Patriotic instruction during the past calendar year?	Do the Camps offer their services to the Grand Army of the Republic for Memorial Day and other occasions?	Do the Camps assume charge of Memorial Day for the Post?	Does your Division do anything to stimulate Patriotism, if so, what is the general result?
Alabama and Tennessee U. A. Burgess	not at all	occasionally	yes	no	Hundreds	no	no	yes	yes	no	several	nothing reported	yes	yes	yes good result
California and Pacific W. M. Peak	so reported	Daily	yes	yes	10	in some camps	no	yes	yes	yes	no	\$468.00	yes	some	yes good result
Connecticut Stephen F. Degnan.....	24 yes	19 yes, 5 no	yes	yes	11	in 7 camps	9	17 yes 7 no	17 yes 7 no	17 yes 7 no	no	\$265.00	yes	19 yes 5 no	yes good result
Illinois L. H. Boehm.....	yes	Daily	yes	majority	unable to state	in some places	yes	in some places	yes	yes	no	over \$2000	yes	yes	yes good result
Indiana George H. Padgett.....	yes	occasionally	yes	yes	13	yes	4	yes	yes	yes	*one	\$67.20	yes	some	yes good result
Iowa R. G. Bowen	yes	occasionally	yes	yes	200	yes	3	yes	yes	yes	yes	\$25.00	yes	some	yes good result
Kansas L. L. Merrifield.....	yes	some	yes	most	4000	no	no	yes	yes	yes	no		yes	yes	yes good result
Maine Harry W. Wing.....	yes	Daily	yes	yes	36	yes	in 9 schools	yes	yes	yes	no	\$291.17	yes	yes	yes good result
Maryland Samuel M. Croft	yes	Daily	yes	generally	2	no	no	yes	yes	yes	no	\$340.00	yes	some	yes good result
Massachusetts William E. Choate	yes	yes	yes	yes	1051	by some camps	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	\$2642.00	yes	yes	yes good result
Michigan B. L. Snook	yes	Daily	yes	yes	17	no	1	yes	yes	no	no	\$10.00	yes	yes	yes good result
Minnesota William A. Downs	yes	occasionally	yes	yes	10	no	2	yes	yes	yes	no	\$30.00	yes	some	yes good result
Missouri William Schumacher	yes	Daily	yes	yes	15	few	no	yes	yes	yes	no	\$80.00	yes	yes	yes good result
Nebraska Fenton B. Fleming	yes	occasionally	yes	yes	36	few	yes	some	yes	yes	no	\$175.00	yes	yes	yes good result
New Hampshire Clarence G. Chase	yes	yes	yes	yes	1	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	no	\$500.00	yes	yes	yes good result
New Jersey Samuel Sutton	yes	Daily	yes	yes	15	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	no	\$1148.00	yes	yes	yes good result
New York Walter K. Bailey	yes	Daily	yes	yes	348	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	\$1216.00	yes	yes	yes good result
Ohio J. W. Brown	yes	occasionally	yes	yes	30	few	several	in general	almost invariably	yes	yes Muzzey	\$500.00	yes	yes	yes good result
Oregon Gall P. Dibel	yes	occasionally	yes	yes	none	news-papers	no	yes	yes	not fully	no	none	yes	yes	yes good result
Pennsylvania D. D. Hummelbaugh	yes	Daily	yes	yes	36	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	\$2963.00	yes	yes	yes good result
Rhode Island Anton J. Verrill	yes	Daily	yes	yes	10	no	no	yes	yes	yes	no	\$100.00	yes	yes	yes good result
Vermont E. T. Griswold															
Washington T. A. Randall	yes	occasionally	yes	yes	none	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	none		yes	yes	yes good result
Wisconsin J. E. Waldron	yes	Daily	yes	yes	101	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	\$175.00	yes	yes	yes good result

*Too much Catholicism.

the party but how meager the information, and how slight the data available 238 years after the event transpired! The lesson to me was—and I desire to pass it on to all Patriotic Instructors of the Sons of Veterans—that the time to secure information on the events and places that are sure to become historic, is as soon as possible after the event has taken place. This applies with peculiar force to the matter of marking and recording the graves of soldiers and sailors.

There are one or two other things in addition to those mentioned above which I wish to suggest as a means of extending our patriotic work. I will not trespass on your patience to enlarge on them,—briefly summarized they are:

That a memorial building to the Grand Army of the Republic be erected in Washington as a perpetual lesson in patriotism;

That the Commandery-in-Chief take measures to compile records of memorials erected to the memory of men and women participants in the Civil War, nature of such memorials, their cost and how financed;

That the Commandery-in-Chief co-operate with authorities in securing legislation making it mandatory for all Cemetery authorities to keep a complete record of all soldiers' graves;

That the Commandery-in-Chief take steps to have points of interest relative to the Civil War, such as camp sites, etc., suitably marked.

Respectfully submitted,

THEODORE C. CAZEAU,
National Patriotic Instructor.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ROSTER.

Grand Rapids, Michigan, Sept. 1, 1925.

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

Brothers:

Pursuant to the action of the Forty-third Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, "to make investigation of the defects in the Roster of Past Commanders-in-Chief * * * and report to the next Commandery-in-Chief Encampment a corrected Roster as shown by the history of the Organization," your Committee report having investigated, performed its duty and herewith present the Roster as the records indicate and the historical features show, viz:

PAST COMMANDERS-IN-CHIEF,

Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Elected:	Name:	Division:	Address:
1881	*Harry T. Rowley....	Pennsylvania	
1882	*Harry T. Rowley....	Pennsylvania	
1883	*Frank P. Merrill....	Maine	
1884	*Harry W. Arnold....	Pennsylvania	

- 1884 ☆Louis M. Wagner...Pennsylvania...422 Walnut
 1885 ☆Louis M. Wagner... St., Philadelphia, Pa.
 1886 ☆Louis M. Wagner...

The Post System

- 1889-90 ☆George W. Marks.New York..Brooklyn, N. Y.
 1890 ☆George T. Brown.New York

Honor Conferred by Commandery-in-Chief

- 1883 *A. P. Davis.....Pennsylvania
 1899 *R. M. J. Reed.....Pennsylvania

☆Conferred by Commandery-in-Chief.

*Deceased.

†Not a Member.

PAST GRAND DIVISION COMMANDERS

- Frank H. Challis..296 Manchester St., Manchester, N. H.
 E. Howard Gilkey..... Columbus, Ohio

CONSTITUTIONAL LIFE MEMBERS

- O. B. Brown..... Dayton, Ohio
 Charles A. Bookwalter..... Indianapolis, Ind.

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

LOUIS M. WAGNER,
 Past Commander-in-Chief.

J. B. MACCABE,
 Past Commander-in-Chief.

H. H. HAMMER,
 National Secretary-Treasurer.

REPORT OF ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE.

To the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.
 Brothers:

At the National Encampment held in Boston, August 11-16, 1925, it was voted to continue national organization work, and turn over the same to Fred E. Upham, of Leominster, Mass. He was to have charge also of the sale of the organization books and printed matter, and make returns of the net proceeds of sales to the National Secretary-Treasurer.

In the interest of organization work and the sale of books and printed matter, your committee has furnished copy for the organization page in each issue of The Banner from September to June inclusive, a printed page regarding organization methods, a special letter to over 900 Camp Commanders and several hundred individual letters to those using our printed matter.

No special appropriation was made for this work. The resolution provided, however, that such parts of the receipts from sale of printed matter, as were necessary, should be used to carry on the work, and balance should be turned over at the close of the year to the Secretary-Treasurer.

Your committee has conducted a fairly active campaign as is evidenced by the results. We have sold over 200 organization

books, and several thousand copies of printed matter. We have expended in the direction of organization work and the sale of the printed matter, \$256.57, and have received from sales, \$273.05. The balance has been turned over, together with an itemized account, to our Secretary-Treasurer.

It is impossible to say just how much value can be credited to the active and persistent work along the lines of National Organization work, for the past few years, but when there has been a tendency to drop out of our organization as is evidenced by the fact that nearly twenty-five thousand members have been dropped since the close of the late war, it is at least an open question and something for careful consideration, whether this continued aggressive work has had anything to do with the fact that we have added to our membership in the same period, more than twenty-five thousand members, showing a small net gain.

Respectfully submitted,

FRED E. UPHAM,
Director of National Organization Work.

REPORT OF REGIONAL AIDE.

William M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.
Dear Commander:

You have suggested that I submit a report as Regional Aide. Outside of my own Camp's activities, I have done nothing worthy of mention.

A number of the members of the Order, most of whom are members of Nebraska Camp No. 144, of Lincoln, have formed a luncheon and dinner club which they have named The Sixty-One Club, and complying with your suggestion that "a discussion of its organization might be one appropriate subject for a report," I present the following statement.

Membership in the club is based on membership in good standing in our Order.

The object and purposes of the club, as set out in its constitution and declaration of principles are in brief:

1. A pledge of allegiance to the flag of our Country.
2. The promotion, advancement and welfare of the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., in the city of Lincoln and state of Nebraska; to care for the Union soldier of the Civil War, his widow and orphan; and keep green the memory of those who fought for the preservation of the Union, and to inculcate the spirit of liberty and reverence for the constitution and government of the United States of America.

3. Three kinds of membership are provided:

(a) The active membership, consisting of members of the Sons of Veterans in good standing as stated above.

(b) All members of the Grand Army of the Republic, residing within the State of Nebraska, are enrolled as honorary members upon request.

(c) All persons affiliated with the Grand Army of the Republic and Sons of Veterans through membership in any order

or auxiliary, whose membership is based on service to the members of the Grand Army of the Republic may become associate members on proper application and through acceptance by the club.

The idea of a luncheon club dedicated to patriotic purposes and principles is one that presents a strong appeal to men who believe in the principles upon which our Order is founded. This is the day of the luncheon and dinner clubs, as is indicated by the success of the Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis, Knife and Fork and similar organizations. None of these clubs present the powerful appeal along patriotic lines and reverence and respect for constitution government as does this club whose membership is composed of men whose forbears fought at the call of Abraham Lincoln and under the great Union leaders of the Civil War.

In soliciting membership for the club we have been able to write the applications for membership in the Camp of a number of eligibles who have not heretofore been connected with the Order.

The membership fee of \$10.00 affords ample funds to finance the club and makes it possible to do many things which might be beyond the financial ability of the ordinary Camp. I am fully convinced that in the organization of such clubs is an opportunity for expanding the usefulness and patriotic work of our Order.

Expressing my appreciation of the confidence reposed in me by you through appointment as Regional Aide and regretting that I have been unable to give more time to the work of the Order during the few months I have held this position, I am,

Fraternally yours,

FRANK P. CORRICK,
Regional Aide.

Lincoln, Nebraska.

REPORT OF REGIONAL AIDE.

Bay Village, Ohio, August 19, 1925.

To Wm. M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans.
From P. F. Yengling, Aide for Third Regional District.
Subject—Report.

Having been appointed, and accepted the position of Aide for the Third Regional District, I beg leave to report the following.

Upon the request of the Commander-in-Chief, the Commanders of the several Divisions comprising this District were called to conference at Chicago, Ill., on February 28, 1925.

The meeting was held at the Sherman House, and was attended by the Commander, or his representative of the Divisions of Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, and Ohio.

Regrets were received from the Commanders of Alabama & Tennessee, and Indiana.

The meeting was very harmonious, and I believe will result in much good for those attending.

Respectfully yours,

P. F. YENGLING,
Regional Aide.

REPORT OF REGIONAL AIDE.

Omaha, Neb., August 19, 1925.

Hon. Wm. M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., 3755 Hyde Park Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio.

My Dear Commander:

Complying with your request of the 17th asking for a report of my activities as Acting Regional Aide for the Fourth Region, I have the honor to report as follows:

That nearly all of my activities as such were put forth in an effort to bring about a meeting of all Division Commanders, and Special Aides, in the Region. This Region consists of five states, namely: Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, and Missouri.

Immediately upon assuming the duties of the office, and by direction of our Commander-in-Chief, I sent letters to all Commanders and Aides, asking them to assemble at Omaha at any early date. The responses I received, or rather did not receive, were very discouraging.

Then began quite a lengthy correspondence reaching from the first week in January until about the 10th of April when it was finally decided to hold the meeting on the 18th day of April, 1925, at 8 o'clock p. m. at the Rome Hotel, Omaha, Nebraska.

In the meanwhile notices were sent to all parties expected, of the positive fixing of the time and place of the meeting.

Our Commander-in-Chief arrived in Omaha on the morning of April 18 and in the evening at 8 o'clock he opened the meeting. There were present at this meeting, Brother F. M. Stull representing Iowa, and we had regrets from Minnesota, Kansas and Missouri. Nebraska was represented by Division Commander Moses P. O'Brien, Acting Regional Aide; Past Division Commander Frank P. Corrick; Past Division Commander Frank Mills; Past Division Commander Dr. Johnson, and Fenton B. Fleming, Patriotic Instructor of Lincoln; Past Division Commander Bert Morledge, Special Aide to Commander-in-Chief; Past Division Commander George Walz, and Past Division Commander Harry Rogers, of Fremont; Earl S. Lewis, Division Secretary-Treasurer; W. H. Hatteroth, Camp Commander No. 1, Omaha, and the following other brothers of Camp No. 1: John E. Himoe, John H. Berger, W. H. Fitcher, and Otto Neiderweiser.

A full discussion of the State of the Order, and the reason of its so-called "sickness," including plans for its cure and complete restoration was had, and a tentative plan was agreed upon; Commander-in-Chief Coffin agreed to put the same in form, and forward it to all Divisions in time for consideration by the Division Encampments.

While the Division of Nebraska was in Annual Encampment

assembled, these plans and recommendations were received, and were immediately put before the Encampment, and without much discussion, all of them were unanimously adopted. I do not incorporate these plans and recommendations here because I believe they will be fully treated of in the Commander-in-Chief's report.

At this Regional Meeting our Commander-in-Chief took complete charge and presided in a masterful manner. During the course of the evening he delivered an exhaustive discourse on the dangers which threaten the permanency of the Country and the Constitution, calling especial attention to alien propaganda such as Anarchism, Sovietism, disrespect for our Courts and the Constitution, and he was most emphatic in his denunciation of Muzzey's American History for the many omissions of real historical facts, as well as deliberate distortion of the truth in many instances, where to disregard the same would have brought greater shame to this so-called historian.

This meeting can be called a success, from more than one standpoint, for all who attended surely received inspiration for higher resolve to greater achievement. We were all very proud to have our Commander-in-Chief with us, and hope that he was not disappointed in the appearances of our little band.

On April 18th I asked Brother Coffin to relieve me from further duty as Regional Aide, and on April 30th he complied with my request, retaining me, however, on his staff as Special Aide, an honor which I prize very highly.

Regretting exceedingly that I will not be able to be in attendance at the Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief this year, and with my very best wishes, believe me.

Faithfully yours,

MOSES P. O'BRIEN,
Formerly Acting Regional Aide.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: The report of the Secretary-Treasurer, and other officers as printed, will be referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports, there being no objections.

We have two greetings committees in waiting. Shall we admit them in their turn?

Voices: Yes.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Before we go any further, the Chair wishes to announce the following committees:

Officers' Reports:

- Past Commander-in-Chief Russell.
- Division Commander Huston, Indiana.
- Division Commander Weiler, Massachusetts.
- Division Commander Buck, Illinois.
- Division Commander Godcharles, Pennsylvania.

Constitution and Regulations:

- Past Commander-in-Chief Sisson.
- Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman.
- Past Commander-in-Chief Shellhouse.
- Past Division Commander Corrick, Nebraska.
- Past Commander-in-Chief Johnson.

Resolutions:

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman.
 Past Commander-in-Chief Stephens.
 Division Commander Kaywood, Michigan.
 Past Division Commander W. L. Anderson, Massachusetts.
 Past Division Commander Joseph M. James, Illinois.

Rituals and Ceremonies:

Past Commander-in-Chief Sheldon.
 Past Division Commander Charles P. Hall, Rhode Island.
 Past Division Commander Arthur J. Abbott, New York.
 Past Division Commander Wm. W. Jewett, Maine.
 Division Commander Henry A. Goldsmith, Wisconsin.

Fraternal Greetings:

Past Commander-in-Chief McGuire.
 Past Commander-in-Chief Horn.
 Past Division Commander C. S. Scott, California.
 Past Division Commander Edwin C. Irelan, Maryland.
 Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman.

The Press:

Past Division Commander A. S. Holbrook, Illinois.

Past Commander-in-Chief Stephens is made chairman of the committee to escort the greetings committees to the room.

Past Commander-in-Chief Stephens: I take pleasure in presenting to you the greetings committee of the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, Mrs. Bessie Bowser, Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Stephens.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: We are glad to have you with us, sisters. I think I should say more than that, because I think this Encampment owes you an official apology for having kept you waiting for more than forty minutes after the Commander-in-Chief officially fixed the time, and all of the others were here on the dot. The Commander-in-Chief was overruled. We would be very glad to listen now to greetings from the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary. (Applause).

Mrs. Bowser: Commander-in-Chief Coffin, and this Encampment assembled: We are indeed glad of the opportunity to perform this duty for our National President and to extend to you, Commander-in-Chief, and through you to this body of Sons of Veterans, the personal greetings of our National President and of our organization, over thirty thousand strong.

We grant to you this pardon you ask, and wish to assure you that your Auxiliary is always waiting for something to do for you. In fact we anticipate it, and when you told us to be here at 3:15, were here at 3:10. We were sorry afterwards we didn't make it a little bit later as we might have enjoyed a little more of our convention; but it is all right and we are here to serve you and if you were getting along with your convention any better and accomplishing any more by our waiting outside, we are very glad to be of assistance to you. (Applause).

We just came from our own convention Encampment when your committee had come with greetings. They told us how much they thought of us and what it meant to them. Knowing that you have more business to transact, we are going to make our visit brief, and we are going to present to you this token to adorn your table (presenting basket of flowers), and you can pass the flowers along as you like. The boys thought it would

be rather nice for you to take the basket home and let your wife use it.

To you personally, Commander-in-Chief, we want to present this clock. We appreciate the courtesy you have extended to our National President and the very great help you have been to our organization in advancing our cause wherever it was possible to do so.

We have counted on you all year as being a friend indeed to the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, and now we want you to take this home with you; this is not to give the boys, they have no share in it whatever; it is for you; and some quiet evening—we hope you will find a few of those next year—which we know you have not in the past year—you may spend a quiet evening at home and you may listen to that tick-lock, and it will mean to you “we love you.”

Will you please accept our greetings, and those of our National President. We are glad to be here, and thank you. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: The rest of these girls seem to want to hide their light in a bushel. The Encampment insists that you at least get up and show yourselves. Mrs. Congressman Stephens—Sister Margaret; she is from Ohio. She is all right.

Mrs. Margaret Stephens, of Ohio: I had understood that the Commander-in-Chief had said that he did not want to hear anything from anybody but the chairman of the greetings committee, and I do not want to spoil the arrangements, and we just carry the greetings of the Encampment and the Ohio Division. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Sister Anderson, of Massachusetts.

Mrs. Margaret Anderson, of Massachusetts: Commander-in-Chief, and Members of this Encampment. I am also proud to be with you. I consider it a privilege and an honor to come to the National Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, and I bring to you, Will Coffin, whom we love in our Division, the greetings of Massachusetts as well as the National Organization which is meeting at the present time, and we wish for you a most harmonious Encampment. May you increase your members and carry on the good work which you have been doing. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: It is rather difficult to respond to this. I recognize that this was brought to me, not to me personally, but because I represent the Sons of Veterans. I am informed that this beautiful time piece shall in the days that are to come remind me of the fact that I am getting older and older. It is a peculiar sensation to be thus personally greeted. Of course it is a new one for me. I have never been Commander-in-Chief before, and to have these tangible expressions of love and esteem, and then to have your own mother-in-law do it, certainly caps the climax. And then to have them wind up you know, with these sweet honeyed words from Massachusetts fills my cup to overflowing.

I wonder if Brother Sherman, who seems to be taking it so seriously, cannot do fitting justice to the greetings we have re-

ceived. I hope he will even distinguish between the personal and the official greetings.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Commander-in-Chief, and the fine looking delegation representing the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary; words of mine at this time would be but silver, while the words of our Commander-in-Chief must of necessity be golden.

I would that I could give utterance in fitting words to an expression, but there are moments in the life of a man which cannot be expressed in words, and I expect that our Commander-in-Chief will not have during this entire Encampment anything which will bring to him a greater thrill than to receive the delegation from our own Auxiliary, accompanied as it is, with a tangible expression of the loving affection which the Auxiliary bears to the Sons of Veterans and to William M. Coffin, its Chief Executive and Standard Bearer for the past year.

The flowers, beautiful as they are, must of necessity wither and fade, though the sweet incense which accompanies them will remain with our Commander-in-Chief for long. But this which marks the passage of time, I am sure will be to him one of the fondest which in the years that are to come as he takes his place among the small group or coterie of "has beens" and realizes that he is only a Past Commander-in-Chief after all, with the small consolation which may come from that thought, yet after his busy day's work is done, and he to his home shall he to be greeted by his helpmate, the daughter of her who so graciously presented to him this token, and as it delivers its message hour after hour and day after day, it will be an accumulative gift, and each recording chime as it chimes hours, half hours and quarter hours, it will intensify that love and devotion which the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary spare not toward its father organization.

It was my privilege to be intimately associated eleven years ago with Sister Bowser, and I am glad that her interest has continued throughout the years since she served as National President, and I am inclined to think that perhaps she has contributed nothing more valuable to our organization, or the Sons of Veterans, than perhaps to have been of some slight or silent assistance in having her beloved son-in-law occupy the position of Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans; and I am sure she would deny that she had anything to do with it after all, but maybe she did, after you look at the sweet wife. You know you just expose some of these fellows to the women and they will do anything. There may be suggestion in this only to some who have aspirations in their heart. But we have much to be grateful for to the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary.

If the relation which now exists would be intensified and continued we realize that we have a work to do, and it will be our constant and increasing endeavor so to do it that we shall ever measure up to the responsibility that would be thrust upon us, and we will not be satisfied with what has occupied time and attention in the past, but we shall look forward to new fields of endeavor, and we shall endeavor to attain even a more advanced position, and endeavor to be evangelists of patriotic endeavor, realizing that patriotism is a thing that our country asks of us.

Convey to your organization our sincerest and most cordial thanks for this evidence of your interest in our affairs, and may the God of Nations prosper your organization even in greater measure than in the past, and if in the progress of events it is to be that the child or even the wife shall be greater than the father or the husband, may that be your portion, and we will be only too glad to rejoice with you at the success you have attained. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: I am sure, sisters, that Brother Sherman has well portrayed the sentiment of the Sons of Veterans towards its own Auxiliary. We are most happy to have you with us.

I will ask you if you wish to stay here now and go with us to the Memorial Service. We want to go to that service, but we have another committee in waiting, and if you will remain, we will be glad to have you do so.

The committee will escort the greetings committee to seats, and present them, in my name, with the badge of our Order.

GREETINGS FROM THE DAUGHTERS OF VETERANS.

Past Division Commander C. S. Scott, of California: Commander-in-Chief, I take pleasure in presenting to you Past National President Clara G. Yengling, of Ohio, Past Department President Jennie Edwards, of Pennsylvania, and Past Department President Miss Riley, of Illinois. greetings committee from the Daughters of Veterans. And on behalf of the committee to the Daughters of Veterans, I bring you in return greetings from National President Mrs. Maybelle Plymire of California wishing you a successful and pleasant convention.

Commander-in-Chief: We are most happy to greet you.

Mrs. Clara G. Yengling: Mr. Commander-in-Chief, I bring you greetings from the Daughters of Veterans, and permit me to present you with this token. (Presenting flowers).

Commander-in-Chief: Are these for me or for the boys through me?

Mrs. Clara G. Yengling: For all the boys through you, and your wife and whole family. You can divide them up any way you want to.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: There is nothing sweeter than the language of the flowers, and we appreciate the sentiment they bring to us from the Daughters of Veterans. Now having brought your message with this little personal tinge to it, I wonder if you have something else to say.

Mrs. Clara G. Yengling: Yes. I deem it a great pleasure and an honor to be delegated by our National President to bring greetings from the National Alliance Daughters of Veterans to the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., assembled here in convention.

It is something that particularly appeals to me because this year Brother Coffin is from Ohio, and I want to say to you that I am proud of what he has done for you this year, and there is nothing like shouting for your own, so we have been shouting for Brother Coffin all year in Ohio, and I know he has made good. (Applause).

And I want to say to you, Brothers, that there is not any-

thing we will not be glad to do for you if you ask us. We will back you up in everything. And what we want to see is what our Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic says, we want to see action, and not mere words, and if you brothers have anything to put over in this grand old country of ours, get busy and let us help you.

We have a vote now too, and we are just as strong as you are; and we are all united, and it is our great desire to see some of you boys come out and stand to the front and represent our country. We need you. You only have a few in your ranks who are now sitting in Congress. Why not have some more? Why not think about it for your own boys that are coming up? Are you doing something for yourselves along these lines. Are you looking out to make them real citizens? Are you looking out for the future?

Those are the things you want to take home. And as time goes on, I hope these organizations will go hand in hand and we will show these people all over the United States that these meetings are not for nothing, but we accomplish something when we come here. So, as I say to you, let us all be serious about the things that we are called upon to do, and go back into the several states and carry the message home and try to make good to those who are waiting to hear from you when you do come home.

Make this convention something worth while to yourselves and then we will feel that we have accomplished what we came here for. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief: We are very glad to receive the message you bring to us, Sister Yengling, and we would be very glad to listen to Sister Riley of Illinois.

Past Department President Miss Riley, of Illinois: Inasmuch as we ladies were sent as a chaperon for Sister Yengling we have delegated her to speak for us.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Aren't they sweet? That is rather old-fashioned. In this day we expect them to speak up for themselves.

Past Department President Jennie Edwards, of Pennsylvania: Just as Sister Riley has said, we are under instructions from our President to act as an escort for Sister Yengling and we are under her wings. But we do bring greetings to our brothers from our sisters, and we wish for them the most success ever, and the best convention that your National Convention has ever had, and we hope for you, Commander-in-Chief, a most successful convention at the close of a successful year, and we hope your successor will have just a little bit more success than you have had. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: I am sure we appreciate the very kind words of greetings brought to us by the sisters. I wonder if Brother Phillips of Illinois would not be glad to respond.

Past Division Commander Fred J. Phillips, of Illinois: After the flowery words of our good Brother Sherman, it is kind of hard to express the love and affection that the Commandery-in-Chief would have for the Daughters of Veterans, especially when our Auxiliary is sitting here listening.

You know we always have a soft spot in our heart for the Daughters of Veterans as well as our own Auxiliary. I know two of the ladies that belong to the organization, and I know they are always ready and willing to do anything they can to perpetuate the memory of their fathers. They are willing to work with the Sons and do what they can to promote this work, especially on Memorial Day.

I know that our good girls from Illinois are helping us nobly in this work, and on behalf of this Encampment I desire to thank the girls for their work and their greetings.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Sisters we would be glad to have you stay with us.

Past Department President Clara G. Yengling: Commander-in-Chief, we would just love to stay, but we have got to get back and get busy.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Take with you then this symbol of our unity. (Presenting Encampment badges).

(Whereupon the greetings committee from the Daughters of Veterans was escorted from the room by a committee composed of Brothers Scott, Bowley and Cressey).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: There is a greetings committee from the Ladies of the G. A. R. in waiting. The Chair will appoint Brothers Stephens and Ireland a committee to escort the greetings committee from the Ladies of the G. A. R. to this station.

While we are waiting for this committee, if there are any resolutions to be presented to the Resolutions Committee, please present them to the National Secretary so that they will be ready tomorrow. And unless there is objection the resolutions on the Secretary's desk will be referred to the Resolutions Committee without reading. There is no objection, and it is so ordered.

GREETINGS FROM THE LADIES OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

Past Commander-in-Chief Stephens: Commander-in-Chief, these are the ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, and I take pleasure in presenting to you Sister Mary E. Tarbox of Maine, and Sister Marybel Ross of Chicago, who bring greetings.

Commander-in-Chief: Sisters, we are glad to have you here.

Mrs. Mary E. Tarbox, of Maine: Commander-in-Chief and Brothers of this grand Encampment. I do bring to you greetings most cordially, heartily and sincerely. We can call you brothers. I am a daughter. We are brothers and sisters and upon us falls one of the greatest pieces of history-making in this country. We are all doing it every year. We need your co-operation and help.

With the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic I have been affiliated a great many years, and while I am also a member of a Tent of the Daughters of Veterans, I love them dearly. I shall remain with the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic as long as any of them are living to keep our organization alive.

They need the help of the brothers. We are looking to you

to teach patriotism all the time. We know what it means to carry on this work as well as you do. I see faces here that I have met in the New England States, like myself, going around all the time. True patriotism is the foundation upon which to build character. We realize that aside from teaching the children in the public schools what their fathers and grandfathers did, the particular thing to teach them is the love of God, of the flag and of the beautiful country that we live in. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: I am sure we appreciate most keenly the greetings that you bring to us. Take back to the President of your organization the assurance that we will stand with you united in all that makes for the good of our common country.

Mrs. Marybel Ross, of Chicago: This is my first appearance among you, and I can assure you that it is one of the greatest pleasures that I have enjoyed while attending National Encampments.

When you speak of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic you naturally think of the mothers, the older organization. We have with us a great many that have gone through the Civil War with their soldier husband that was left.

We of the younger generation are coming up to perpetuate the memory of our fathers, our grandfathers, and to help our mothers carry on this work.

We appreciate the Sons of Veterans, we appreciate your help, your co-operation, for without the united help of all the allied organizations we could do little. But we are a tremendous force when we are united, and I hope the time will never come when we will be anything but united.

I want to thank you again for this privilege and I hope for you a most glorious, harmonious and prosperous Encampment, and may your numbers increase until you will be as glorious an army as your fathers were before you. I thank you. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: I will ask Past Division Commander Irelan, of Maryland, to say a few words in response to these greetings.

Past Division Commander Irelan, of Maryland: We sons of Noble Sires say to you, and through you to your Order, that we sincerely appreciate your bringing to us the greetings of your organization.

Organizations such as yours and our own are united for one grand and glorious purpose, that of showing to this Nation that great debt of gratitude which we owe to the men of '61 to '65 who wore the blue to perpetuate the flag and its dignity.

We appreciate your presence with us. We say to you that we are glad you have come to us with greetings such as you have brought because they are an expression to us of confidence, and shall ever be an inspiration to us, and when we return to our individual Divisions and Camps we can inculcate into the minds of the members of our Order the great principles for which you stand, and which are parallel to our own.

May we say to you, in deep appreciation of your visit that we are organized to maintain the dignity of the flag, and to see that this country shall ever be united in a permanent tribute

to our fathers who saved it from the hands of traitors from '61 to '65.

I hope when you return to your organization that you will say to them that we feel that we have been highly honored in having your presence here this afternoon. I thank you. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: We would be glad to have you remain with us, if you care to do it. And I present to you this badge of our Encampment as a symbol of the unity of our organizations. (Presenting badges).

Mrs. Mary E. Tarbox, of Maine: We would be glad of the privilege, but we have other business to transact which will require our attention.

(Whereupon the Greetings Committee from the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic were escorted from the room by the committee).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: The Encampment will be in recess until tomorrow afternoon, because there will be no session in the morning. I will ask you to be here tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock because there will be something worth while.

(Thereupon the Encampment recessed until Wednesday afternoon; but the members proceeded in a body to the Joint Memorial Service with the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary).

JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICE

Elks' Hall, Tuesday, September 1, 1925.
4 o'clock p. m.

National Chaplain Mrs. Mamie M. Deems, and National Chaplain Francis C. Hawthorne, presiding.

National Chaplain Mrs. Mamie M. Deems: I will read from the VIII Chapter of Romans:

"For by hope we are saved; but hope that is seen is not hope; for who hopeth for that which he seeth? But if we hope for that which we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.

"And in like manner the Spirit also helpeth our infirmity; for we know not how to pray as we ought; but the Spirit himself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered; and he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that to them that love God all things work together for good, even to them that are called according to his purpose. For whom he foreknew, he also foreordained to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren; and whom he foreordained, them he also called; and whom he called, them he also justified; and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

"What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not also with him freely give us all things? Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth; who is he that shall condemn? It is Christ Jesus that died, yea rather, that was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

"As it is written, for thy sake we are killed all the day long, we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

"Nay in all these things we are more than conquerors, through him that loved us.

"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

National Chaplain Francis C. Hawthorne: Almighty God,

our Heavenly Father, we thank Thee that Thou should permit so many of us to meet together in this Memorial Service.

And Heavenly Father, as we look back over the past years, and especially the last year, and see the results, we are thankful to Thee for what Thou hast done for us.

And Heavenly Father, while we have many of the same faces with us that were with us the past year, yet we know, as we go from year to year, Thou hast called many of our sisters and brothers to their reward, and this year we have lost in our ranks many members, many members of the National organization.

And Heavenly Father, we pray as we attend this service today that we may think of what we are doing, and think of the need we have of Thy help at all times; and may we realize that before another year many of us may have memorial services held in our membership, and may we at all times remember this country in which we live and have our being.

We look to Thee for help and strength for the Grand Army of the Republic which has done so much for this Nation, and outside of Jesus Christ we believe that the Grand Army of the Republic is the greatest organization on earth today; and Heavenly Father wilt Thou bless them, each one, in their declining years, and help us to help them.

We know there is much to do in this line of work, and we pray that Thou wilt be with us in our efforts and undertakings.

Bless the President, and all those under him, and those in authority.

We know there is much to do in this time of uneasiness in this country, and may we by Thy help be able to do much. May each one of these allied organizations of the Grand Army of the Republic do much to better our country; and Heavenly Father, as we go from this Encampment may we not think there is nothing to do, but may we go home and work in our own Tents and Auxiliaries more and more to get results to help our country.

Now as we look to Thee, Heavenly Father, we pray that Thou wilt be with us, every one in fact, and guide and direct each one, and when we have served Thy wise purpose on earth, take us to a better land. All we ask is that we may have the blessing of Him who taught us to pray:

"Our Father which art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name; Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who trespass against us; Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen."

National Chaplain Hawthorne: The California & Pacific Division has lost three members: Hannah Brainard, Past National Instituting and Installing Officer, and Past Division President; Elizabeth Thompson, Past Division Vice President and Secretary; and Elizabeth Kiser, Past Division President.

Cora Dunister: Sister Brainard came to us from Minneapolis, Minnesota; she was an honored member, always willing and ready to serve. I place these flowers in honor of Sister Brainard.

Nina Wilson: Sister Elizabeth Thompson was a Past Division Vice President and Secretary of the California & Pacific Division, a cherished member and faithful worker. I place these flowers in honor of Sister Thompson.

Lillian Harris: Sister Elizabeth Kiser was our second Division President of California. We were real proud of her, and we mourn her loss. I place these flowers in honor of Sister Kiser.

National Chaplain Hawthorne: The Connecticut Division lost one member, Evelyn Crane.

May Bassett: The ranks of the Connecticut Division have been broken several times, but it was not until this past year that the ranks of the Division Presidents were broken. In the latter part of April, 1925, Sister Evelyn Crane, who was a loyal and faithful member of the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, passed to her reward. I place these flowers in loving memory of the departed sister.

National Chaplain Hawthorne: The New Jersey Division mourns the loss of two members, Cecelia Zimmermacher and Charlotte Layton.

Martha Naylor: Sister Zimmermacher was Past Division President of New Jersey, a most devoted worker and beloved member. I place these flowers in loving remembrance of Sister Zimmermacher.

Ruth Gray: Sister Layton was a loyal member, and Past Division officer. I place these flowers in loving memory of Sister Layton.

National Chaplain Hawthorne: The Ohio Division suffered the loss of one Past Division President, Jane Conklin.

Edna Bergwitz: Last November our Auxiliary was asked to give up one of its best workers. It was my privilege for years to work with Jane Conklin. She was one of our best workers. She was always thinking of other people. Sometimes I would hear criticism of the work, but she would always say, "You don't know just the reason. It is all right, I am sure." She was one of our best Division Presidents. We miss Sister Conklin at this Encampment, because in the past she was always with us at the Encampment, and we feel that we have lost one of our best members. I place flowers in loving memory.

National Chaplain Hawthorne: The Sons of Veterans Auxiliary as an organization lost during the past year 301 loyal members, including the seven (7) for whom we have had service.

The Sons of Veterans lost 404 members during the past year.

To the families of all these members we extend our loving sympathy. We will miss them in the ranks, but our Father above had use for them, and he has called them for a higher and better work. Let us each one strive to so live that when we are called to our reward we may meet our sisters and brothers in a better land. Brother Huston will sing a solo.

(Solo by Brother Huston, of Indiana).

National Chaplain Hawthorne: The Sons of Veterans have lost eight (8) members of the Commandery-in-Chief. Paul Smyser, was a Past Division Commander of the Pennsylvania Division; David J. Snavelly, a Past Division Commander of the

Pennsylvania Division. Will the Division Commander of Pennsylvania please speak for these brothers.

Division Commander Frederic A. Godcharles, of Pennsylvania: Very early in the Holy Writ we are taught that the inception of memorial day came from those who fought in war. When the soldiers of the earliest day marched to meet their adversary each soldier carried in his hand a stone, and as he was about to engage in mortal combat, as they passed a certain point each of the stones were piled. Those who survived the strife returned as conquerors, and each marched to the pile and therefrom took his individual stone. Those who had made the supreme sacrifice, their stones remained as a monument, not only to the conflict which had there taken place, but they remained as a memorial to those who then and there made that sacrifice. It is quite possible therefore that our custom of meeting for the purpose of eulogizing those who have made the sacrifice for us may have arisen from this old custom.

I for one believe that the best eulogy one of our dear friends can leave behind him or her is the work they perform when here. In that connection I say with a deep sense of knowledge of what I am speaking, that the Pennsylvania Division of the Sons of Veterans during the past year lost two whose stones in that monument pile are conspicuous in the history of our organization in the Keystone State.

I do know that Dave Shavely and Paul Smyser were unusual men. I know I considered them so. I knew them for almost two score years, and in that time as members of our organization. I never knew a moment of their lives that their first love, outside of their home, was not for the Sons of Veterans, and the fact that each of them represented Camps which were not only large, but influential in their community, speaks for the service that they rendered.

Both of these brothers served long, faithfully and well. We mourn them in the Pennsylvania Division, and their places are hard to fill. Their love was first and always for the Pennsylvania Division of the Sons of Veterans, and in the death of these two Past Division Commanders we are filled with grief, and we will hold them in loving remembrance as long as any of us live who knew these brothers.

National Chaplain Hawthorne: Bradford S. Sheire, of Spokane, Washington, Past Division Commander of the Minnesota Division, passed away on January 3, 1925. Will Division Commander Smith, of Minnesota, please speak for him.

Division Commander Eugene B. Smith, of Minnesota: Brother Sheire at one time belonged to the Division of Minnesota, but to an outside Camp and I knew very little of him, only as all Sons of Veterans are judged the same, as good, loyal and loving people; they all perform their duty well; and he always did what he was asked to do, and on Memorial Day he was always on duty. This brother moved to Washington about a year ago, but was still in good standing in our Camp, and we express the deepest sympathy to his relatives, who mourn his loss.

National Chaplain Hawthorne: The New York Division suffered the loss of two Past Division Commanders, John M. Diven, of Troy, New York; and Job E. Hedges, New York.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: You will remember the lines of that majestic poem: "Lord God of Hosts, Be with us yet, lest we forget; lest we forget!"

This afternoon there is placed upon this cross of memory a call to our mind of the faithful brothers of our organizations with whom we have been wont to work in the years that are gone. It is a beautiful custom, I am sure, to recall to our mind those of our faithful brothers, but I would have you believe this service in memory of those of our beloved brothers is a triumphal one, because death which is so often accompanied by the silent and softened voice, is only the vestibule to a larger and better experience, and I am sure this afternoon there are many here who share with me the thought that from the heavenly realm above those of our sainted memory look down upon this hour and rejoice that their names are not forgotten, nor the service that they rendered unappreciated.

John M. Diven of Troy, New York, served in that Division as Commander during 1897 to '98. He was strong and virile and his name will be remembered in that state because a Camp of the Sons of Veterans bears his name, a constant memory to the service that he rendered.

Job E. Hedges was without exception the most distinguished member of the New York Division, serving as Commander of the old Post system in the very infancy of our Order, and afterwards a member of Camp Number 140 of New York City. He was distinguished in his civic life, being called to public life as the secretary of Mayor Strawn, of New York, and afterwards appointed a city magistrate, and he was considered efficiently able to be the standard bearer of one of the major parties of the State of New York for Governor. And when called upon to fill a position of great responsibility as the receiver of the surface lines of New York City, it was in that position that he rendered a very conspicuous service to the community in which he lived.

These two men made a record of which we may all well be proud, and we ourselves pause a moment in our busy life to pay tribute to their character, and I can assure you that in their departure hence the Sons of Veterans of the State of New York have suffered an irreparable loss.

National Chaplain Hawthorne: On March 2, 1925, Frank O. Peterson, of Baltimore. Past Division Commander of Maryland, passed away. Brother Irelan will speak for him.

Past Division Commander Edwin C. Irelan, of Maryland: Today we bring in loving remembrance a few words of tribute or eulogy to him of our Division who when but twenty-two years of age assumed the reins of that Division and for thirty-two years rendered valiant service to the Order of the Sons of Veterans.

Brother Peterson in the full bloom of life was met by the grim reaper and he was lost into eternity.

He was always swift to answer the call of the Grand Army of the Republic; his voice was always raised to those of his Camp for that degree of loyalty for which the principles of the Order for which he served, and for which our service was intended.

In the departure of Brother Peterson to his everlasting reward, we of James A. Garfield Camp, of which he was a member, mourn his loss. But he has left to us a great example of fidelity to trust, a deep appreciation of the heritage left him by his father, and today as we consider this worthy son of a loyal sire, a devoted brother and member of the Sons of Veterans, a ready talker for the Auxiliary, we say with you his memory shall live perpetually because of the service he rendered to his Camp, to the Division, and on all occasions to the Commandery-in-Chief.

May he sleep in peace. May his memory be revered, and the love he engendered with his brethren live on perpetually until we shall meet him in the great beyond and then be able to more emphatically communicate to him the results obtained from his labors.

National Chaplain Hawthorne: Charles H. Bissell, of Southington, Connecticut, Past Division Commander of Connecticut, died on April 6, 1925.

May Bassett: If none of the brothers of the Sons of Veterans of the Connecticut Division are here, I will speak for Brother Bissell. Brother Bissell was a steady worker whose action was not so swift as some of the others, but he was always there, and he was one of the most loyal workers that Connecticut ever had. I had pleasure working with him when he was Division Commander and I was Division President. His home life was strong and true and he was one of the greatest Christian workers in his community.

National Chaplain Hawthorne: Our National Chaplain of the Auxiliary will speak a few words in honor of the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic.

National Chaplain, Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, Mrs. Mamie M. Deems: I hardly feel that I can say anything good enough for the Grand Army of the Republic. Lest we forget; lest we forget! Let us all stand with bowed heads in honor of those soldiers of ours, those fathers of ours who saved our nation and preserved our flag. Let us stand and give thanks while our National Patriotic Instructor closes this beautiful service.

Past Division Commander W. R. Graves, of Wisconsin: Before you close I desire to call your attention to the fact that you have overlooked Past Division Commander Ned Withers, of Wisconsin.

National Chaplain Hawthorne: I beg your pardon. Will one of the members of the Wisconsin Division speak for Brother Withers.

Past Division Commander W. R. Graves, of Wisconsin: Brother Withers was Past Division Commander of Wisconsin. He was for many years a regular attendant upon our Division Encampments and attended several sessions of the Commandery-in-Chief. In 1917 he was elected Senior Vice Division Commander and re-elected the following year. In 1919 he was elected Division Commander of the Wisconsin Division and served with honor to himself for one year.

He passed from this life on February 25, 1925. Those of us who were associated with him in the work in our Division will ever remember him. I would ask you to think of him this

afternoon as a man earnest and conscientious in his work; a man with high ideals and purposes in all his life.

Brother McMurtrie, of Michigan: May I speak for one of our Past Division Commanders from Michigan who has been overlooked. I never come to a Memorial Exercise without I feel the responsibility connected with it. And it seems to be an added responsibility of the last year in particular. We go into eternity and are forgotten, but I am glad of the Memorial Exercises because we learn to know more of those whom we have loved and have recalled to our minds those of our faithful members who have rendered service, and I would not feel that this service this afternoon was complete unless some expression was given by way of eulogy to Carl M. Wagner, of Port Huron, Michigan. This brother was active during the Spanish-American War, actively engaged in organizing a company that went to the front, and came back and has been active in the Michigan Division, in spite of his other responsibility. He was an active jurist; American statesman as we call him here, a loving brother and a friend, and I am asking that the name of Carl M. Wagner may be recorded in our proceedings.

National Chaplain Hawthorne: Brother Holbrook just tells me that Past Division Commander C. H. Behnke of Missouri has passed away.

Past Division Commander William C. Schneider, of Missouri: We have lost a member who was one of the original charter members of the first Camp that was ever organized in the state of Missouri. Brother Behnke was a long and a very active member. As one of the past Division officers, I came in personal contact with him often. He was an ardent member and however he may have erred he is now resting, and may his soul rest in peace and all the past be forever forgotten.

National Chaplain Hawthorne: I am sorry we did not have a report of these other brothers to include in my report here. There may be others that I do not know of. If so, I would be glad if any of the brothers will make report concerning them.

There is a comrade here, Charles H. Stocking, who wishes to sing a solo for us.

(Whereupon Charles H. Stocking sang a solo, after which the audience joined in singing "Blest Be the Tie that Binds" and the meeting adjourned, at 6 p. m.)

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.
Vocational School Auditorium,
Grand Rapids, Michigan.

2 p. m., September 2, 1925.

The Encampment was opened in due and regular form, the Commander-in-Chief, William M. Coffin, presiding.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Brother Lowe of Ohio asked the privilege of the floor yesterday afternoon, but through a changed schedule did not secure it. Does he wish it now?

PRESENTATION OF THE GAVEL.

Delegate E. M. Lowe, of Ohio: On behalf of a comrade of the Grand Army of the Republic and a Son of a Veteran, and a prisoner of war for fourteen months in Andersonville Prison, J. K. P. Farrell, 51st Ohio Volunteer Infantry, member of Camp 110, Ohio Division, I desire to present to you this gavel made from one of the original pilings of that prison. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Brother Lowe, it is needless for me to tell you the sentiment which this holds for me. I thank you, and ask you to take to this good comrade my keenest appreciation. It will aid me to remember, if indeed I need any reminder, of the sacrifices of those boys who served in Andersonville Prison, and that fact that we should not lose sight of what they there suffered for us. Thank him for me.

We have here resolutions adopted by the Federated Patriotic Societies, and they are transmitted to this Encampment for its consideration and action.

Also a resolution concerning a patriotic song of thanksgiving which has already been mentioned in a talk before this Encampment.

Also a resolution concerning the past rank of Thomas A. Miley.

All of these are laid on the Secretary's desk for reference to proper committees, without objection.

National Secretary Hammer: I have a supplemental report of the Committee on Credentials. We have a total of 210 enrolled at this time.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: You have heard this report. Unless there is objection the 210 so reported are seated as delegates to this convention.

This piece of music which was sung for you yesterday is now referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

The delayed bonds of Kansas and Indiana are presented and approved.

On the Committee on Rituals and Ceremonies, the name of Division Commander Henry A. Goldsmith of Wisconsin will be substituted in the place of Past Division Commander Donaldson.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: The Committee on Resolutions would like the privilege of having resolutions presented to the committee without being presented necessarily to this Encampment. And the Committee on Resolutions begs to be excused in order that they may retire and confer upon these resolutions.

When you read the list of names I did not notice the name of Past Commander-in-Chief Stephens. This afternoon I am informed that he was appointed upon the Committee on Resolutions.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: That is correct. The Committee on Resolutions is Sherman, Stephens, Kaywood, Anderson and James.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: May I ask your consent for the committee to retire, and if there are any other resolutions, may we have them at this time?

Past Division Commander F. P. Corrick, of Nebraska: I have prepared a resolution on the matter of pensions which I have delivered to the committee.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: The Secretary will call the roll of the Divisions, and if any member has any resolution to present to the Resolutions Committee, he may do so at this time.

(The roll of Divisions was then called by Secretary Hammer without response).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: The roll has been called. Without objection the Committee on Resolutions will be excused.

We now come to unfinished business. Brother National Secretary, are there any standing committee reports which may be received at this time under the head of unfinished business?

National Secretary Hammer: Yes. The Committee on Memorial to the G. A. R., unfinished business of 1924 Encampment.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Is Past Commander-in-Chief Johnson in the room?

Past Commander-in-Chief Johnson: The Committee on Memorial to the Grand Army of the Republic calls up for action of this Encampment the report and recommendations made at the last Encampment, and I will ask the Secretary to read it.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: The chairman of this committee calls from the table the report submitted to the last Encampment and which may be found verbatim in the proceedings of that Encampment. Is it the desire of the Encampment that this be read, or do you wish to proceed to the consideration thereof without reading? (No response). The report will then be read.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON MEMORIAL TO THE
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

(The report was then read to the convention by the National Secretary, as follows:)

To the Forty-third Annual Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Boston, Mass.

Commander-in-Chief and Brothers:

The Special Committee on Memorial to the Grand Army of the Republic begs leave to report, as follows:

Pursuant to the action of the Forty-second Annual Encampment (Milwaukee, 1923) continuing this Committee for the purpose of getting all of the allied societies to join in an undertaking looking to the erection of a fitting Memorial to the Grand Army of the Republic, this Committee, as a preliminary to such work, entered upon a general inquiry among the membership of the several allied societies with the view of ascertaining the sentiment towards the erection of the proposed Memorial in order that it might determine the advisability of making a formal proposition to such societies. This inquiry extended over a period of more than three months, and developed the existence of a very favorable sentiment towards such an undertaking—sufficiently favorable to justify the Committee in taking the matter up formally with each of the allied societies.

Your Committee thereupon, in January last, submitted a formal proposition to each of the four allied societies through its National President—the Woman's Relief Corps, the Ladies of the G. A. R., the National Alliance Daughters of Veterans, and the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, as follows:

"That a National Memorial to the Grand Army of the Republic be erected by the joint efforts of its five allied societies; that each society enter the undertaking on an equal footing, and that each appoint (preferably five) representatives to a Joint Committee; that this Joint Committee shall determine the character of and select the general plan for the proposed Memorial; propose ways and means for raising the necessary funds for its completion and upkeep, and to report, with recommendations, to the respective National Presidents, and to the National Encampment of each of such societies at their 1924 meeting at Boston, for such action as each organization may see fit to take."

The responses to the Committee's letters, transmitting this proposition, were very encouraging, for they clearly indicated that the idea of the proposed undertaking appealed to the several National Presidents, and that they were willing to do all they could to effect the desired end.

Mrs. Bliss, the National President of the Woman's Relief Corps, and Mrs. Van Duzor, National President of the Ladies of the G. A. R., both expressed themselves as being, personally, heartily in favor of the proposed undertaking, but said they had no authority to officially adhere to the proposition, as such action would require the consent of their respective National Conventions. However, each stated that she would recommend the proposition to her Convention at Boston.

Mrs. Thayer, National President. National Alliance Daughters of Veterans, stated that she was in thorough accord with the undertaking, and that her society would join with the Sons of Veterans on the proposition, and appointed a committee as suggested in the proposal submitted to her.

Mrs. Finch, National President of the Auxiliary also expressed herself as being heartily in favor of the proposal, and stated that her society had made preparations at the Milwaukee Encampment to join in this matter with the Sons of Veterans, and that a committee had already been appointed for the purpose.

It was the intent of the Proposition that the five allied societies should jointly erect the proposed Memorial, and your Committee, therefore, was of the opinion that each of such societies should participate in selecting the character of and plans for such proposed Memorial. In asking each of the other allied societies for the appointment of representatives to a Joint Committee, it was the intention of your Committee to arrange for a joint meeting of such representatives, if appointed, for the purpose of discussing the proposition with the view of getting a fairly definite idea as to the general character of the proposed memorial, and the costs thereof, that would be satisfactory to each of the five societies, and also to discuss the matter of ways and means for providing for its erection. Three of the societies—the Daughters of Veterans, the Auxiliary, and the Sons of Veterans, were provided with representatives for such proposed joint meeting. But by reason of the inability of the other two societies—the Relief Corps, and the Ladies of the G. A. R., to officially appoint the suggested representatives, these two societies could not be present and participate in the discussions of the proposed meeting, and in the selection of the character of the proposed memorial, so it was thought best, in the circumstances, to defer the holding of such proposed meeting until such time as all five of the societies could be represented, and this was done. We had hoped to be able to hold a joint meeting before the Boston Encampment, as in that event we would have been in a position to have submitted some definite information as to character and costs of the proposed undertaking. However, if the recommendations to be submitted by the several National Presidents, to their respective National Conventions, are adopted, such proposed joint meeting may be held here in Boston, at the close of the Encampment, at which time a full attendance, probably, can be had, and therefore a more satisfactory meeting may be had and better results obtained.

The costs attending this undertaking would, of course, depend altogether upon the kind of memorial that may be selected by the five allied societies, as represented by its Joint Committee. The actions of this Joint Committee would have to be adopted, or approved, by the several societies before becoming effective, so that the societies themselves would control the costs, as well as the character of the proposed Memorial. It is impossible to estimate the cost of this undertaking until we know the kind of Memorial that the five societies will select. However, no matter what the costs would be (so long as they should be within the bounds of reason) they could be readily taken care of, as there would be five well organized societies

with an aggregate membership of more than 350,000 persons back of the undertaking—this should be a guarantee of success. We may feel well assured that the women's organizations will not permit the costs to be unreasonable.

We estimate that it will take from three to four years, and maybe longer, before we will be in position to commence the actual building of the memorial, for the kind of Memorial will have to be determined; this will take some time to accomplish; the proper plans and specifications will have to be drawn, and a sufficient amount of money will have to be in hand and available before we would be justified in beginning the actual work of construction.

The amount of the Fund to be raised for the erection of this proposed Memorial shall be determined by the five allied societies.

Each society will, of course, determine for itself the method to be employed in raising its quota of the Fund necessary for the undertaking, and what its quota shall be.

The Joint Committee of the five societies shall have full control of the erection of the proposed Memorial, and of all matters relating thereto, subject, of course, to the approval of the National Presidents, and the Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans.

The work of your Committee in endeavoring to get all of the allied societies to join in an undertaking to erect the proposed Memorial has, for the time being, been completed, and as the matter now stands, we have the promise of the National President of each of the women's societies, that they will recommend to their respective Conventions, the above Proposition submitted to them by your Committee. These recommendations, we hope, will be approved by the several conventions now in session in this city.

The chairman of this Committee availed himself of the privilege, accorded him by action of the Milwaukee Encampment, of selecting its membership, by designating, with the approval of the Commander-in-Chief, the following brothers:

Past Commanders-in-Chief Clifford Ireland, Harley V. Speelman, Frank Shellhouse, Harry D. Sisson, Ralph Sheldon, Wm. H. Russell, and Past Division Commanders Frank McCrillis, C. S. Scott, C. A. Bryson and Theo. C. Cazeau.

Upon the approval of this Committee by the Commander-in-Chief, each member thereof was duly notified, and at the same time was assigned a special duty to perform. The reports received, from such of the members, who have reported, have been most gratifying.

If it shall be determined by the allied societies to erect the proposed Memorial in Washington, D. C., where are located all of the great National Memorials, a suitable site therefor may be provided by the Government, without cost, provided that such Memorial shall be of character as to meet the approval of the National Fine Arts Commission.

For the purpose of efficiently handling this Memorial proposition, within the Order of the Sons of Veterans, this Encamp-

ment should establish a committee to be known as the National Committee of the Sons of Veterans on Memorial to the Grand Army of the Republic (or some other appropriate title), which committee should have full control, on behalf of the Sons of Veterans, of all matters relating to this proposed Memorial. This Committee should comprise a member from each Division of the Order, say the Division Commander, and seven additional members to be appointed, from at large, by the Commander-in-Chief; these seven members to constitute the Executive Board of the Committee, and be authorized to transact all business of the Committee between the meetings thereof. The Executive Board of this Committee should, also, be authorized, in conjunction with the representatives of the four allied women's societies, to form a Joint Committee for the purpose of taking care of the Memorial undertaking on behalf of the five allied societies. All determinations arrived at by this Joint Committee, before becoming effective, should be reported to and approved by the several National Presidents of the allied women's societies, and the Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans.

In addition to this National Committee, there should be provided a committee in each Division of the Order, to be known as the Division Committee on Memorial to the Grand Army. This committee should comprise a member from each Camp of the Division, and of which the Division Commander should be chairman, who would also be the Division representative on the National Committee. During the period of the undertaking of this Memorial project, it will be advisable for the National Committee, or the Executive Board thereof, to be in touch, not only with each Division, but also with each Camp of the Order. Such a committee, it is believed, would be the most satisfactory means for accomplishing this end, and would be of the greatest assistance to the National Committee in its work.

Your Committee has given the matter of raising the funds, that must be contributed by the Sons of Veterans as their quota to the general Memorial Fund, considerable thought, and having duly considered the many ways of raising money, have reached the conclusion that the best results may be obtained by requesting each Camp of the Order to voluntarily contribute as its quota to the Sons of Veterans' portion of the Memorial Fund, the sum of one (1) dollar per year, for each of its members. Such a quota could be readily and quickly raised by each Camp through contributions from its members, entertainments, or in such other ways as the Camp should see fit to adopt. However, it is believed that every member of the Order will be glad to voluntarily donate one dollar per year to help perpetuate the memory of his father, and of his father's comrades—the men who fought the great fight of 1861-1865, for the preservation of the Union.

Each Camp should pay the money it collects for the Memorial proposition into the Division Treasury, each quarter, and the Division Treasurers should forward the same to the National Secretary-Treasurer, who should hold such funds, so received, in a special account in some institution to be approved by the Commander-in-Chief and the Council-in-Chief, until such time as the Commandery-in-Chief shall determine.

Your Committee, in concluding its report, submits the following Recommendations for your favorable consideration:

RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. That a standing committee be established to be known as the Sons of Veterans' National Committee on Memorial to the Grand Army of the Republic.

2. That the membership of the Sons of Veterans' National Committee on Memorial to the Grand Army of the Republic, shall comprise one representative from each Division of the Order (the Division Commander), and in addition thereto seven members to be appointed, from at large, by the Commander-in-Chief, which seven members shall constitute the Executive Board of the Committee, and is hereby authorized to make rules for the government of the Committee. The chairman, and vice-chairman, of this Committee shall be designated by the Commander-in-Chief from among the seven members of the Executive Board. There shall be at least one meeting of this Committee each year, and the presence of twelve members shall constitute a quorum.

3. That there shall be established in each Division of the Order, a standing Committee to be known as the Division Committee on Memorial to the Grand Army, and the membership of this committee shall consist of one member from each Camp of the Division, to be elected by the Camp, or appointed by the Camp Commander. The Division Commander shall be chairman of this committee, and the representative of the committee on the National Committee. This committee shall be an adjunct to and shall perform such duties as shall be assigned to it by the National Committee, or the Executive Board thereof.

4. The Executive Board of the Sons of Veterans' National Committee on Memorial to the Grand Army of the Republic shall transact all business of the Committee between its meetings, and three members thereof shall constitute a quorum, of which the chairman, or vice-chairman, shall always be one. The chairman, and vice-chairman, of the Committee, shall be chairman, and vice-chairman, respectively, of the Executive Board.

5. The Executive Board shall have authority to join with such representatives as shall be appointed from the Woman's Relief Corps, the Ladies of the G. A. R., National Alliance Daughters of Veterans, and the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary to form a Joint Committee, which Joint Committee shall have control; on behalf of the five allied societies, of the erection of the proposed Memorial to the Grand Army of the Republic, and of all matters relating thereto, and shall report, from time to time, to the respective National Presidents of said allied societies, and to the Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, such recommendations as it shall see fit to make. No determination arrived at by such Joint Committee shall be effective until approved by the said Commander-in-Chief and the said National Presidents. The Joint Committee, when formed, shall make rules for its government. The National Presidents and the National Secretaries of the said allied societies, and the Commander-in-Chief and the National Secretary-Treasurer of the Sons of Veterans, shall be members ex officio of this Joint Committee.

6. For the purpose of raising a Fund for the erection of the proposed Memorial to the Grand Army of the Republic, each Camp of the Order shall be requested by the Commander-in-Chief, to furnish as its voluntary contribution the sum of one (1) dollar per year for each of its members, the same to be raised by the Camp and paid into the Division Treasury, and forwarded by the Division Treasurer to the National Secretary-Treasurer, for safe keeping.

Respectfully submitted,

HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,
C. S. SCOTT,
DR. RALPH SHELDON,
THEODORE C. CAZEAU,
F. T. F. JOHNSON,
H. D. SISSON.

Past Commander-in-Chief Johnson: The report is now before the house. The committee believes the report is complete, having been submitted last year, published in the proceedings and the committee presumes that every member of the Organization is familiar with it. The committee does not think it is necessary to make any argument for the proposition. The Commander has recommended it, and he has particular reasons for recommending it, and I therefore ask the Commander to state to the Encampment his reasons for doing so.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: This is somewhat unusual to have the chairman ask the Commander-in-Chief to take the floor.

I should be very glad to elaborate on the reasons mentioned by the committee chairman. I thought I had done so, however, in my report which all presumed to have heard yesterday; and if you have ear trouble maybe you have not eye trouble, and you now have that talk before you in printing.

This is a large question. It commits the Order to a large program, but if we never commit ourselves to a large program we will never do anything that is large. In fact we have committed ourselves. This body has committed itself at least twice; and it has not only so committed itself, but it has placed itself in a very embarrassing and unenviable position if it does not go ahead. Why?

Well, the Encampment adopted a resolution in favor of this project three years ago. A committee was appointed to look into the matter and reported favorably.

The report came up for consideration and was adopted, but recognizing that it was a matter of even larger moment than was at first thought, it was suggested that we should invite the co-operation of all the allied organizations of the Grand Army of the Republic, and that committee was therefore continued to effect such co-operation or combination. Thereafter, by this mandate of the Commandery, that committee communicated officially with the other allied organizations and asked their co-operation and they in turn passed resolutions favoring it; I might say all of them,—as I understand it, all with the possible exception of the W. R. C. and they did not turn it down.

It came up before the convention last year upon a full and

complete report prepared by an enlarged committee with full details of organization suggested.

Since then I have had some communication with the President of the W. R. C. and she seems to be very much interested in the matter and anxious to get behind it; [as was also the National President of the Daughters of Veterans] and she sent me a copy of the resolution which she was going to do all she could to have passed by this National Encampment of the Woman's Relief Corps.

These are the reasons for my assumption that we unquestionably have behind us the co-operation of the allied organizations.

We are in this position: We have asked the girls to act, to do something with us. They have said: "All right, we are for you, let's go." Now, apparently, from the action taken by the last Encampment we began to get weak kneed, and said let's wait until next year and see if something don't happen. Well, that next year is now here.

It is a big undertaking, true. The report suggests voluntary contributions of one dollar per year. I think that is unfortunate because it is manifest to the Chiefs of all the other organizations (and I know the girls will come across, they always do) that if we had just a voluntary contribution of one dollar only, not a dollar per year, from every member of these organizations, we would have a large enough fund to start with. The rest could be raised, and would be raised, in any one of a number of ways which the girls have utilized, and which the confederates used. We do not want to copy their method, but you know their bill of a million or two for Stone Mountain cost the Congress some money. But there are ways and means to do it. Is it worth while?

I don't know whether this time is propitious to discuss it, as some of our members are out on committees. The matter, however, is properly before the Encampment. I have endeavored briefly to comply with the request of the chairman of the committee. Apparently he thought that I should make his argument for him in behalf of the report. There is no motion before the house.

Past Commander-in-Chief Johnson: Commander, and brothers, it was not my purpose to have the Commander-in-Chief make an argument in behalf of this matter for the committee. The Commander-in-Chief informed me about a month or six weeks ago that he had some correspondence with the President of the Relief Corps, and I saw a copy of one letter that he had received. I didn't know what else he had received from her. I didn't know whether there were any promises in those letters he had received. I knew nothing about that. If he has made a recommendation, it will go before the Committee on Officers' Reports, and they will make a recommendation on it, and in view of that, I move that this matter be laid over until the time of the report on Officers' Reports.

(The motion was seconded).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: It has been moved and seconded that this be laid over and taken up in connection with the report on Officers' Reports. Any remarks? All in favor say aye;

contrary no. The motion is carried, and the report is laid on the table to a time certain.

Is there any other unfinished business on the desk of the National Secretary?

National Secretary Hammer: Nothing.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: The next order of business is report of committees which manifestly are not ready to report. And, without objection, the Chair will vary the order of business and call now for new business. Is there any new business to come before the Encampment?

National Secretary Hammer: Nothing here.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Are you ready, Brother Weiler, to proceed with your talk which was passed over to this meeting from the conference?

Brother Weiler is Division Commander of Massachusetts. Prior to this year he has been that Division's Secretary for a period of at least fifteen years. The Commander-in-Chief knows from personal contact the manner of office he has and has kept. At my request he came prepared to give a talk to Division Secretaries at our conference Monday. He has an elaborate set of forms, and a discourse on this matter has been especially prepared for Division Secretaries. It is his suggestion and my request that all Division Secretaries, if they be here, come forward at the appropriate time and receive from him a set of papers which he is glad to give you. If the Division Secretary is not here, let the Division Commander please take the set and see that it comes to the attention of his Division Secretary. The matters that he will present will not apply to every Division, but in them there is something that every Division can make use of. The Chair now recognizes Brother Weiler of Massachusetts.

(Division Commander Henry F. Weiler, of Massachusetts, then read to the Encampment the following paper:)

THE DIVISION SECRETARY.

At the request of the Commander-in-Chief (which request I willingly accept as a command) I shall try briefly to touch upon some of the factors in the administration of the office of Division Secretary, as my personal contact with the work has made it impress upon me.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

As success is usually the result of "perspiration rather than inspiration," so the success of a Division Secretary depends upon an infinite amount of attention to details, and hard work, rather than upon any brilliant stroke of genius. There is no system that will take the place of enthusiastic endeavor to make the very most of the many opportunities that the position offers.

A successful secretary in any line, is one who accepts the laborious end of the work, cheerfully keeps up with or ahead of it, and tries to smooth out the way for those constructively engaged in the various branches.

The prescription is: Plain hard work, intelligently performed, with a desire to place the welfare of the Order ahead of almost every other interest. While the measure of success

depends largely upon others, still in a greater measure, **THEIR** success depends, for its permanence, upon the Division Secretary.

Almost every Division now has a member who is Treasurer as well as Secretary, so it becomes even more essential that the officer in question be of the right type, for the welfare of the Division is so bound up in his personal qualifications. If he fails to measure up to the highest standards, then the officer becomes a liability, rather than an asset.

Possibly no Division in the Order has a present income adequately to compensate such an officer for his service as measured by ordinary business standards; so that when capable, interested service is rendered in such an office, there is sure to be found a great personal sacrifice given to the Order.

DUTIES.

The Regulations inform us that the duties of a Division Secretary are: To keep a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the Division Encampment—to keep and be the custodian of the files and membership records, and other records—to make out the quarterly reports—to report the election of delegates and alternates—and to perform other duties pertaining to the office.

Should he also act as Treasurer, he will also hold the funds of the Division—pay the bills—have charge of the property of the Division—keep account of the receipts and expenditures—and perform other duties not specified in detail.

All in all, this is a pretty big order to fill, and a member who accepts the duty should do so seriously, administer each requirement faithfully, and be possessed of exceptional all-around ability. Upon the good fortune of securing the right member for the office depends, more than any other one thing, the success of the Division.

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION.

Having served as Division Secretary of the Massachusetts Division for the past fifteen years by successive appointment, my observations are necessarily based largely upon methods in use, and sometimes developed there, and some of them may not be at all adaptable to other Divisions. Due allowance must be made for differences in conditions.

As organized in Massachusetts, the work of the Division Secretary incorporates all of that of the Division Treasurer, with the single exception that he cannot disburse any money. All payments are made by the Division Treasurer from a voucher approved by the Division Secretary,—and even then, the Division Commander must countersign the checks after he has examined the account as it is included in the voucher. By this system, the Division Secretary has charge of all receipts (including the banking of the money), and the Division Treasurer and Division Commander, acting jointly, control all of the expenditures.

Many forms have developed to facilitate the handling of the business of the Division. Some of them are included with this paper, and any or all of them will willingly be supplied to any interested officers, upon request. If there is a usable idea among them, it is available to any Division that wishes to copy it.

EQUIPMENT.

In addition to the ordinary office equipment, and in order properly to carry out the duties assigned to the Division Secretary, the following would seem to be necessary:

- 1st—A file for correspondence.
- 2nd—A file for descriptive record of members.
- 3rd—A mailing list of all members.
- 4th—A file for quarterly reports from Camps.
- 5th—A credential book for Division Encampment membership.
- 6th—A descriptive record book of Camps.
- 7th—A file for copies of Camp By-Laws.
- 8th—A book for consolidating Camp Treasurer's reports.

CORRESPONDENCE FILE.

A necessary adjunct to the prompt handling of office correspondence, is a file for letters that have been attended to. Probably no better system has been devised than that of typewriting a reply with a carbon-paper duplicate, attaching the duplicate copy to the original letter, and filing them together. When it is known to what Camp the writer belongs, the correspondence can best be filed according to the number of his Camp. Each Camp should, of course, have a space in the file, arranged in numerical order. This arrangement will take care of the great majority of the letters, and for such instances as cannot be filed according to any Camp number, additional spaces can be marked for such classification as "G. A. R.," "S. V. Auxiliary," "Commandery-in-Chief," "Other Divisions," "Miscellaneous," etc.

It should be unnecessary to add that it is more important that correspondence should be answered promptly, than almost any other phase of the work. The manner of handling correspondence seems to me to come pretty near serving as an index to the interest of the officer.

I have always found it very useful to place in the upper drawer of my desk, letters that have been attended to so far as is possible, but are still not ready for filing on account of the subject still being open. This is "unfinished business" and is looked over daily until the matter is closed.

MEMBERSHIP FILE.

Experience has shown that a card-system is the most flexible one to handle, and with our Order and its constantly changing membership, something of this kind is much better than a book system. We have tried several book systems in the past, but have discarded them in favor of the card-system.

I have found it best to conduct three files for the membership record cards: One for the members in good standing; one for the members after they have lost their membership for any reason (except disbandment); and one for all of the members that ever were members of a Camp that has been disbanded. Each of these files is arranged in numerical order of Camps, and alphabetical order of members.

For fifteen years we have used this card-system, and find that it only requires a comparatively small amount of attention to correct these membership records from the quarterly reports received from the Camps. The cards used are similar to the

ones originated by the Commandery-in-Chief a number of years ago.

MAILING LISTS.

An accurate mailing list of the members of the Division is an item of great importance, and is worthy of considerable attention. In the first place, it is valuable for a reference list in communicating with members; and then again, it is worth all the effort that it costs, to ensure the receipt of the official paper regularly by the entire membership. How sad it is to lose any such opportunity of reaching our membership with the important messages that appear in our monthly paper that is sent free to those on the mailing list. When we occasionally hear it stated that only a part of some Camp or Division receives the official paper, it looks very much as though the Division Secretary was slighting one very important item of his duties.

My experience has convinced me that any blame for non-receipt of The Banner is rarely upon the publishers, much oftener upon the Division Secretary, and very frequently upon the Camp Secretary, or the member himself.

Complaints of non-receipt of the official paper are rare in the Massachusetts Division. For many years we have maintained a loose-leaf book, containing the complete mailing list of members of every Camp—each quarter making the necessary corrections to agree with the gains and losses in membership as they are reported on the Camp Secretary's quarterly reports.

An exact duplicate of this book has been supplied to the publishers. All mailing lists are originally made with carbon-paper duplicates, so that the publishers and the Division Secretary have identical lists. Corrections made in one must, of course, be reported to the other.

The names on the cards in the membership file, and the names on the mailing list are always identical, and these, in turn, are in agreement at all times with the membership figures on the quarterly reports from the Camps.

QUARTERLY REPORT FILE.

After the reports from the Camp Secretaries have been received, and the corrections made on the membership cards and on the mailing list, the report is filed as a part of the records. The same applies to the reports from the Camp Treasurers. These can be filed in a so-called "document-file" very handily. It will be found that not much room will be needed, but when they are needed for reference occasionally, their importance and accessibility will be fully appreciated. We can locate any report received for the past twenty years, almost instantly.

CREDENTIAL BOOK FOR DIVISION ENCAMPMENT.

A loose-leaf book, with one page allowed for each Camp, will be found very convenient in listing the membership of the Division Encampment. In a Division the size of Massachusetts, where over 2300 members are entitled to seats in the Division Encampment, it is very necessary to keep a careful record of the membership, and especially so of the Past Camp Commanders that constitute the majority of the membership. Each one is listed, together with the year or years he served, and this list is carried forward each year, with suitable corrections. In

this way the Division has a reliable Encampment membership roll, without having to rely upon the reports from the Camps, that are too often faulty—and particularly unreliable in the matter of Past Camp Commanders in good standing.

Special report blanks for reporting the election of Delegates and Alternates to the Division Encampment are sent to all Camps well in advance of the meeting of the Division Encampment, so that the Credential book can be completed by adding these names before the convening of the Encampment. Special credential cards are supplied to the Camp Commander by the Division, as no suitable form is supplied for this purpose by the National organization.

We use the "Australian System" of balloting, so the Credential book becomes valuable as a check-list during the election.

DESCRIPTIVE RECORD BOOK OF CAMPS.

Another important part of the Division records should be a book containing the vital data regarding the Camps. When a Camp is organized, record should be made on this book of the date of organization, number of charter members, name, number, location, name of organizer and any other important information regarding it. In case of disbandment, dates and facts concerning this condition should also be recorded.

In this connection, too, could be a list of the Commanders of the Camp and other officers, and thus become of historical value as well as to serve for a check-list of Past Camp Commanders, Secretaries, Treasurers, etc.

CAMP BY-LAWS.

All Camp By-Laws require the approval of the Division Commander, so a copy of the By-Laws in their approved form should be kept on file for reference, as a help in the rendering of decisions, and an aid in understanding the operation of the various Camps. Sometimes a Camp loses its copy of the By-Laws and applies to the Division Secretary for a duplicate. No Camp By-Laws, or amendments, are approved in the Massachusetts Division, until a duplicate is added to the file of Camp By-Laws at the Division Headquarters.

CONSOLIDATED REPORTS OF CAMP TREASURERS.

A special form for making up the consolidated reports of the Camp Treasurers each quarter, and following the form of the Camp Treasurer's report blank, has been found very convenient and useful, and provides the total figures for the Division to report to the Commandery-in-Chief, and a record of the quarterly transactions of each Camp, in convenient form.

DAY BOOK, OR CASH ACCOUNT.

In order promptly to record all receipts in whatever form received, and for any purpose, a loose-leaf cash account can be used to good advantage. Notes regarding these items can be made as an aid to classifying when entering them for permanent record on the Cash book.

CASH BOOK.

The purpose of a Cash book should be self-evident, but in addition to recording the receipts and disbursements, it can be

made to keep a record of requisition numbers, voucher and check numbers, and totals for the quarterly reports.

QUARTERLY REPORTS.

The question of securing prompt reports from the Camps is one which taxes the ingenuity of the best officers. We have been quite successful in securing reports, by sending a post-card reminder to the Camp Commander a few days after the close of the quarter, if his reports are not then in hand, and after following it with a second notice a few days later, we start writing notices to the Camp Secretary and Camp Treasurer direct. This locates the tardy officer, if nothing else, and the Commander surely cannot consistently complain at this procedure, if he is not able to handle the matter himself after a reasonable time.

Incomplete reports, or unbalanced reports, are the very worst factors of all, and it is only by constant "hammering" that careless or incompetent methods can be reduced or corrected. It is doubtful if anything but a helpful line of letter writing, and an occasional returned report will reduce this evil.

When reports fail to agree with the remittance for per capita tax, or requisitions for supplies are not accompanied by the correct amount, as often happens, we invariably send a charge bill for the amount still due, or a credit bill for the amount overpaid,—accompanying them with a few words of explanation. We use a carbon-paper duplicate for keeping a record until the matter is properly balanced.

ELECTION RETURNS.

In order to supply the Division Headquarters with early information regarding the new officers elected, and the plans for their installation, we issue a special form of "Election Return"—sending the blanks to all Camps before the first day of December. This is usually returned immediately after the Camp election, showing a list of the officers-elect, a list of the Past Camp Commanders for comparison with the Division Credential book, the Camp's choice for installing officer, and the time and place arranged for the installation.

From this information, we can make up our Division Roster earlier in the year, and can keep in closer touch with the new officers, and the installation arrangements.

VOUCHERS.

A detailed record of the expenditures, supplementing the cash book entries, is supplied by the voucher system. The outside of the voucher blank contains spaces for classification of accounts, to agree with the cash book columns. The inside is arranged to be used as a bill, if no other bill is supplied, and can be used for any amount of descriptive details.

When completed, the voucher contains the approval of the account by the Division Secretary, the classification of the account, the itemized bill, and the cancelled check returned through the bank. It is now ready for examination by the Division Council, and then for filing. As all payments are made by check, the number of the voucher and the number of the check will be identical.

PUBLICITY.

We have found the newspapers willing to publish news items, and especially so if the events are to occur in the future. It has been our habit to send items for the coming week, to a number of Boston newspapers, and in turn, these items are copied by the newspapers in the smaller cities and towns if of any interest to them. It is much harder to find items with a news value, than it is to get them published. The Division Secretary, being in close touch with all activities, can attend to this part of the work more easily than any other member, and by proper planning, need give it only a few minutes of time each week.

DISBANDED CAMPS.

Upon the disbandment of a Camp, every member should receive promptly, the Division transfer to which he is entitled. We always supplement this with a letter, suggesting the name and address of the Commander of the nearest Camp to his home address, and suggesting that the member deposit it there and thus continue his membership in the Order. Members of disbanded Camps can many times be "salvaged" in this way, and retained in the Order until a new Camp is organized.

COMPARATIVE MEMBERSHIP RECORDS.

A special card shows at a glance the membership gains, losses, and totals over a long period of years. A study of the figures will show any officer at once, the membership tendency, and thus enables him to judge of the stability of each Camp.

ADDRESSING MACHINE AND DICTAPHONE.

The addressing machine has been one of the greatest reliefs from the monotonous work of the office. We find frequent occasion to send quantities of mail matter to Camps or groups of members, and it is then that the addressing machine comes into play and proves itself almost as indispensable as a typewriter. It also entirely eliminates errors in mailing, and makes a pleasure of addressing envelopes or post-cards, when formerly it was a serious and dreaded task.

At times, when correspondence is heavy, and time is inadequate, the dictaphone is called into use to take the dictation of letters that are later transcribed by a clerk or stenographer.

CONCLUSION.

The foregoing articles, I feel, have only lightly touched upon many things that would be extremely tedious to listen to at any length, but I would be glad to go more deeply into any phase of the work that has any particular interest to any officer, or supply extra copies of any of the forms referred to.

Then, when all is said and done, we can summarize with the observation that the Division Secretary has it within his power to be a great factor for good or evil in his Division; and upon him as a loyal member of the Sons of Veterans, more than upon anything else, depends his Division Commander, Staff Officers, and Camps.

Division Commander Godcharles, of Pennsylvania: I move you that a vote of thanks be given Brother Weiler for his pre-

sentation of these forms, and his services rendered in that respect, past, present and prospective.

Past Division Commander Upham, of Massachusetts: I second the motion.

Commander-in-Chief: It has been moved and seconded that a vote of thanks be extended to Brother Weiler for his presentation of this paper; and the chair will call for a rising vote. The motion is carried unanimously.

Brother Weiler, the Commandery thus expresses its great appreciation of this splendid paper you have presented and of your intelligent and untiring effort in behalf of the Order.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: The surprise which I told you we had in store for you yesterday is in readiness, but we are waiting just a little bit because I knew the National President and sisters of our Auxiliary wanted to be here, and I want to get word to them.

A committee with greetings from the Woman's Relief Corps has been announced, and we will be very glad to receive their greetings at this time while we are waiting for our Auxiliary. I will name Past Commanders-in-Chief Sheldon and Church, and Brother Julius Isaacs as a committee to escort the Woman's Relief Corps Greeting's Committee to the session.

GREETINGS FROM THE WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sheldon: Commander-in-Chief, I have the honor to present to you the committee from the Woman's Relief Corps composed of Ida Heacock Baker of Kansas, Chairman, Bertha Walker of Massachusetts and Elizabeth H. Mason of New Hampshire.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: I am sure that the Encampment considers it a very great privilege to listen at this time to greetings from the Woman's Relief Corps. I present Mrs. Baker, Past National Inspector of the Woman's Relief Corps.

Ida Heacock Baker, of Kansas: Commander Coffin, and brothers, it affords me great pleasure to be with you today. The man who said that to be an American is a greater honor than to have been a Roman when Rome was at its zenith of power uttered a truth which is but the fulfillment of the vision of our forefathers who laid the foundation of this great Commonwealth.

In 1620 our pilgrim fathers braved the storms and privations of life and landed on the rock bound coast of New England, because they believed in freedom to worship God according to the dictates of their own conscience. If they could but behold our landscape today, they would view the results of the ideals of which they dreamed. If they could see our glorious banner, brilliant with its red and white stripes, luminous with its silver stars in a field of blue and could believe or realize that they have had a part in its making, surely they would be satisfied. And yet, through all these years we have been making that flag, and each year adds new lustre to its hue.

Our soldier heroes of all wars have fought for principle and the protection of government. They believed in the future and the policies of this nation founded on liberty as voiced by the constitution.

When in '61 the call to arms was sounded and the ready response came back, "We are Coming Father Abraham, Three Hundred Thousand Strong," your father, your grandfathers and my father answered that call, and many of them were under eighteen years of age; some as young as ten. So, we called them the boys in blue.

For four long years they followed their flag, Commander-in-Chief, and proved to the world that a government conceived in liberty, dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal, can long endure, and that this country, this nation, this government of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish from the earth. (Applause).

Those men brought back that flag without the loss of a single star. They kept "united" in the United States. They believed in one hundred per cent Americanism, in America for Americans, and they believed in making America safe for Americans.

Now that is the legacy handed down to us, to you and to me, and the Woman's Relief Corps, the Auxiliary of the grand body of men, the Grand Army of the Republic, the greatest organization that was ever formed or ever can be formed. (Applause). The Woman's Relief Corps is memorializing the Grand Army of the Republic and will continue to do so.

Our work will never be ended. We are just beginning. And the Sons of Veterans are working with us. We have a wonderful legacy and we will not fail.

Now, Commander-in-Chief, our National President Mrs. Grace B. Willard, whom we love, and I am sure you do, sent her love and greetings to this Encampment from the mother organization, and wished me to present to you, Commander-in-Chief Coffin, this complimentary badge, which has the picture of Mrs. Willard on it, and I am sure you will graciously receive it.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: And treasure it long in remembrance of this occasion. (Applause).

We would be glad to hear a word from the other members of the committee.

Elizabeth H. Mason, of New Hampshire: We know that you are pressed for time, and we know that you are busy. However I will say that it gives me a great deal of pleasure to be here. I am glad to see our New Hampshire men. We know they are here. (Applause).

Bertha Walker, of Massachusetts: Commander-in-Chief and Brothers of this Convention: I feel that our chairman has said everything that could be said that was good, but I do want to say however, that I am very glad to come here from the mother department. Of course, we are the mother organization, but Massachusetts is the first Department that was formed of the organization of the Woman's Relief Corps, and it is with great pleasure and honor I bring to you my own greetings and the greetings of the Department of Massachusetts, the Woman's Relief Corps, and as a mother organization, we have always tried and been willing to give you sons and daughters and all allied organizations our advice, help and encouragement in all of your efforts; and I assure you that the Woman's Relief Corps will

always be at your service, and if ever you find any rough places in the road, come to the Woman's Relief Corps and we will do our best to make it level for you. I thank you. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Will Past Commander-in-Chief Sheldon make response on behalf of this Encampment to the excellent greetings which we have just received.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sheldon: Being only a country physician, and as you know physicians are very diffident, and being surrounded by the grace, beauty and loveliness as present here at this time, I feel a good deal as Pat did at the first battle of Bull Run. He was seen running down the field as rapidly as his legs could carry him. He was followed by an officer, and when asked if he was afraid he said "No, but by jabbers, I am simply demoralized." That is my condition at this time. The name "mother" is the grandest and most beautiful word in the English language—(applause) and to have with us today our mother, the mother organization, certainly freshens the heart of every man present.

What would we have done without mother? Mother who wiped the tears away from our eyes in childhood. She was the master surgeon, and with her apron wiped the tears and cleaned the sores and healed all our wounds again. It was woman, it was mother who has lifted the dormant soul of man. There has never been a movement good and great but what has had the touch and the heart of a woman. Every man is proud to belong to an organization whose Auxiliary is composed of women, for no human born was ever harmed by the association of a good woman. (Applause).

We love our mothers and to you ladies, take it back to your organization that we love you. We love the Woman's Relief Corps. They have been a blessing to us in the days gone by. They will be a blessing to us in the future, and when the old father is gone, the sun has set, still we know that we will have the support, the heart and the hand of the Woman's Relief Corps.

God bless you for your past; God bless you; and we hope that you will be with us in the future, and we know you will. We appreciate your coming and hope you will come and meet with us for years to come. We thank you for coming. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: And now sisters, in token of the love and esteem which I feel personally, as well as officially, for your beloved National President, I ask you to help me reciprocate by presenting her with this badge, the only one we have, which makes her a delegate to our convention, and may I also present to each of you, as the official greetings committee, one of these badges also.

Ida Heacock Baker, of Kansas: We thank you.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Before you leave might I say that we will be very glad to have you stay with us. We anticipate a very interesting and instructive talk very shortly.

Ida Heacock Baker, of Kansas: I thank you, but we are very busy and our National President instructed us not to stay long.

(Whereupon the greetings committee was escorted from the room by the committee).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: We just have word that there is in waiting a greetings committee from the American Legion Auxiliary. Are there any veterans of the World War present? Will they please stand up. I will appoint Brothers Godcharles, Wadsworth and Chester to act as a committee to escort the greetings committee to the room.

The Chair also understands that we have with us the Indiana Sons of Veterans Bugle Corps, and I ask them also into the room.

GREETINGS FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY.

Division Commander Godcharles, of Pennsylvania: Commander-in-Chief, I present to you Alma S. Viergever, Past President of the Local Auxiliary of the American Legion, and Mrs. Mary A. Price, Past President of the Local Auxiliary of the American Legion.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: We assure you ladies, bearing greetings from the American Legion, that we feel highly honored by your presence.

Alma S. Viergever: It gives me great pleasure to bring you greetings of our patriotic organization. You know we are the youngest one of all, because we are here to represent the World War veterans, and we expect our sons to carry on just as you are carrying on for our fathers. I am a daughter of a veteran and I am proud of the fact that I have been able to do some work along these lines.

Now, Commander-in-Chief, in the name of the Auxiliary, I present to you this small token with the assurance that the Auxiliary stands back of you in all of the work you carry on from time to time as our dads pass on. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: I am sure that we need no testimonial of this sort to make us aware of the fact that you will work shoulder to shoulder with us, as all patriotic organizations have the same fundamental principles back of them. However, we are most happy to receive from you this visible token of your affection, and be assured that we appreciate it. Take back to your organization our very sincere gratitude for their thoughtfulness in sending you to us with this message of greeting. I thank you.

I am sure the Encampment will be glad to hear from Mrs. Price.

Mrs. Mary A. Price: I am very glad, I am sure, to be with you. I am sure your work is like ours and I am sure it is very strenuous at times and you are trying to push the good work along the same as we are. (Applause).

Division Commander Huston, of Indiana: This drum corps is from Richmond, Indiana, and every one of them is a Son of a Veteran; and you will also find back there some mighty fine girls, and they are all members of the Auxiliary.

(Whereupon the drum corps played several selections).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: The committee who brought us greetings from the American Legion Auxiliary tells us they

must leave, but before they do I would like to have Brother Godcharles respond.

Division Commander Godcharles, of Pennsylvania: The visible token that Sister Viergever gave reminded me very much of a very dear old lady who was presented with a crate of peaches, and she said it was not the peaches of which she was so fond, but the spirit in which they were presented. But in that same attitude the dear old lady had, I assure you that the words, although they will be few, will be none the less in the proper spirit.

This baby organization, in which I too am interested, will carry on in this country I doubt not just as efficiently and patriotically as have organizations which have so long been allied with the great organization, the Grand Army of the Republic, with which we are so closely attached.

And I assure you, Sister Viergever and Sister Price, in coming to our convention this afternoon and extending to us greetings, you will take away with you a spirit of friendship and cordiality that I know every member of the Sons of Veterans has for your organization, and I trust that the work in which you are interested will be successful in every undertaking. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Before I can in truth call you sisters, I would like to have you know that the committee who escorted you into this hall, and the presiding officer who now addresses you, are all veterans of the late war. But they are none the less Sons of Veterans indeed, because of that fact. They are stronger Sons of Veterans, because they realize that were it not for the boys of '61 who preserved the principle of constitutional unity, there would have been nothing for the boys of 1917 and 1918 to defend. (Applause). And therefore, we are proud to be Sons of Veterans; we are glad that we had something to fight for and we are all the more keenly alive to the reality of the hardships endured by our fathers in the sixties.

Take this message back to your organization and tell them how we appreciate the greetings sent to us. And as a symbol of our feeling we present each of you with a badge which makes you a delegate in our convention.

(Thereupon the greetings committee from the American Legion Auxiliary was escorted from the room).

For many years past, as we have looked in retrospect on the proceedings of the Encampments, I feel many of us have realized a great amount of time was spent on inconsequentials. It has been my earnest desire as presiding officer to spend as little time as possible on non-essentials, and as much time as possible on essentials. I have therefore provided what I conceive to be worth while talks spread out through our convention.

Whatever is good in life we as good sons and brothers like to share with our sisters. I am just advised that the Auxiliary is on its way over here to join us in this treat.

(At this time the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary entered the room in a body and were escorted to seats).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Sisters, we are very glad to have you here with us in this rather informal joint session. I

told Sister Rokes a little secret I had yesterday, and she manifested great interest in it, and said she would like to have all the girls hear this talk that we are about to have, and so I told her I would be glad to have her bring them over.

This is rather an innovation in the proceedings of our Encampments. In many public statements I have tried to emphasize the fact that the one thing after all that our fathers vouchsafed to us,—that one thing which is our real heritage,—is nothing other than the continuation of our constitutional union. There is a revival of interest in the constitution of the United States. Certainly those orders and societies which call themselves patriotic should be in the vanguard of this revival.

It is with a very great deal of pleasure that I am about to present to you a man who has made a life study of the constitution of the United States, has written several books about it and whose work was referred to in articles in *The Banner* recently. He is president of the Constitution Anniversary Association; and in times past, has been an assistant United States Attorney in Chicago and known personally to some of you.

I deem it a great honor, therefore, to present to you Honorable Harry F. Atwood, of Chicago, who has become a knight errant in behalf of the constitution, and due to whose labor, more than to anyone else probably, we have what is known as the Constitutional Anniversary Association. (Applause).

ADDRESS BY HARRY F. ATWOOD ON "THE CONSTITUTION."

I am sure it is a great privilege to be here. I have enjoyed the proceedings since I came into the room very much. I have had the privilege of speaking to the Sons of the American Revolution. I spoke in April at the National Congress of the Daughters of the American Revolution. I have met with the Grand Army of the Republic at many meetings on Memorial and other days, and I regret that those meetings will soon just be a sacred memory.

Being a veteran of the Spanish-American War I have met with many of those organizations, and with organizations of The American Legion, but I have never had the privilege of speaking to the Sons of Veterans or Auxiliary, and I regard it a privilege to be here.

It is a temptation to be reminiscent on occasions like this, but I have been devoting the last seven years of my life entirely to writing and speaking on the Constitution, so I am going to dispense with preliminary matters and try and say something, if I can, that will at least get you to thinking about the Constitution of the United States. I get a little discouraged sometimes when I think of the fact that in this generation we boast of our great heritage and still the average age of criminals has been reduced from thirty-two years to twenty-four years in the last fifteen years. We have been putting about 15,000 laws on an average on the statute books for the last twenty years, and I like to meet with a gathering like this where I feel there are sentinels on guard at least.

Thoughtful men and women in all walks of life are coming to regard more and more seriously the industrial and govern-

mental problems that confront not only this country but the countries of the entire world.

If you are trying to get a clear concept of the cause of most of the chaotic conditions in this country and the only possible remedy, or the cause of the chaotic conditions in any other country, and the best possible remedy, there is nothing, in my judgment, that you could do with so great profit as to study carefully the discussions that occurred during that period of American history while they were evolving the Constitution of the United States and interpreting it, and laying the foundations for this Republic.

They were the greatest governmental discussions that have ever been held on this earth, and they were the greatest discussions that were ever held at any time on any subject, save only that period when Christ taught on earth.

A careful reading of thirty years of American history—say fifteen years before the Constitution was written and fifteen years afterwards—will throw more light on an understanding of the present day governmental problems here or the problems of government in any other country than a reading of the entire history of the world, leaving out what is termed the critical period of American history.

That was the one time in all the history of the world when a group of men, through a very careful analysis of all that history and experience could teach, worked out a definite plan that abruptly brought order out of chaos.

It is difficult to realize how little average Americans, even university graduates, know of the history of their country or the plan of government that was established here under the Constitution of the United States.

If you were to read through that period of history, you would find that the splendid people who came over to these shores with their religious ideals and their aspirations for better things were a good deal such a mob in many ways politically as Russia is today. They tried fruitless experiment after fruitless experiment, many of which this generation has been fooling with, thinking they were something new.

After years of fruitless experiment and continuous failure, they finally reached a condition right here in America under which, during the two years before the Constitution was written, the mob drove our Congress from Philadelphia into New Jersey, Shay's Rebellion assaulted the court house in the State of Massachusetts, and that condition was illustrative of the general situation. Money was worth two and a half cents on the dollar and we had no credit anywhere. Trade was paralyzed and discipline at a low ebb.

George Washington, who was getting to be an old man, and had given many years of his life to his country, said to a friend of his in 1786, the year before the Constitution was written:

"Unless something is done, I can see nothing ahead but the black night of anarchy."

In that dark night of chaos and despair, fifty-five men met at Philadelphia and wrote the Constitution. Almost immediately, for the first time in the history of the world governmen-

tally, light began to come out of darkness, order began to come out of chaos.

In ten years we had credit around the world and thoughtful men and women everywhere were asking the question, "What was it that those men did which wrought that mighty change?" And there followed one hundred years of progress so great that there is nothing in the history of the world with which to make even an interesting comparison.

Now that is a pretty strong statement, gentlemen, but it happens to be true. That was the only time in the history of the world concerning which a similar statement could truthfully be made; and if I should not accomplish anything today except to persuade you of that fact, this meeting would be worth while, because the American people are an ingenious people and when they are convinced that it is advisable to know about a certain thing, they have the ingenuity to set about getting the knowledge and doing what is the thing to do. You know this has been an age of strong statements. We have had a lot of demagogues going around making extreme statements. We have gotten sort of surfeited and we do not pay much attention to what we see or read, because we regard much of it as unreliable. So just for a moment I am going to put George Washington on the witness stand. I am not going to read very much, but I am going to read from several letters that he wrote during less than two years before the Constitution was written, describing the conditions of this country. You could not describe conditions any better in Russia than to take Washington's letters describing this country during a period of less than two years before the Constitution was adopted.

In the universities and schools where I have spoken I have frequently offered a prize of a thousand dollars if anyone would find one other time in the history of the world concerning which two sets of letters such as I am going to read, from Washington, could be truthfully written showing such a great change in condition within a period of six years.

I happen to be connected with the Constitution Anniversary Association, the purpose of which is to try to make clear to this generation, not only in this country but in other countries, the fact that September 17, 1787, was the greatest event in American history, and ranks second only to the birth of Christ, that there would have been no observation of the Fourth of July, or Washington's Birthday, or Lincoln's Birthday, or Memorial Day, or Thanksgiving Day, had it not been for September 17th, the day the Constitution was signed.

Now, in order to drive home the importance of that, in the first bulletin I quote letters written by Washington, during the period of less than two years before the Constitution was written on this page. Over here I took letters written by Washington during the period of less than three years and a half after it was written. He was just simply looking on, describing conditions as he saw them. He did not know we would be meeting here today, 138 or 139 years from the time he wrote these letters, using them as evidence.

Now bear in mind that the Constitution was signed September 17, 1787. On October 7, 1785—that is less than two years before it was signed, Washington wrote to James Warren:

"The Confederation appears to me to be little more than a shadow without the substance, and we are descending into the vale of confusion and darkness."

On July 26, 1786, he wrote to William Grayson:

"Be the causes what they may, it is shameful and disgusting.

"Our character as a nation is dwindling; and what it must come to, if a change should not soon take place, our enemies have foretold; for in truth we seem either not capable or not willing to take care of ourselves."

On August 1, 1786, he wrote to John Jay, the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, as follows:

"Your sentiments, that our affairs are drawing rapidly to a crisis accord with my own. What, then, is to be done?"

"Would to God, that wise measures may be taken in time to avert the consequences we have but too much reason to apprehend."

On November 5, 1786, he wrote to James Madison:

"No day was ever more clouded than the present. We are fast verging to anarchy and confusion. How melancholy is the reflection. What stronger evidence can be given of the want of energy in our government than these disorders? A liberal and energetic constitution well-guarded and closely watched to prevent encroachments, might restore us."

On December 26, 1786, he wrote to David Humphreys:

"This thing is so unaccountable, that I hardly know how to realize it or to persuade myself that I am not under the illusion of a dream."

On December 26, 1786, he wrote to Henry Knox:

"I feel, my dear General Knox, infinitely more than I can express to you, for the disorders, which have arisen in these states. Good God! who could have foreseen, or predicted them?"

On February 3, 1787, he again wrote to Henry Knox:

"If any person had told me that there would have been such formidable rebellion as exists, I would have thought him a bed-lamite, a fit subject for a madhouse."

On March 10, 1787, he again wrote to John Jay:

"I would fain try what the wisdom of the proposed convention will suggest; and what can be effected by their counsels."

Shortly after that letter they met in Philadelphia to draw up the Constitution. They worked for about four months. On September 17, 1787, they signed the Constitution. It took nearly a year before it was adopted by the states. Then it took nearly a year to set up the government, but within three years they had adopted it, set up the government and gotten started, and conditions had so changed that Washington wrote to Lafayette on June 3, 1790:

"You have doubtless been informed, from time to time, of the happy progress of our affairs. The principal difficulties seem in a great measure to have been surmounted. A good temper prevails among our citizens. Our government is now happily carried into operation. A funding system is one of the subjects which occasions most anxiety and perplexity. Yet our

revenues have been considerably more productive than it was imagined they would be. I mention this to show the spirit of enterprise that prevails."

On July 19, 1791, he wrote to Catherine Macauley Graham:

"I am but just returned from a tour of near 2,000 miles to perform which took me more than three months. I shall only further add what I know must give you great pleasure, that the United States enjoys a scene of prosperity and tranquility under the new government, that could hardly have been hoped for."

On July 20, 1791, he wrote to David Humphreys again:

"Tranquility reigns among the people, with that disposition towards the general government which is likely to preserve it.

"Each day's experience of the government of the United States seems to confirm its establishment.

"Our public credit stands on that high ground which three years ago it would have been considered as a species of madness to have foretold."

There are many reasons why this generation should be trying to understand the Constitution of the United States. One very good reason is that comparatively little is known by the average citizen about the Constitution. Another reason is that we require public officials before entering public office to take an oath to uphold it, and unfortunately there is little understanding on the part of the average official as to the meaning and importance of that oath.

The Constitution was the greatest human achievement since Creation and marked the greatest event in the history of the world, save only the birth of Christ.

Now in the brief time that I have to discuss a big subject, I want, if I can, to make clear three conclusions that were reached as a result of the discussions of that period, which this generation is ignoring almost in toto. The first one has a good deal to do with the other two, and it is the one on which this generation of Americans is greatly confused and the people of other countries are also confused.

The Constitution of the United States provided for a strictly representative government. That phrase of two words means little, unfortunately, to this generation. But in the minds of the men who wrote the Constitution, on an understanding of the meaning and importance of those two words hung much of the difference between orderly progress and hopeless chaos.

There has been much talk during recent years about democracy and whatever the people of this generation finally decide to do on that question, they ought to do knowing that the men who wrote the Constitution and founded this Republic were fearful of democracy and said so in language as strong as they were capable of using.

In order that there may be no misunderstanding about their attitude, I shall quote some things that they said.

After the Constitution was written, the three men who were regarded as best qualified to interpret the Constitution and provide reasons for its adoption were: Alexander Hamilton, who at thirty years of age was the outstanding genius of that group

of mighty men; James Madison, who kept the records of the Convention and was afterwards Secretary of State and President of the United States; and John Jay, afterwards Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Their discussions were compiled in a work known as "The Federalist." I have never met a person well informed on the subject of political science who would deny the statement that "The Federalist" is the greatest governmental discussion in the libraries of the world. It contains, so clearly that those who run may read, the answers to a very large per cent of the difficult problems that confront this country today or the problems that confront any country; yet not one one-hundredth of one per cent of the American-born and American educated of this generation have ever seen a copy of it.

They took the position that they were establishing here the first strictly representative government in history and they called it a Republic. They went into a long discussion to show why it was improper to speak of other countries as republics. Then they came down to a discussion of democracy. Of course, you understand in the use of these terms I have not political parties in mind at all. There has been little, if any, difference between the parties as to that question during recent years.

What they had in mind was that:

A monarchy or autocracy is a government where power is derived through heredity. It creates the kind of condition in the world of government that would be created in the field of medicine if you were required to engage the services of a doctor whose father was your father's doctor, whether you wanted to or not. Hereditary government always results in tyranny and final reaction. There has never been an exception.

A republic is a strictly representative government, where power is lodged in regularly selected representatives, assuming responsibility with proportionate authority to act. It creates the kind of condition in the world of government that is created in the field of medicine when, in the event of your illness, you select a doctor who because of a natural bent and training you feel is qualified to treat your ailment. This does not bring a perfect condition but it is the best possible that human agency can devise. That is the kind of government that was established here under the Constitution of the United States, under which we made more progress in a hundred years than the world had known in all time, and developed more statesmen in the hundred years than the world had known in all time.

A democracy is a direct government where the people speak and act directly. It creates the kind of condition in the world of government that would be created in the world of medicine if, in the event of your illness, you were to submit to a popular vote what medicine you should take, and then take it regardless of the consequences. That is the kind of government that this generation has been trying to substitute for the kind of government that was established here under the Constitution of the United States, and every nation that has ever tried it in the history of the world has had a stroke of paralysis.

Those who are talking democracy should turn to "The Fed-

eralist" and ask themselves what Madison means in Federalist Number 10, by the following language:

"Hence it is that such democracies have ever been spectacles of turbulence and contention, have ever been found incompatible with personal security or the rights of property, and have in general been as short in their lives as they have been violent in their deaths. * * * A republic, by which I mean a government in which the scheme of representation takes place, opens a different prospect and promises the cure for which we are seeking. * * * The two great points of difference between a democracy and a republic are * * *. Hence it clearly appears that the same advantage which a republic has over a democracy * * *."

And again in Federalist Number XIV:

"* * * It seems to owe its rise and prevalence chiefly to the confounding of a republic with a democracy, and applying to the former reasonings drawn from the nature of the latter. The true distinction between these forms was also adverted to on a former occasion."

Was Madison merely playing with words when he wrote the above language into the Federalist at a time when the destiny of this country hung in the balance, or was he clearing up a tremendously important distinction on which the world quite generally has been disastrously confused during recent years?

Notwithstanding all this and other striking and forceful quotations that might be given from the literature of that period of history, it is difficult to make clear to the average individual either the distinction between representative government and direct action, or its importance.

This generation has done little fundamental thinking along governmental lines. But I find that by taking some field of activity with which we are more familiar, the principles can be applied and the point driven home more quickly and more effectively.

Let us apply the principle of democracy to the great game of baseball. If the people of the United States and the other countries of the world knew as much about the Constitution of the United States as they know about the rules of baseball, you could be just as certain as you are that the law of gravitation works, that beginning very soon we would see less and less of such headlines as "Overthrow of Government," "Fall of Cabinets," "Riot," "Revolution," "Inflation," "Bankruptcy," "Reputation," and "Chaos," under which the political news of the world is largely written today.

Baseball has become the greatest sport in the world. It is well financed, its properties are in good condition, and it is played in orderly fashion. But we play baseball strictly according to the rules of the game, we select umpires because of their knowledge of the rules, and our confidence that they have the moral courage to make decision in accordance with the rules of the game regardless of the noise in the bleachers.

What would you think of the suggestion that a man be selected umpire who knew little or nothing of the rules of the game and cared less; but who was a mob psychologist, and instead of watching the ball or the bases, would look up at the

spectators and try to make his decisions in accord with what he interpreted to be the desire of the bleachers?

It was my good fortune to sit beside a gentleman (who had served for twenty years on the Federal bench and who had handed down several important decisions on the Constitution) at a dinner where I was to deliver an address on the Constitution. He knew what I was going to talk about and agreed with me that there was nothing under the sun today, outside the Bible, that it was so important for this generation to be studying and trying to understand as the Constitution of the United States. He gave me the impression that he had a very clear understanding of the genius and spirit of American institutions as conceived here by the authors of the Constitution and founders of the Republic.

Finally, I put this question to him:

"Judge, what would happen to the game of baseball if the states should enact a statute and begin enforcing it providing that in all the ball games that we play in the future, one of the rulings of the umpire should be referred to the bleachers for decision?"

He thought a moment and replied, "Baseball would cease to be a sport in six months."

I then followed with this question: "Suppose that the states should enact a law today and begin enforcing it tomorrow, providing that in all the ball games that they tried to play in the future, all of the rulings of the umpire should be referred to the bleachers for decision. What would happen to baseball?"

He scratched his chin a moment and replied: "We would never play another game. There would be just one meeting at each ball park, much mob-mindedness, class consciousness, riot, revolution, destruction of property, bloodshed and probably some murder, and after several hours of fruitless effort without playing a game, those who were still physically able would leave that ball park, realizing that it would be a waste of time to meet there again while that law was on the statute books and being enforced."

Now, that would be the simple process of democratizing baseball, and it is not an overdrawn illustration.

Almost daily we hear the question, "Why is it that there is such a dearth of statesmen? We have more schools and colleges and universities and libraries, more experience in history from which to observe, yet we don't seem to be turning them out."

The answer to that question is simple. How many surgeons would we have in twenty years if we should begin passing laws providing that after a surgeon has made a diagnosis of a case, before performing the operation it would be necessary to take a popular vote as to where the operation should be performed? How many engineers would we have if after being selected and provided with blueprints and plans they were required to submit questions involved in construction to popular vote?

Take any field of human endeavor, and the moment that you introduce the element of democracy, orderly progress ceases and chaos begins, and it becomes impossible to produce great thinkers or great leaders.

Notwithstanding all this, along toward the latter part of the last century we began applauding and approving and electing to public office superficial, hypocritical demagogues who, without equipment of information or background of history, went up and down this country advocating such heresies and nostrums and fallacies as direct primaries, the initiative, the referendum, the recall, and the recall of judicial decisions.

This generation accepted those things as though they were something new come to bring the millenium to the first and only successful government that history had ever known, not realizing that they were as old as Methuselah, that they played their part in the downfall of Greece and Rome, and that they were the method of the trial of Christ.

Frequently you hear ministers and demagogues in discussing the trial of Christ, denounce Pontius Pilate. But what do the Scriptures show? The crowd, incited by false leadership and without warrant of law or authority, took the initiative and seized Jesus, brought Him before Pilate, and preferred false charges against Him.

Pilate, acting as a representative, inquired from what country He came, and was informed that He was a Galilean. Pilate said: "He is in the jurisdiction of Herod," and sent Him to Herod. Herod made an examination and returned Jesus, innocent, to Pilate. Pilate then made an examination of the evidence and said: "I find no fault in this man. What shall we do?" They sought a referendum and cried, "Crucify Him and release Barabbas, the criminal." And again Pilate said, "I find no fault in this man; I find no truth in your charges." But the judicial recall was permitted and the result was the crucifixion of an innocent person and the release of a criminal.

These matters were discussed in the Constitutional Convention. The recall of Congressmen was suggested. The men who wrote the Constitution were unwilling that a trial should be started on the street corner by the hysterical statements of demagogues, but provided that if officials were guilty of malfeasance in office or treason, they should be tried before a regularly constituted tribunal on the law and the evidence, with opportunity for defense.

There were men in the Constitutional Convention who refused to sign, because they wanted to write into the Constitution some things which fortunately were not incorporated. At one point in the discussion, one of the members said in substance:

"Unless you write into this Constitution some popular fallacies to fool and please the people, your Constitution will never be adopted."

Up to that moment Washington had taken no part in the deliberations of the Convention. But when he heard that threat, he said in tones of suppressed emotion:

"It is too probable that no plan we propose will be adopted; perhaps another dreadful conflict is to be sustained. If, to please the people, we offer what we ourselves disapprove, how can we afterwards defend our work? Let us raise a standard to which the wise and honest can repair. The event is in the hands of God."

Professor Fiske has well said that that brief but immortal

speech ought to be blazoned in letters of gold and posted on the wall of every American assembly that shall meet to nominate a candidate or declare a policy or pass a law, so long as the weakness of human nature may endure.

There was a note of statesmanship and courage replying to the appeal of demagogism and expediency.

The point that every American should have in mind before encouraging further departures from representative government toward direct action is that no such thing was contemplated in the plan of the Constitution, and that up to recent years we contemplated no such thing as submitting questions direct.

During the hundred years that we conformed quite closely to the plan of representative government, we made orderly progress unparalleled in history and developed great leaders and great statesmen. Since drifting from representative government toward direct action, conditions have grown more chaotic and demagogues more numerous.

Here is a fundamental truth of which the authors of the Constitution and the founders of this Republic had a very clear understanding, and which this generation of Americans seems carelessly to overlook.

In the great plan of things, Providence placed a tremendous responsibility upon a wise exercise of the law of selection. Whether it be getting married, the planting of seed, the performance of an operation, a piece of constructive work of any kind, or the administration of government, success depends upon exercising wisely the law of selection, fixing responsibility, and conferring authority.

The men who wrote the Constitution and founded this Republic fixed individual property rights more securely than they had ever been fixed before, and they did it intentionally. They sought to avoid the dangers of both feudalism and socialism.

A common interrogation of demagogues and agitators today is, "Are you going to put the dollar above the man? Is money more sacred than humanity?" Meaningless platitudes, which seek to appeal to emotion, prejudice and passion.

The men who founded this Republic had a very normal and sane estimate of the value of both man and humanity. But they had studied human nature in its relation to property and had found that when an individual becomes careless with reference to property rights, the next step is to be indifferent to personal safety. In other words, you never heard of an individual who was ready to touch a match to a building, that wasted very much time looking around to see if there was someone inside who might be burned up.

They knew that to make the individual safe, you must make property rights secure, and we should bear in mind that during the one hundred years while we were rising from obscurity, after many years of failure, to the leading place among the nations of the world, there was little or no talk in this country of communism, or socialism, or government ownership.

They are old doctrines, and they have never worked well anywhere as a permanent plan of operation. Without them, we built up here the most remarkable industrial institutions

the world has ever known, and during that time, while conditions were far from perfect, it can be truly said that the worst day for labor in this country was better than the best day for labor in any other country.

We should strive continuously to improve industrial conditions, but we should not destroy the fundamental things that contributed to our progress, or substitute the discards of bygone ages.

The men who wrote the Constitution and founded this Republic came nearer the avoidance of class consciousness than ever before. They believed in individual responsibility for individual conduct and reward in proportion as the individual developed capacity for service and character to be trusted. Under that regime we developed here the greatest race of men and women the world ever knew, and made this Republic synonymous with the phrase "Land of Opportunity."

Until recent years, you rarely if ever heard the word "classes" in conversation or public address. Today you can scarcely attend a convention or conference of any kind without hearing such phrases as "the classes and the masses," "labor and capital," etc.

When James Garfield was driving mules on the tow path of a canal, while walking along behind the mules, he would say to himself:

"This is a land of opportunity, and if I drive these mules well and take good care of them someone will get his eye on me and I will get a better job."

When the day was over, he and his mother would spend the evening reading the history of this country and other countries, the Constitution of the United States, lives of Washington, Hamilton, Franklin, Marshall and Webster; then a little of Shakespeare, Tennyson and Longfellow to improve his English style, and close with a chapter of the Bible. The next day, while driving his mules, he would be saying to himself, "I know a little more today than I did yesterday. If I keep on filling my mind and strengthening my character, I will get a better job. I may be a school teacher some day, and if I make a good school teacher, they may make me a college president. If I make a good college president, they may send me to the United States Senate. (At that time intelligence was a qualification for the Senate—not a bar). If I make a good Senator, they may make me President"—and they did. But a "class conscious" man soon assassinated him.

If conditions were as they are now, there would scarcely have been a day but some so-called humane worker or professional agitator or walking delegate would have approached him with some such suggestion as this: "Now, Garfield, you are a mule driver. Your father was a mule driver, your grandfather drove mules, your children are going to be mule drivers, and you ought to get the mule driving consciousness and think in terms of mules and mule drivers. We hear that you are studying nights under great difficulties, and think you are going to play a part in the discussion of the problems of your generation. You poor, penniless mule driver, cut it all out, and get out on the street corners nights and talk about the difficulties in your

life, and get the mule drivers together and get them organized and go down to the State Capital and organize a mule drivers' bloc in the legislative body and get some legislation through for mule drivers."

Wouldn't that have been an inspiration to the young men of the following generations? Wouldn't it have given Garfield a great place in history if he had followed that advice? Yet that is exactly what this generation is substituting for the finest heritage of individual responsibility for individual conduct that was ever bequeathed to a thoughtless and unappreciative people.

If I were trying to put my finger on the real disease of this generation—I call it Americanitis—I would say that it was the quite general acceptance of the fallacy that there are two sides to every question.

We have almost come to regard a person as highly intellectual who, in a superior manner, makes the assertion: "I am a very broad-minded person, very liberal in my views, and I recognize that there are two sides to every question."

That is a very neat little speech and much easier to make than it is to dig down and find out enough about a question to have some real convictions and conclusions upon it.

I was recently introduced to an open forum audience, where discussion was to follow, by a very tactful chairman who said: "We may hear some things tonight with which some of us disagree, but we can console ourselves with the thought that there are two sides to every question."

After I had spoken a few minutes, and made several convincing points, I said: "Since the chairman is suffering from this modern disease of Americanitis, that there are two sides to every question, I want to submit some questions to him, on which to state the two sides; but before doing so, I want to make this general observation, an understanding of which is tremendously needed in the reasoning processes of this generation: There is no progress in any field of endeavor—science, philosophy, government, industry or religion—except in so far as you cover ground where there ceases to be two sides, and then you use the proven ground as a basis upon which to reach further accurate conclusions through experiment."

I then submitted the following questions for the chairman to state the two sides. Is ice cold? Is fire warm? Can you have learned, through your own experience—as some children, insist upon doing—or through accepting the experience of other people, which is frequently the better way, that if you put your finger in the fire you will burn it, and then be so broad-minded and liberal in your views as to agree with someone who says: "If you put your finger in the fire you will not burn it?" Does the law of gravitation work? Do 2 and 2 make 4, and if there are any two sides to that question, how are you going to prove that 4 and 4 make 8, how are you going to compute your grocery bill or bank balance, build a sky scraper, span a river, or compute the distances between the stars? Does c-a-t spell cat? If there are any two sides to that question, how are you going to carry on a conversation, write a letter, publish a newspaper, or print a book? The chairman showed no inclination to enter the discussion.

This does not mean that there are no questions on which there are two sides, or that there are no problems unsolved that must yet be solved through experiment; but it does mean that progress is made through the application of well-established conclusions and fundamental principles, and not through the proposal of the discords of bygone ages as new, by those who are unfamiliar with the teachings of history and experience.

There is now and has been in the past a tendency on the part of demagogues to assail the Supreme Court, to destroy the checks and balances, and undermine the provisions of the Constitution that made for a well balanced government resulting in orderly progress.

In his great book, "The Origin and Growth of the Constitution" Hannis Taylor says:

"During the first eleven years of its existence, the latent powers of the Supreme Court were in eclipse.

"At the end of that time, on January 2, 1801, after his re-appointment, Chief Justice Jay wrote to President Adams: 'I left the bench perfectly convinced that under a system so defective it would not obtain the energy, weight, and dignity which was essential to its affording due support to the national government; nor acquire the public confidence and respect which, as a last resort of the justice of the nation it should possess. Hence, I am induced to doubt both the propriety and expediency of my returning to the bench under the present system.'

"That despairing cry with which Jay abandoned our federal judicial system as impotent was a bugle-call to John Marshall, who, on February 4, 1801, the day of the first meeting of the Court in the permanent capital of the nation, took his place for the first time as Chief Justice, and as such sat in the midst of six associates for thirty-four years. From a careful estimate of the amount of work done by the court during that period it appears that of eleven hundred and six opinions filed, five hundred and nineteen were delivered by Marshall, the remainder being equally divided among the fifteen who were from time to time his associates. Of the sixty-two decisions delivered upon constitutional questions from 1801 to 1835, thirty-six were Marshall's. At the moment of his accession the time was ripe for the advent of a jurist and statesman clear visioned enough to sweep the entire horizon of federal power, and bold enough to press each element of it to its logical conclusion."

If the judges and lawyers and so-called educators and public men of this country could be induced to read and study the decisions of John Marshall, it would greatly strengthen their understanding and in my judgment would lessen the assaults that are being made upon that anchor of safety,—the Supreme Court of the United States.

Now, if I were to pass slips of paper and pencils through this audience and submit to you this question: "Enumerate the results in the World War that you regard as adequate to the great sacrifice which was made," I imagine most of you would be doing more thinking than writing. I know I would if I were sitting there. Yet there was never a great, honest sacrifice made by mankind but that ultimately there followed a great corresponding benefit, and I am hoping, that as we contemplate the

chaotic conditions throughout the world and some of the dangerous tendencies in this and other countries, it might dawn upon this generation, yes, that we may be shocked into an understanding of the tremendous possibilities and value of the discussions by the men who laid the foundation of this Republic, familiar as they were with every government that history had known and with its successes and its failures.

If we could begin to set this Republic in harmony with the original plan and purpose of the Constitution, and help other nations to understand it, this generation might yet go on and on toward a greater period of progress than the world has ever known.

You know it was frequently said during the late war that our boys were soft, that they wouldn't fight as did the men of former generations, but when the issue was made clear and they knew what must be done they became the best army the world ever knew.

The people of this generation seem to lack leadership, seem to lack capacity to study and investigate and learn from history and experience in government, but if they could be led into an understanding of the issues of today their conduct might yet be happily surprising as was that of the boys during the late war.

There were some great scenes in that Constitutional Convention which should serve as an inspiration to this generation—more great scenes than have occurred in any other period of history save only that period when Christ was on earth.

It is difficult to arouse the people of this generation from their state of mental coma to an attitude of mind where they will take the trouble and pains to study the Constitution and that period of history which makes clear in large measure the secret of the greatness of this Republic.

Those men went down to Philadelphia when we didn't have any Pullman palace cars or railroad trains. They went by stage coach and walked part way, and they worked diligently for five weeks without writing a word or a sentence, so anxious were they to excel in thought and expression.

Is it any wonder that the Preamble to the Constitution is the finest statement of purpose in print outside the Bible?

Finally, on the last morning of the fifth week, in the midst of a very heated discussion—[Thank God, they had heated discussions in those days. Sometimes the truth flashes forth from the white heat of discussion. There will have to be heated discussion before the momentous local and world problems of this generation are worked out]—they were about to adjourn and abandon the great purpose for which they had met, when George Washington, who knew what a tragedy it would be if word went out that they had failed, who knew how difficult it would be to get such a body of great men together again, with his face white with anxiety looked down at Benjamin Franklin, who was sitting there as a delegate, working for posterity at eighty-one years of age, and he hoped that some thought would occur to that old philosopher that would make it possible to hold those men together.

Franklin arose and, addressing Washington in the chair, said:

"In this situation of this assembly, groping, as it were, in the dark to find political truth, and scarcely able to distinguish it when presented to us, how has it happened, sir, that we have not hitherto once thought of humbly applying to the Father of Light to illuminate our understandings? I have lived, sir, a long time, and the longer I live the more convincing proofs I see of this truth, that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can arise without His aid? We have been assured, sir, in the Sacred Writings, that 'except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it.' I firmly believe this; and I also believe that without His concurring aid we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel."

And he went on and on, enriching the literature of the world. [If I had my way, not a boy or a girl would get a diploma from the eighth grade, to say nothing of high school or college, while the government is paying the expense, until they could recite that address of Franklin's, the one I quoted from Washington, the Constitution itself, and a lot of other things that occurred there. That is where they made one hundred per cent Americans and you cannot make one hundred per cent Americans without teaching them some of those doctrines.] From that time, they began to make progress in the framing and adoption of that fame-crowned old document.

When it was one hundred years old and the American people still regarded with intelligent appreciation its sterling worth, we observed its centennial at Philadelphia, and invited to that meeting the distinguished men and women of this and foreign countries. Some say it was the greatest meeting of distinguished men and women that has ever assembled.

Among others, they invited William E. Gladstone, who served fifty-five years in the public life of Great Britain, which gave him unusual opportunity for observation and understanding. When he cabled his reply, he said:

"I regret that I cannot come. So far as I can see, that Constitution was the greatest piece of work ever struck off at a given time by the brain and purpose of man."

That is saying that it was greater than the ten digits on which mathematics are based, greater than the alphabet, which is the foundation of language, greater than the scale of music, greater than the discovery of electricity, greater than any or all the inventions, because they are the products of the human mind, and Gladstone said the Constitution was the greatest work ever struck off by the brain and purpose of man.

And it was, and thoroughly understood, would do all for government in working out problems that these various standards do in the different fields of activity where they serve as a basis.

There was just one man living at the time who seemed to understand this. I doubt if the men who wrote the Constitution fully appreciated the great contribution that they were making to civilization. People who do great things seldom know it. The man who seemed best to understand its tremendous value was William Pitt. William Pitt was Prime Minister of England

when he was twenty-four years old. In my judgment he was the greatest Prime Minister that England ever had, because he held England steady during the French Revolution, and that is the mission of a statesman—to hold things steady, not to incite the mob and follow the crowd which has been too much the ideal of this generation and has determined too largely the popularity of public men and has had much to do with substituting demagogues for statesmen. Unfortunately, public men have been popular in this generation, not in proportion as they understood their oaths to uphold the Constitution of the United States, but in proportion as they could assault its plan and purpose in various ways. When he read our Constitution, William Pitt said: "It will be the wonder and admiration of all future generations and the model of all future constitutions."

What a blessing it would be to this Republic and to the world, if this generation would begin to work earnestly to make that marvelous prophecy of William Pitt come true!

In conclusion, I would like to refer to the closing scene of that Convention. They not only worked the five weeks during which they did not write a word, but they worked for months, and finally the document was completed and ready for signature.

Franklin, who had given us the printing press, told us more about electricity than we knew up to that time, and started the publication of the *Saturday Evening Post*, felt that his participation in the framing of the Constitution was by far the most important work of his useful and eventful life.

Franklin was very anxious and because of the numerous objections made by those who refused to sign, he feared lest there might not be a sufficient number to approve the Constitution, to submit it to the States for their ratification. And when they began to sign, he kept tab, and when he saw the man sign whose name made a sufficient number to submit the Constitution to the States in convention assembled for ratification, his eighty-two year old wrinkled face broke into a smile. He nudged a friend near him and said:

"Often and often, in the course of the sessions of this convention, and the vicissitudes of my hopes and fears as to its issue, I have looked at that painted sun back of Washington's chair, and wondered what it meant. They tell me that an artist has great difficulty in making a distinction between a rising and a setting sun, but now at length I have the happiness to know that it is a rising and not a setting sun."

My fellow Americans, it was a rising sun, and it came to be the brightest and the grandest sun in the galaxy of nations. It has blessed your sires and mine, it has blessed you and me, and it would bless and guard our children if we would but preserve it and pass it on unimpaired.

Personally, I would rather leave my child penniless, knowing that that Constitution would be secure in the minds and hearts of the American people, than to leave a million dollars, knowing that that Constitution was to be spat upon with the contempt, indifference, and ignorance that it has received at the hands of this generation.

It didn't mean very much to leave a million dollars to a

child in Russia, after they established a "democracy." It simply meant that the money would be seized and the child probably murdered for having it.

The Constitution radiated the rays of life and hope and progress over all the world, and has within it, when understood, the answers to many of the different problems of other countries.

But if we want it to continue to be a rising sun, and don't want it to go into eclipse as other nations have done, we will have to be true to that anchor of faith, we will have to be loyal to that Ark of the Covenant, and if we are not and we continue this drift from representative government toward direct action, from individual property rights toward communistic, socialistic, and government ownership tendencies, from individual responsibility for individual conduct toward class consciousness, class action, and class legislation; I say, if we continue that drift we will go the way that other nations have gone which have been without anchor of faith or Ark of the Covenant.

Representative government, individual property rights, individual responsibility for individual conduct, provide the governmental bases for orderly progress.

Direct action, paternalistic tendencies, class consciousness, class agitation, and class legislation are the certain road to hopeless chaos.

Edmund Burke once said:

"Civilization is a contract between the great dead, the living and the unborn."

The great dead kept their contract faithfully with us and bequeathed to us a mighty heritage. It is for this generation to answer the question, are we keeping our contract with the unborn as faithfully as the great dead kept theirs with us? (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: I am certain that we have all enjoyed listening to Mr. Atwood. I am convinced also that we will realize more tomorrow than we do today, and more the next day as we think about what he has told us, what it means, because in the vernacular, he has said a mouthful, and it will probably take us a little bit longer to swallow it than it did him to pronounce it. But we will get it.

Will the meeting adjourn at this time?

Past Commander-in-Chief Sheldon: I have been a member of this organization for thirty-nine years. I have been to thirty-four National Encampments, and this is the first Encampment that I have seen so much time wasted. We have had three sessions and not one thing accomplished.

Now, gentlemen, I have enjoyed this afternoon the remarks of Mr. Atwood which have been wonderful; but we have got to accomplish some business. We can't do it tomorrow morning. We must have a night session of at least an hour or two; and I move that from now on there be no interruptions of any sort or kind, and that we adjourn until 7:30 tonight.

Division Commander D. B. Bowley, of California: I rise to a point of order. I have got very good ears, and I understood Past Commander-in-Chief Sheldon, that there be no interrup-

tions. I think when the motion is stated before the Encampment it should be stated as moved and seconded.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: It is the opinion of the chair that the motion is erroneously stated. The motion is that we adjourn to meet again at 7:30.

Division Commander D. B. Bowley, of California: "No more interruptions." That is the point I want to bring out.

Past Division Commander Michael Crowley, of New Hampshire: I move that this Encampment recess until 7:30 this evening.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sheldon: I second the motion.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: It has been moved and seconded that this Encampment take a recess until 7:30 this evening. All those in favor of the motion say "Aye," and those opposed "No." The ayes have it. The motion is carried.

WEDNESDAY EVENING SESSION

7:30 o'clock.

Vocational School Auditorium.

September 1, 1925.

The Encampment was convened pursuant to adjournment, Commander-in-Chief William M. Coffin, presiding.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Are there any committee reports ready? Is the chairman of the Committee on Officers' Reports here? The Chair has been informed that no committee is ready to report save possibly that on Officers' Reports.

Division Commander Frederic A. Godcharles, of Pennsylvania: The Committee on Officers' Reports is ready with his report; the report is signed by every member of the committee, and Past Commander-in-Chief Russell has that report, and he possibly will be a little late in getting here this evening; but the report is ready.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: I understand the Committee on the Harding Memorial is ready to submit report. Brother Speelman is recognized.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON HARDING MEMORIAL FUND.

Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman: (Reading):

Washington, D. C., August 31, 1925.

To the Forty-fourth Annual Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.:

Under authority of the Forty-third Annual Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., I respectfully report the following amounts contributed to the Harding Memorial Fund by members of the Order from the Divisions indicated since the adjournment at Boston, August 14, 1924:

NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION.

Mr. Frank R. Challis, 15 Pleasant St., Manchester, N. H...\$ 1.00

ILLINOIS DIVISION.

Camp No. 10, Canton, Ill.....	\$1.00
Camp No. 39, Princeton, Ill.	3.00
Camp No. 8, Chicago, Ill.	5.00
Camp No. 31, Moline, Ill.	2.00
Camp No. 1, Chicago, Ill.	1.00
A. Nixon, Commander, Camp No. 1.....	1.00
Will F. Jenkins, Camp No. 1.....	1.00
D. K. Nixon, Camp No. 1.....	1.00
Julius Jenkins, Camp No. 1	1.00
Harry A. Jenkins, Camp No. 1.....	1.00
George W. Jenkins, Camp No. 1.....	1.00
Eugene Jenkins, Camp No. 1.....	1.00

\$19.00

MISSOURI DIVISION.

Maj. Leo Rassieur Camp No. 4, St. Louis, Mo.....	\$10.00
William Schumacher	5.00
William B. Schaar	2.00
William Wiedmer	2.00
Alfred Moeses	2.00
William G. Helm	1.00

\$22.00

MICHIGAN DIVISION.

Austin Blair Camp No. 7, Jackson, Michigan.....\$ 8.80

NEW JERSEY DIVISION.

Christian Woerner Camp No. 1, Weehawken, N. J.....\$ 6.00

Grand Total\$56.80

These different amounts have been transmitted to Honorable Andrew W. Mellon, Treasurer of the Harding Memorial Association, with request that certificates of membership be issued as requested by the contributors.

An itemized statement showing names of Divisions, Camps, or Individual Members, as the case may be, is herewith attached.

Fraternally submitted,

HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,
Committee on Harding Memorial Fund.

I might say that the report of money contributed at Boston was turned over to Secretary Mellon, and the check was personally turned over by me.

The chairman of the New Jersey committee said that they had contributed \$100 to this fund, and their Division would probably want to pay it in installments.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I move you that the report of the committee be accepted and the committee continued.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sheldon: I second the motion.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: It has been moved and seconded that the report of the committee be accepted and the committee continued. All those in favor of the motion say aye, and those opposed, no. The motion is carried.

Are there any other committees ready to report?

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: Commander-in-Chief, may I inquire what committee chairmen are in this hall at this time?

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: The chairman of the Committee on Resolutions is here. The chairman of the Committee on Constitution and Regulations is not here. The chairman of that committee spoke to the chair at the close of the afternoon session and said definitely that he would not be ready to report until tomorrow.

Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman: As a member of that committee I wish to verify that statement. The committee had

one session this afternoon and adjourned to meet tomorrow morning at 9:00 o'clock.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: I understand the chairman of the Committee on Resolutions is in the room. Is that correct?

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: That is correct.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: Is it not possible to have a partial report from that committee?

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I would be only too glad to comply with the request of Brother Sautter. I went to work with the other members of that committee at 2:00 o'clock this afternoon. We remained in session until 4:00 o'clock. I then went down to the hotel and dictated the report to the stenographer, and it is in the making, and she has promised to give it to me tomorrow morning by 9:00 o'clock. I missed all of the session this afternoon working on that committee. I am not prepared to make any report at this time.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: I only desire to express the hope that the stenographer will have the report ready by 9:00 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman: Commander-in-Chief, as a noted statesman at one time said, "What are we here for?" If no committee is ready to report it seems to me that the sensible thing to do would be to take a recess until 9:00 o'clock tomorrow morning. The different committees I know have been working hard today and will probably be ready to report at the 9:00 o'clock session. If I am in order I move that the Encampment take a recess until 9:00 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I second the motion.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: I would like to offer this motion, that we recess until 9:30 tomorrow morning, and that we then remain in continuous session without interruption until we complete the business of this Encampment.

(The motion was duly seconded).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: A motion was offered and has been duly seconded that the Encampment recess until tomorrow morning at 9:00 o'clock.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: The motion made by Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman was not seconded prior to the making of my motion which was seconded.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: I would think it would be proper to consider your motion as an amendment.

Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman: I have no objection to the amendment, and I would accept it as a part of the original motion.

Past Division Commander George E. Cogshall, of Michigan: Aren't you going to get in some confusion that will put you in the same position you are in tonight? Your program says 10:00 o'clock. You made an adjournment this afternoon to an evening session after two-thirds of the body had left. They knew nothing of it. There was no way of notifying them. They supposed when you adjourned that you were through. But you then adjourned to an evening session with two-thirds of your body miss-

ing. Tonight you have got two-thirds of your body missing, and more, and you are adjourning to a half hour earlier tomorrow morning. Now how are you going to notify those people who were not here tonight, and who were not here this afternoon?

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: The chair would like to answer the question by stating that the official program calls for the Thursday morning session at 9:30.

Before putting the motion the chair would like to inquire whether or not there is any probability of getting any business before this session? Can anyone inform us whether or not the chairman of the Committee on Officers' Reports was thinking of coming to this session?

Division Commander Frederic A. Godcharles, of Pennsylvania: I think he could not present his report at this session.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Does the gentleman who offered the motion to adjourn insist that it be put at this time?

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: I have no objection to sitting here and waiting until 11:00 o'clock.

Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman: In view of what Brother Cogshall has said, it would hardly seem fair to those who were not here this afternoon when this action was taken that we proceed further this evening. It seems to me the wise thing for us to do would be to take a recess. I do not think it is going to delay matters at all.

(Calls of "The question" from the floor).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: The question is called for on the motion before the house, which is that the Encampment do now recess until 9:30 tomorrow morning, and that we then remain in session without intermission until the business of the Encampment is completed.

All in favor of the motion say aye, and those opposed no. The ayes appear to have it. The ayes have it. The Encampment is now in recess until 9:30 tomorrow morning.

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

9:30 o'clock

Vocational School Auditorium.

September 3, 1925.

The Encampment was opened in due and regular form, the Commander-in-Chief, William M. Coffin, presiding.

Commander-in-Chief: Is the Committee on Officers Reports ready? The chair recognizes Past Commander-in-Chief Russell.

Past Commander-in-Chief Russell: I move you that as the paragraphs are read concerning recommendations that unless there be objection, each one be adopted as read.

The motion was duly seconded, put by the Commander-in-Chief and carried.

The report was then read section by section, and no objection was made to any part thereof, and on motion by Past Commander-in-Chief Russell, duly seconded, and put by the Commander-in-Chief and carried, the report was adopted as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OFFICERS' REPORTS.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Sept. 3, 1925.

To the Forty-fourth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A:

We, your Committee on Officers' Reports and distribution of work, desire to submit the following report:

The reports of our officials are of the usual high order, and are indicative of the zeal and devotion that has characterized the present administration throughout the year. Too much cannot be said in commendation of the very full and complete report of Commander-in-Chief Coffin in analysis of the condition and State of the Order. The activity displayed, the interest shown and the experience obtained by him has eminently qualified him to speak advisedly concerning these matters of vital interest to the future of the Sons of Veterans. The membership of the Order will do well to study it with care.

1. The recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief concerning the establishment of a Council of Administration, involving the constitution and regulations, was referred to that committee for consideration.

2. The recommendation relating to the appointment of a committee on Patriotic Education is approved, and referred to the incoming Commander-in-Chief with the suggestion that the Patriotic Instructor appointed be ex-officio chairman of such committee.

3. We, as an organization, are committed to the idea of a

National Memorial to the Grand Army of the Republic in the form of a building at the Capitol City, and in harmony with our Commander-in-Chief, we commend the plan to the Order again with the hope that a united effort of the kindred societies may be had to bring about the desired results.

4. With reference to the recommendation that provision be made for an escort to the Grand Army of the Republic at the National Encampments, we concur in the idea, and recommend that the several Commanders-in-Chief hereafter request the Division entertaining the Encampment from time to time, to provide at its expense, such escort, relying upon devotion to the Grand Army to accomplish the purpose, as long as it may be necessary.

5. Believing that we cannot have too many special days observed by our Order, as well as by the public generally, on which patriotism and devotion to the principles and ideals of the republic are taught, we approve the recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief for the addition to our present list of such occasions, Flag Day, and Constitution Day.

6. As the recommendation for the establishment of a national endowment fund involves a change in the constitution and regulations, it was referred to that committee. We, however, heartily approve the suggestion for such a fund, and trust the time may soon come when we can point with satisfaction to the possession of a substantial endowment as a basis for permanent growth.

7. The recommendation for an increase in the per capita tax was referred to the Council-in-Chief.

8. The recommendation regarding a contribution to the Grand Army of the Republic and for the maintenance of its headquarters by our Order, was also referred to the Council-in-Chief, as being particularly within the province of that body for consideration and recommendation.

9. The suggestion of the Commander-in-Chief that the law be amended to restore the provision for suspension and reinstatement of members, met the approval of your committee and was referred to the Committee on Constitution and Regulations to report such necessary proposed legislation.

10. We join in the suggestion of the Commander-in-Chief that The Banner be made a generally more interesting organ to the membership at large, and while realizing the difficulties express the hope that it may be possible to reach this ideal in greater measure.

11. We concur in the recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief concerning the bonds of Division Commanders.

12. We concur in the decisions of Commander-in-Chief Coffin, in the matter of discipline and the law of the Order.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Hall, and Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Markle have submitted splendid reports indicating a commendable zeal and marked ability.

Secretary-Treasurer Hammer, as usual, gives us a clear and concise report of the activities of his all-important position. For twenty years Brother Hammer has filled this office and each succeeding administration of the executive affairs of the

Order has been under deep obligation to him for his invaluable counsel and ripe experience, which have always been at the command of his chief. He has made no recommendations, but his report contributes some valuable suggestions concerning the organization of new Camps, the number of charter members required, and the amount of charter fees, and these have been referred to the Committee on Constitution and Regulation.

The report of the National Counselor submits three opinions and the findings of the Commissioner in the Schumacher Case, and is comprehensive of the points involved. His opinions and the said findings are approved.

The report of the National Chaplain, covering particularly the observance of Memorial Day, forms a very interesting study of the actual interest taken by our membership in this greatest of all days sacred to the Grand Army of the Republic and its allied orders.

The report of the National Patriotic Instructor contains some excellent and pertinent suggestions to train our attention as objectives in inculcating and stimulating patriotism.

Three of the Regional Aides have made report of the duties placed upon them, showing a fine interest and a commendable spirit.

In closing this report, your Committee cannot overlook the spirit of love, mutual trust, and splendid interest and co-operation existing between the Grand Army and the other allied orders and ourselves, as shown by these several reports.

We cannot "view with alarm" the future. We believe the worst is behind us, and that already we can see in faith the dawning of a new day for our beloved Order, for which the past, with all its vicissitudes, has been but the preparation.

May we all reconsecrate ourselves once more to the task before us, and let us highly resolve that neither we nor our nation, preserved by the blood of the Grand Army of the Republic, shall follow any leadership that does not carry the flag and keep step to the music of the Union.

W. H. RUSSELL,
HENRY F. WEILER,
E. F. BUCK,
FRANK C. HUSTON,
FREDERIC A. GODCHARLES.

I move the adoption of the report as read.

The motion was duly seconded, put by the Commander-in-Chief, and carried.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RITUALS AND CEREMONIES.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sheldon: The Committee on Rituals and Ceremonies desires to submit the following report: That the committee has spent hours at arduous duties, and has had sleepless nights. We have had just one matter referred to us upon which there has not any action been taken; and as Past Commander-in-Chief, I petition and ask that from now on Dr. Sheldon be appointed permanent chairman of this committee, as there is absolutely nothing to do.

Commander-in-Chief: Does the chairman wish his recommendation taken seriously? Brothers, you have heard the recommendation that the present chairman be made permanent chairman of that committee. Apparently the motion fails of a second.

Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman: I move that the report of the committee be approved, with the thanks of the Encampment.

The motion was duly seconded, put by the Commander-in-Chief and carried.

Commander-in-Chief: Is the Committee on Resolutions ready to report?

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I will have to make it on the installment plan, because since I came into the room this morning a resolution has been handed to me, and I have been endeavoring to get the other members of the committee together in order that we might act upon that particular resolution, or, if it is the desire of this Encampment we can submit the resolution direct to this body without the recommendation of the committee. I have not seen Brother Stephens and I have not seen Brother Anderson.

Commander-in-Chief: I believe the Encampment would like to have the chairman of the committee proceed with what he has.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Am I to understand that the resolution offered by Past Commander-in-Chief Russell as to adoption of the various sections of this report are to be considered as adopted by the Encampment without special motion unless objections are made?

Commander-in-Chief: The Chair understood the motion made by Brother Russell to apply to the consideration of his report alone.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Therefore I renew the motion as made by Brother Russell, that all the various resolutions offered by this committee, with the action of the committee, shall be sustained unless there is objection.

Commander-in-Chief: Will you make the motion general so as to cover all such reports, to save the necessity of repeating it to cover each report?

Past Commander-in-Chief Russell: I adopt the suggestion of the Commander-in-Chief and ask that my motion be considered as covering all such reports.

Motion was duly seconded.

Commander-in-Chief: It has been moved and seconded that hereafter in the consideration of the report of any committee, it will be read section by section, opportunity offered for objection, and where there is none the report of the committee will be considered sustained. All those in favor of the motion say aye and those opposed no. The ayes have it and the motion is carried.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Now I have prepared in this report a very brief summary of each resolution as presented to and acted upon by the committee. It is a sort of a

subheading and caption. If there is any member of the Encampment who does not feel that he is sufficiently informed as the subheading as read, and desires the reading of the entire resolution, we shall be very glad to comply with the request, but some of these resolutions are very long, preceded by preambles and whereases, and it would take a great deal of your time to read them in full, but it is for you to say whether they shall be or not. I will read our report.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Sept. 3, 1925.

To the Officers and Members of the Forty-fourth Annual Encampment of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Brothers:

Your Committee on Resolutions beg leave to submit the following report:

Request of the Rhode Island Division for restoration of past honors to Brother Thomas A. Miley:

Commander-in-Chief Horn ruled at the last Encampment of the Sons of Veterans, held in Boston, that requests for restoration of Past Division honors were not provided for in the constitution and therefore held "out of order." This action was not controverted by the Encampment, therefore this committee is of the opinion that Past Division honors cannot be restored to Brother Miley.

Commander-in-Chief: Is there objection? The Chair hears none. The section is adopted.

Request of the Michigan Division for restoration of Past Division honors to Franklin D. Eddy:

For the reason aforesigned no action can be taken upon this request.

Commander-in-Chief: Is there objection? The Chair hears none. The section is adopted.

Resolution offered by Brother W. J. Schultz of Ohio Division:

The purport of this resolution is that our constitution be altered so as to provide for honorary membership for fathers, brothers, nephews and husbands of the members of the Sons of Veterans Auxiliaries, and that membership fees be arranged and badges provided.

The action of your committee is non-concurrence.

Commander-in-Chief: Is there objection? The Chair hears none. The section is adopted.

Resolution offered by Wisconsin Division requesting the addition of further questions to the blanks for the Camp Patriotic Instructor.

We recommend no action upon this request until such time as a new supply of blanks can be provided.

Commander-in-Chief: Is there objection? The Chair hears none. The section is adopted.

Resolution from the Associated Fraternal Societies of Philadelphia inviting the Sons of Veterans to hold their next Annual Encampment in Philadelphia.

As it is the declared policy of the Sons of Veterans to meet

with the Grand Army of the Republic, no action on our part is necessary.

Commander-in-Chief: Is there objection The Chair hears none. The section is adopted.

Resolution offered by H. Crittendon recommending that we endorse the efforts of the Missouri Valley Historical Society of Kansas City, Missouri, to commemorate the Battle of West Port, October 21-23, 1864, and petitioning Congress to establish a National Military Park on this West Port Battlefield.

Your committee concur.

Commander-in-Chief: Is there objection The Chair hears none. The section is adopted.

Resolution offered by Brother F. P. Corrick:

"We favor the proposed law granting to all honorably discharged Union soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil War a pension of Seventy-two dollars per month without condition and to their widows Fifty dollars per month."

Your committee is of the opinion that we should always assist to the extent of our ability in furthering all objects desired by the Grand Army of the Republic and if this is the pension bill approved by the Grand Army of the Republic we most heartily concur.

Commander-in-Chief: Is there objection? The Chair hears none. The section is adopted.

Resolution offered by E. B. Smith, Division Commander of Minnesota.

The purpose of this resolution is opposition to the United States joining the World Court and that Brother F. D. McMillen of Camp No. 8, Division of Minnesota, be invited to address this assembly on the above mentioned subject for twenty minutes.

The action of your committee is that we do not concur.

Commander-in-Chief: Is there objection?

Division Commander E. B. Smith, of Minnesota: I believe that a great many in this assembly do not fully realize the object of what has been requested. It relates to matters concerning the Sons of Veterans upholding the Constitution as it is and backing up our forefathers. You may not need it as serious in the east as we do in the west.

When we take the pledge to become a member of the Sons of Veterans, we take a pledge to support the Constitution of the United States. If we do not uphold it, then there must be some fault somewhere. There is propaganda being spread around the country by foreign powers. It is so in the state of Minnesota. We have ministers in our pulpits, we have school teachers in our schools and I believe our entire Camp in Minneapolis cannot fail to advise you that there ought to be some cause of action by this Encampment.

We have ministers there who say "Why should we say so much of George Washington, birthdays, and so forth." George Washington gave us this country, and our fathers fought for the preservation of it and our soldiers thereafter to support the Union of the United States, and we want this Union preserved.

Now this brother is not here just now, but I believe it would be much more interesting to hear this man talk twenty minutes upon the subject. You gentlemen may laugh, but the west ought to be recognized in some way or other, and I wish to make a motion at this time, that Brother McMillen, while not here this morning, an able talker and an attorney, and a member of a number of financial concerns of the country, be given at least twenty minutes on the floor of the Encampment.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: The brother's motion is not in order at this time in the way it is put. The matter before the house is the adoption or the rejection of the report of the Committee on Resolutions upon the resolution that this body permit Brother McMillen to address it.

Past Commander-in-Chief Russell: I think the report of the committee also covered, that is the recommendation as to the entrance of the United States into the World Court, and that the brother be invited to address this Encampment, I take it upon that proposition.

There is a great deal of force in what Brother Smith says regarding this propaganda that is abroad throughout our land, and anything that will combat that, I am sure will receive the approval and support of all loyal Sons of Veterans, but when we contemplate the proposition that this resolution reaches as to the attitude that we may take upon the action of the United States in entering or not entering a World Court, we are touching upon what is a political question. It has become such and there is going to be a great controversy in Congress over that very proposition, and I don't think it wise for us, for my part, to enter into any controversy of that kind.

We believe in the constitution following the flag, and when the flag goes to the World Court, we will go, but until that time, this being a civic and patriotic body, and taking leadership as it does from our fathers in the Grand Army, I do not think it wise for us to jump into a political proposition like this seems to me must be. I am in hearty approval, for my part, of the recommendation of the committee, for that reason.

Past Division Commander Frank K. Maples, New York: I want to say just this, I think the matter before the Encampment now, as I believe you stated, is whether we are to sustain the report of the committee or not. I believe the original subject is properly before us for debate. Is that correct?

Commander-in-Chief: That is correct.

Past Division Commander Frank K. Maples: I believe the committee has heard from the brothers offering this resolution, and I believe they have thoroughly canvassed it, and in order to bring the matter up before the Encampment, I move that the action of the committee be sustained.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I second the motion.

Commander-in-Chief: The motion as I understand it is to approve the report of the committee, and it means that the Encampment does not desire to hear Brother McMillen at this time on this subject. All those in favor of the adoption of the report of the committee say aye and those opposed no. The ayes have it, and the report is adopted, as to that section.

Division Commander E. B. Smith, of Minnesota: I would like to make a motion that this action be considered as the report of the National Encampment.

Commander-in-Chief: That action necessarily results from the vote just taken.

Resolution offered by the Federated Patriotic Societies calling for the patriotic significance of Thanksgiving Day and requesting the display of the flag and to include Thanksgiving Day in the list of flag days and the patriotic observance of Thanksgiving Day in all Americanization programs.

Your committee concur.

Commander-in-Chief: Is there objection? The Chair hears none. The section is adopted.

Resolution offered by the Federated Patriotic Societies calling for the use of the universal pledge of allegiance and the adoption of the flag code as adopted by the National Americanism Commission.

Your committee is of the opinion that this action has been taken, but, if not, approves of it.

Commander-in-Chief: Is there objection? The Chair hears none. The section is adopted.

That a legislative committee be named by the Commander-in-Chief to act in conjunction with and for the interests of the Grand Army of the Republic and Union Veterans of the Civil War, to be represented at Washington during the sessions of Congress, to prevent the adoption of bills affecting [inimical to] the Union Veterans in particular.

Your committee concur.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: I may misunderstand this, but if my understanding is correct, under the action of the committee as read, we are opposed to the passage of a pension bill?

Commander-in-Chief: I think the brother misunderstood. The chair understood the recommendation to be that one of the duties of the legislative committee perhaps was to prevent legislation inimical to the soldiers of the Civil War.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I think the word "inimical" is better, and I readily adopt it. That is the very purpose of the resolution.

Commander-in-Chief: Is there any objection? The chair hears none, and the section is adopted.

That this national body request the establishment in Divisions and Departments of committees in reference to state legislation.

Your committee concur.

Commander-in-Chief: Is there any objection? The Chair hears none. The section is adopted.

That we deprecate and are opposed to Acts authorizing the coinage of money by the government which will permit to be displayed thereon inscriptions or likenesses of those who voted against or sought to destroy this government.

The action of your committee in reference to this last resolution is that while it deprecates exceedingly the enactment of the bill authorizing the coinage of Stone Mountain Memorial Coin, yet it realizes that it has been done and the coins are in circulation, and we can only chide ourselves for having been "asleep at the switch."

Commander-in-Chief: Is there any objections? The Chair hears none, and the section is adopted.

Resolution offered by the Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Association and National Memorial Day League of Pittsburgh.

The purport of this resolution is that the 30th day of May shall be designated for the purpose of decorating the graves of the comrades of our Soldier Dead and that it is the highest duty of every American citizen to maintain the authority of the constitution, and laws of the United States, and the integrity of the Union, do everything in our power for a strict and most sacred observance of Memorial Day, and that all other activities shall cease on that day set apart for honoring the memory of our Nation's defenders.

The action of your committee is that Memorial Day is worthy of the most loyal observance of all members of our Order and that we encourage its observance and discourage any and all things which might in any way detract from the sacredness of the day, and so far as is consistent with the laws of the several States we are in accordance with the resolution.

Past Commander-in-Chief McGuire: A point of information. A brother presented me a resolution that read similar to that, but I have not been able to get hold of any of the committee to bring the matter before the body. The sense of the resolution was—

Past Commander-in-Chief Russell: I rise to a point of order.

Commander-in-Chief: Will you please state the point of order.

Past Commander-in-Chief McGuire: Full approval of the report, or of the resolution is not included in the report of the committee.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I have read the resolution and if my memory serves me right, this one covered at least three pages of typewriting, and I tried to make it as brief as possible and still cover the points of the resolution so as to present it in an intelligent manner. Perhaps I have failed.

Commander-in-Chief: Apparently the point of information is as to whether or not the resolution is one you have in mind. I take it the question is answered. The Chair hears no objection to the report of this committee, and the section is approved.

Resolution to endorse the songs entitled "To Our Loyal Countrymen."

While we appreciate the sentiment of the song and the beauty of the music, we are of the opinion that it would be inadvisable to approve the song according to the resolution.

Commander-in-Chief: Is there any objection? The Chair hears none, and the section of the report is adopted.

Resolution offered by D. B. Bowley of the California Division as to the observance of Constitution Week.

Your committee is in sympathy with directing attention to the adoption of the Constitution of the United States and approves the resolution whereby the Commander-in-Chief will call the attention of this anniversary to the Camp and members requesting a proper observance during the week of September 17.

Commander-in-Chief: Is there any objection? The Chair hears none, and the section is adopted.

Resolution from the Illinois Division to secure the permanent marking of the graves of every honorably discharged Union soldier, sailor or marine of the Civil War and for the securing of the erection, through the proper state and national officers, of appropriate markers as furnished by the United States government and that the carrying out of this duty be made a part of the duties of the Sons of Veterans.

The action of your committee is concurrence, believing that we do but honor ourselves when we see that the final resting places of our Union Veterans are properly and suitably marked.

Commander-in-Chief: Is there any objection? The Chair hears none. The section is adopted.

From the Oregon Division recommending that the altar be not draped with the American flag but instead a suitable banner be provided.

This matter was determined at our last previous National Encampment and until otherwise ordered the flag of the United States of America shall be used upon the altar in the Camp room.

Commander-in-Chief: Is there any objection? The Chair hears none. The report of the committee is approved as to this section.

Resolution of the Illinois Division in reference to the Stone Mountain Memorial and the coinage of the Memorial Half Dollar for this purpose.

A similar resolution condemning this action having been passed upon by your committee previously, no further action recommended.

Commander-in-Chief: Is there any objection? The Chair hears none, and the report is adopted.

Resolution by the New Jersey Division in re the restoration of the Lee mansion in Arlington Cemetery.

Your committee greatly regrets that the Congress of the United States has approved of such legislation, but is of the opinion that it would be unwise to favor the repeal of that law, but that we do all we possibly can through our representatives in Congress to prevent any appropriation for the restoration of the Lee mansion. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief: Apparently there is no objection. The Chair hears none, and the report is approved.

"THE ADMINISTRATION."

WHEREAS, The administration of Commander-in-Chief Coffin, and his associate officers, now nearing its close, has been distinguished for the progress that has been made in placing our

Order upon a firmer basis, thereby giving this great patriotic Order a larger degree of confidence than ever before in the eyes of the Grand Army of the Republic and all of the allied societies;

WHEREAS, Each one of the officers has been conspicuous for the zeal, fidelity and enthusiasm displayed in his particular part of the work, but more especially by our beloved leader, Commander-in-Chief Coffin, sparing not himself if thereby the good of the Order could be enhanced or the relations among the allied societies more closely cemented or the patriotism of the various communities where our Order is established raised to a higher level;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That we do here and now in this formal manner express to all of our officers, but more particularly our Commander-in-Chief, our greatest appreciation for their labors in our behalf. May the consciousness of duty well performed be to them sufficient compensation, counting the privilege of serving our Order and Nation as of greater value than anything we can do for them.

WHEREAS, The hospitality of the city of Grand Rapids has been so manifest, including the opening of many private homes, the entertainment provided for the visitors, the use of automobiles, the manifest courtesy of all public officials;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That we do hereby express our heartfelt appreciation for these many favors.

WHEREAS, The public Press have accorded a liberal space to the action of the various allied patriotic societies, all of which must be most beneficial to these organizations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That we recognize this favor and hereby record our unstinted praise.

WHEREAS, The local committee have to the best of their ability endeavored to make the visit of all the delegates most agreeable and Brother George E. Cogshall is responsible for having provided the very substantial standards designating the different Divisions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That we express to this committee and to Brother Cogshall, individually, our sincerest appreciation.

C. F. SHERMAN,
A. E. B. STEPHENS,
W. L. ANDERSON,
J. M. JAMES,
R. I. KAYWOOD,
Committee.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I move the adoption of this report, as a whole.

The motion was duly seconded, put by the Commander-in-Chief, and carried.

(Following are the resolutions in detail which were adopted under the recommendation of the report of the foregoing Committee on Resolutions:)

I.

WHEREAS, The Battle of Westport, the "Gettysburg of the West," was fought in Missouri, October 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 1864,

saving that state to the Union, twenty-nine thousand troops in military organizations from the following eight states were engaged: Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, Colorado, and Texas. The Union forces under Major General Samuel R. Curtis, U. S. A., Department of Kansas, commanding the "Army of the Border," and Major General Alfred S. Pleasonton, U. S. A., commanding the "Army of the Department of the Missouri," overcame and routed the "Trans-Mississippi Army" under Major General Sterling Price, the defeat so overwhelming, that army passed out of history, never again to be heard of as a fighting force, and Missouri thereafter, to the end of the great conflict was never again in danger.

WHEREAS, The main battle took place near the then little village of Westport, now within the confines of the present corporate limits of Kansas City, Missouri, and

WHEREAS, The commission appointed by the Secretary of War, under an act of the Sixty-eighth Congress and approved by the President, has examined the battlefield and reported the feasibility of establishing a national military park commemorative of the Battle of Westport, and has forwarded its report to the War Department, to be submitted to the next Congress, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, The Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., in National Convention assembled this 3rd day of September, 1925, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, hereby heartily endorses the worthy efforts of the Missouri Valley Historical Society of Kansas City, Missouri, to commemorate this historic battle, that saved Missouri to the Union, and we hereby petition Congress to establish a national military park on the Westport Battlefield.

II.

We favor the proposed law granting to all honorably discharged soldiers and marines of the Civil War a pension of \$72.00 per month without condition, and to their widows, of \$50.00 per month.

III.

WHEREAS, The holiday of Thanksgiving affords a most fitting occasion on which to express our gratitude and reverence to God for the outstanding years of our history which stand as a reminder of the struggles and sacrifices, efforts and achievements which paved the way for the America of today, the land of opportunity; and

WHEREAS, The real significance underlying the celebration of Thanksgiving Day, the spirit of thankfulness to God, as well as to our country, is embodied in the first National Thanksgiving Proclamation issued by President Washington, October 3, 1789; and

WHEREAS, The Patriotic Observance of the Day affords a splendid opportunity for impressing the history of our country and the American ideals of citizenship upon the minds and hearts of our children and citizens, thereby arousing a greater degree of patriotism, loyalty, and appreciation of our country; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we include in our usual observance of

Thanksgiving the patriotic significance of the Day and the display of the Flag as on other National Holidays;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we include the patriotic observance of Thanksgiving in our Americanization program.

IV.

RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED BY FEDERATED PATRIOTIC SOCIETIES. THE PLEDGE.

That this Organization herewith approves and adopts, or hereby ratify such previous approval and adoption, The Universal Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and the Flag Code, as adopted by the National Americanism Commission as a part of its Ritual and usages in the Order, and a furtherance of them for recognized and universal use.

V. - VI.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE.

That a Legislative Committee, if not now so provided for, be annually named by the National Chief Executive of this Order, to act in conjunction with, and for the interests of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Union Veterans of the Civil War; to be represented at Washington, D. C., especially during sessions of Congress, as a part of a general combined Committee representing the several Orders, in support of, or opposition to, bills affecting the Union Veterans in particular, and in patriotic legislation generally;

That this National body, urge through its General Orders and otherwise, the establishment in Divisions and Departments of similar Committees in reference to all State legislation.

VII.

OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY.

WHEREAS, The Joint Memorial Day Committees, composed as it is of members of the Grand Army of the Republic, Sons of Veterans, Wives and Daughters of Veterans, Spanish-American War Veterans, American Legion, and Veterans of Foreign Wars, and, representing, as it does, all the industrial, mechanical manufacturing, commercial, financial and professional interests of the City, is especially qualified to give, in this behalf, an unbiased and authentic utterance to the public sentiment;

AND WHEREAS, The proper observance of Memorial Day will not only have a far reaching and important influence upon younger generations but will aid in keeping fresh in the minds of the older generations the meaning of true patriotism and the obligations and privileges of those who enjoy citizenship of the Great Republic; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the 30th day of May, on each succeeding year is designated for the purpose of strewing flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of Comrades, and our Soldier dead, who died in defense of their Country, and the holding of special Memorial services in remembrance of those who have suffered;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That it is the highest duty of every American Citizen to maintain against all their enemies the integrity of the Union and the paramount authority of the Constitution and laws of the United States of America, and that

laying aside all differences of political opinion, we pledge ourselves as Patriotic citizens, animated by a common sentiment, and aiming at a common object, to do everything in our power for a stricter and more sacred observance of Memorial Day, and that all other activities shall cease, and the 30th day of May shall be, and is set apart for the honoring of the memory of our Nation's defenders, and soldier dead.

RESOLVED, That a copy of these proceedings properly attested be forwarded to the President of the United States of America, the Congress of America, the Governor and the Legislative bodies of the several States, which comprise the United States of America, and that they also be published in the loyal newspapers."

VIII.

CONSTITUTION WEEK.

WHEREAS, Constitution Week, September 13-19, 1925, marks the 138th anniversary of the framing and signing of the Constitution of the United States;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That during this week, throughout the country all Camps of the Sons of Veterans of the United States of America annually observe the anniversary of that week which gave to this nation a new birth and established a charter for this Representative Republic which has guided us safely in every crisis for over a century and a quarter."

IX.

MARKERS FOR GRAVES OF UNION VETERANS.

WHEREAS, There are thousands of graves of Union Veterans of the Civil War, in the various states of the Union, in no way permanently marked to indicate that they were veterans of that great war; and

WHEREAS, The surviving members of the Grand Army of the Republic should be relieved of the duty and responsibility of seeing that the graves of their departed comrades are so marked; and

WHEREAS, The United States Government, by federal law, provides for the furnishing of appropriate markers inscribed with the name and organization in which each Union veteran served during the Civil War; and

WHEREAS, Some of the states, by law, provide for an officer whose duty it is to see that the graves of Union veterans are appropriately marked with such monuments; and

WHEREAS, Neither the government organization, nor state officers can properly function, and appropriately and permanently mark the graves of such deceased Union veterans, without local aid and assistance in the localities where such veterans are buried; and

WHEREAS, It is of the utmost importance that the graves of each Union veteran who fought in the Civil War, be without further delay, permanently marked with a proper stone containing the number of his company, regiment, and the organization with which he served, to the end that his grave shall be marked for all time, as the resting place of one of the heroes of that great war; and

WHEREAS, There is no other organization upon which the duty of reporting such unmarked graves, and securing the proper permanent marking thereof, so properly rests as it does upon the Sons of Veterans.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, in National Encampment assembled, in the city of Grand Rapids, in the State of Michigan, on this 3rd day of September, 1925, recognize it as a sacred duty of the Sons of Veterans, to take upon themselves the work of securing the permanent marking of the grave of every honorably discharged Union soldier, sailor, marine and army nurse, of the Civil War, with the consent of his nearest surviving relatives, either by inscription on the monument already erected, of the organization in which such veteran or nurse served during the war, or by the securing and erection, through the proper state and national officers of appropriate markers so furnished by the United States Government.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the carrying out of this duty hereafter, be made a part of the duties of each successive Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, and of his staff, and that whatever action may be necessary to secure the enforcement and the carrying out of the provisions of this resolution, is hereby recommended for the immediate attention and appropriate action of this Encampment.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO EXTEND GREETINGS TO THE AUXILIARY.

Past Commander-in-Chief Horn: The committee appointed to express greetings to the Auxiliary of the Sons of Veterans beg leave to report that they have performed their duties and bring back from them their greetings.

And they further desire us to tell you that they adopted the resolution of the Patriotic Societies, and named Past National President Margaret Stephens as a legislative committee at Washington.

Delegate O. R. Wilson, of Missouri: I move that the report of the committee be accepted and the committee discharged.

The motion was duly seconded, put by the Chair and carried.

Commander-in-Chief: The chairman of the Resolutions Committee may proceed if he has anything further to offer.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I have here another resolution in which your committee has concurred. I will read it. It has to do with the appointment of a special committee of seven members of the Commandery-in-Chief to act in conjunction with the Commander-in-Chief in an executive and an advisory capacity.

"WHEREAS, A change of name of our organization has been suggested by our parent body, the Grand Army of the Republic, and

"WHEREAS, A change of name would furnish a wonderful opportunity for a change in our general plan of operation whereby we might with increased efficiency assume the responsibilities attendant upon a larger usefulness to our parent body; and

"WHEREAS. It is most desirable that our program be so arranged as to promote a wider and more inviting interest among that vast army of eligibles who have and do meet our appeals with deafness; therefore be it

"RESOLVED. That a special committee consisting of W. H. Russell, John Sautter, Charles F. Sherman, William T. Church, N. J. McGuire, be and are hereby appointed, entrusted and empowered in conjunction with the Commander-in-Chief to act in an executive and advisory capacity regarding all matters pertaining to the transaction of the business of the Commandery-in-Chief, until the next annual session of the Commandery-in-Chief.

"It shall be the further duty of this committee to make a study or survey of the needs and requirements of the order, and report to the membership through The Banner at least thirty days previous to the next annual session, the results of such survey, with recommendations as to the future policy of the Order and the general revision of our Constitution, Regulations, Rituals and Ceremonies.

"Such survey shall be prosecuted to the end that a definite program may be developed which shall more strongly appeal to that vast army of eligibles whom we have been unable to reach under our present system and whose affiliation is altogether desirable and whose activity would insure our future usefulness in a field of enlarged responsibility."

Delegate E. M. Lowe, of Ohio: This is the supreme lodge. We have already a body known as the Council-in-Chief, and it is their duty to look after the welfare of this organization, and to appoint another committee to act against their prerogatives which is conferred upon them by the constitution is something which I object to, and therefore I object to the resolution as we do not want one body above the other and the two conflicting.

Commander-in-Chief: The objection of the brother is answered by the Chair in this way, that the Council-in-Chief is authorized by the present constitution as merely an auditing committee, and has no further powers. Is there any further comment on the objection offered? The question calls for a vote on the adoption or rejection of the committee report.

Past Commander-in-Chief Russell: I did not know anything about this resolution, so I am permitted to express my views about it, particularly as my name has been used in vain in connection with this committee.

I am wondering this, that while it may be well to enlist the aid of those who have given their time and study and experience to problems of the Order that are always arising, yet I am wondering what good can come of it; how can this committee, scattered as it is, get together, and out of the community of thought really devise anything that will be substantially beneficial to the Order.

Now if I get the resolution right, this committee is to sum up its conclusions during the year and submit them thirty days prior to the meeting of the National Encampment. That would certainly call, if that is the idea, that would certainly call for a meeting of that committee scattered from the Rocky Mountains to the Atlantic Coast, at least at this time. I am not

satisfied that it means anything of substantial benefit to the Order, and my idea would be instead of naming a committee, if such a report should be adopted by this Encampment in spirit, instead of naming a committee, that that be left to the incoming Commander-in-Chief to name with the idea that he will name a committee that can easily get together, of Brothers who are just as much interested in the welfare of the Order as those named, and perhaps just as wide and broad in experience. That is the thing that does not appeal to me in the resolution, and I am objecting to the resolution for that reason.

Commander-in-Chief: Does the Chair understand the remarks of the Brother to mean in effect that he is making a motion to re-refer this matter to the committee with instructions to report it out, leaving out the names of the committee?

Past Commander-in-Chief Russell: No, I do not want to do that. If this action should be non-concurrence, then the matter is still in the hands of the committee as it may want to do with it during the Encampment, but in its present form I object to it.

Past Commander-in-Chief Stephens: I move that this particular resolution be laid on the table.

Past Commander-in-Chief Horn: To lay on the table to a time certain, or indefinitely?

Past Commander-in-Chief Stephens: Indefinitely.

The motion was duly seconded, put by the Chair and carried.

Past Commander-in-Chief Russell: Now I move that the committee be instructed to report a standing committee to the Commandery-in-Chief upon all proposed resolutions and recommendations of officers and proposed legislation and to report to the succeeding Encampment at the opening session of the Encampment.

Commander-in-Chief: The Chair understands the motion of the Brother to request action by the Committee on Resolutions similar to the resolution which has been laid on the table, but a little bit different.

Past Division Commander Fred G. Hansen, of New Jersey: Is not that covered by the Committee on State of the Order?

Commander-in-Chief: The Committee on State of the Order is out of existence. The Chair may state, the resolution proposed by the committee, as the Chair understood it, was in a sense to revive the Committee on State of the Order for the purpose of taking care of a situation which might arise as the result of probable favorable action by the Grand Army of the Republic on the change of name.

Past Division Commander Fred G. Hansen, of New Jersey: Would not a motion be satisfactory that the new committee be appointed by the incoming Commander-in-Chief on the State of the Order?

Commander-in-Chief: That is the way the Chair understood Brother Russell's motion.

Past Division Commander Fred G. Hansen, of New Jersey: Can it not be made direct without referring it to the committee?

Past Commander-in-Chief Russell: That was not my idea. My idea is this, briefly; we come up here Encampment after

Encampment, and resolution after resolution is submitted, recommendation after recommendation is made in the reports of the officers, and the brethren rise upon the floor and offer amendments to our Constitution. We act upon them without any previous consideration or thought. We are continually legislating to no purpose, and the next Encampment repealing the legislation.

Now my idea was to appoint a standing committee to whom all proposed legislation and recommendations of officers would be submitted at least thirty days prior to the convening of the Encampment, that they might digest the matter fully, give it the benefit of their time and experience, and when they come here and make their recommendations to the Encampment, that the brethren will know something about the proposed legislation. It will have been given consideration. It will have been viewed from every point and angle; both from the experience in the past and from their understanding of the needs of the Order. That is the kind of a committee that I thought we ought to have; a committee of five would be sufficient, but it ought to be left to the Commander-in-Chief of that year in order that it would be possible for them to get together and do the work that they are expected to do.

Commander-in-Chief: It was your objection which took this matter out of the committee's hands. If you wish to accomplish that I suggest that you move to take the matter from the table and re-refer it to the committee so that it may be reframed to meet the views here expressed.

Past Commander-in-Chief Russell: All right, I will do that, if it will simplify the matter. I move that the resolution laid upon the table be now taken from the table and re-referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

Past Division Commander Fred G. Hansen, of New Jersey: I second the motion.

Commander-in-Chief: It has been moved and seconded that the matter now in discussion be taken from the table and re-referred to the Committee on Resolutions for further report.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sisson: I wish to rise to a point of personal privilege, as the matter has taken such shape that it seems somewhat peculiar, but I do crave the indulgence of the Commandery-in-Chief for just a moment under personal privilege.

Being the author, in a way, of that resolution, I wish to impress upon you that the purpose of the resolution is first, to make you think. The ground for the resolution is brought about by the probable action, or possible action at least, of the Grand Army of the Republic.

I do not wish to speak to the question, but I do wish to have you understand the motive behind the resolution. If it serves to make you think, and then act, it has accomplished its purpose.

We had a committee on State of the Order composed of some of the strongest minds that we had in our organization. They did accomplish a revision of the Ritual, By-Laws and Constitution. No opportunity like the one that confronts the organization today has ever existed before, but the opportunity has

always existed for eligible Sons to connect themselves with the Sons of Veterans.

There is something in our present organization that seems to repel, at least it does not attract the efforts and the rank and file of eligible Sons.

If the Grand Army of the Republic do what it is expected they may do, the psychological moment for making a complete turnabout in our organization, in our methods and in our practices whereby we may appeal to this great army of eligibles whom we have failed in forty years to interest, that moment is here. It is here and now. Next year we will be too late.

Now, men, as human beings, endowed with thinking machinery, what harm can there be in our trying to make the utmost avail of the situation which is here. We need money to do big things. If we take and accept the responsibilities which the traditions of the Grand Army entail upon us, we have got to create something and to grow in our outlook of this organization. We have got to raise money; we have got to attract men to the organization who have money; and we have already demonstrated that that is a most important thing under our present system.

Now what I want, because my father was a soldier, because through my veins courses the same blood that has been demonstrated was willing to do or die, I want to honor the name of the man, and I know now who is going to decorate his grave as long as his son lives (applause), but I want to have the other fellows who have the right to come to a realization of what it meant to save the Union, and to offer such attractions in this organization that they cannot escape them.

It seems to me that the time for about face is here, and now; and we could not spend our time better, if it takes all day tomorrow, if we give this Order a new name, by giving it an entire new suit of clothes. That is the reason of the resolution. I don't know that you want it. I don't know that I want it all. But it was the best that I could do in the brief time I had to submit it to the committee. Let us have it out. Our experience has been that if we could let this matter lay with the committee during the year they can figure it over and bring us in a report that would be very advantageous.

Delegate E. M. Lowe, of Ohio: I have been a member of this organization for forty-one years now. I am only one member in the ranks yet. I was never Division Commander and I have never been Commander-in-Chief, and with all due respect to the members of our Past Committee on the State of the Order, we continued that committee for either four or five years, maybe longer, and at the first Encampment at Indianapolis four years ago, we got a report from them that tore our Constitution, Rules and Regulations all to pieces, and presented the one we have. It contained all the good features of the old one, but why is it necessary to appoint another Committee on the State of the Order when it took the other one four or five years to make a report that did not bring out anything in addition to the present constitution, which is very good; and for that reason I don't think that this resolution ought to prevail. We have a National Council-in-Chief, and I believe that they are not only an auditing

committee, but if I am right in my belief of the situation, they have the power to sign vouchers and approve all bills, and refuse to sign them.

Delegate Newell B. Austin, of Massachusetts: I went into this Order in '86, six months after I was eligible. We have come to the parting of the ways. I have looked upon this organization from that time to this as one of the grandest organizations ever set upon God's earth, and the time is coming when there is not an organization in the United States that will ever compare with it, except the Grand Army of the Republic.

I feel that this resolution should be adopted, and unless you do that, we have got to change front and start in new as a new organization, as a new body, and I am telling you if you do not the Sons of Veterans will go out of existence and no other organization will take and carry the flag and stars as we will, and the Grand Army of the Republic will go out of existence and memory.

Commander-in-Chief: For the information of the Encampment, the Chair understands the pending motion to be simply to take this matter from the table and re-refer it to the committee for further consideration. It does not adopt anything. Are you ready for the question? All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, and those opposed no. The ayes have it and the motion is carried.

Is the Committee on Constitution and Regulations ready to report? The Chair recognizes Past Commander-in-Chief Sisson.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION AND REGULATIONS.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sisson: I will read this by sections, and if there are any objections to the different sections they can be made at that time.

(The report was then read by Chairman Sisson).

Commander-in-Chief: Is there any objection to the section read by the Chairman of the Committee with reference to the membership fee? The Chair hears none. That section is adopted. (Said Section reads as follows):

"Your committee approve many of the excellent suggestions of the National Secretary, and favor Amendment to Chapter I, Article I, Section 1, so as to read as follows:

Section 1. When a Camp is organized the membership thereof shall be not less than thirty members, each of whom shall pay a charter initiation fee of not less than ten dollars.

Amend Chapter I, Article VI, Section 1, so that the minimum initiation fee in any Camp shall be not less than ten dollars."

Commander-in-Chief: Is there any objection to the report with reference to establishment of a National Council of Administration?

Past Commander-in-Chief Russell: I do not know what the view of the committee is as to the result of that, and I am won-

dering whether consideration has been given to the expense in connection with the financing of the Order, and whether in conjunction with the adoption of such a new provision, whether the Council-in-Chief has been consulted with reference to the necessary increased expense that that would be, and accordingly planned to make provision for it. I would like information on that.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sisson: For the information of Past Commander-in-Chief Russell, and the members of the Encampment, I anticipate the adoption of this recommendation puts the Council-in-Chief out of existence because this is a recommendation in lieu of Section Five, Article Five, Chapter Three of the Regulations.

Commander-in-Chief: The Chair has not yet heard objection. Is there objection?

National Secretary Hammer: I do not want to make objection, but what is this that is to be substituted?

Past Commander-in-Chief Sisson: It is the following in lieu of Section 5, Article 5, Chapter III of the Regulations:

"There shall be a National Council of Administration consisting of the Commander-in-Chief, the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, the National Secretary-Treasurer, and one member from each Division, to be chosen by the National Encampment (one-third of the divisional members to be elected for a term of one year, one-third for a term of two years, and one-third for a term of three years, and thereafter all members representing Divisions to be elected for a term of three years).

"The National Council of Administration shall meet immediately after adjournment of the National Encampment, and at such other times and places as it or the Commander-in-Chief may order; and ten members thereof shall constitute a quorum. The Council may select from among its members a smaller number (not less than five nor more than nine) to be known as an Executive Committee, to act for it during the interim between its sessions.

"The National Council of Administration shall audit the accounts of the various national officers, shall propose and execute plans of action for the good of the order, and shall represent in all matters, the National Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, in the interval between its sessions. It shall keep full and detailed records of its proceedings, and present same as its report at a stated meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief."

Past Commander-in-Chief Horn: I move that this recommendation of the Constitutional changes be laid upon the table pending the report of the Resolutions Committee on the reinstatement of the Committee on the State of the Order.

The motion was duly seconded, put by the Chair, and declared carried.

Commander-in-Chief: The section with reference to the

recommendation to add the days of June 14th as Flag Day and September 17th as Constitution Day just read, is there any objection? The Chair hears none. That section is adopted. (Said section is as follows):

"We approve the recommendation of adding to the days we now celebrate June 14th as Flag Day, and September 17th as Federal Constitution Day, each to be marked by appropriate exercises."

Commander-in-Chief: The section with reference to reviving the office of National Inspector and Division Inspector as proposed in resolution offered by the New Hampshire Division. The committee does not recommend it. Are there any objections to that section of the report? The Chair hears none. Adopted.

The resolution asking for a change in the Constitution presented by Past Commander-in-Chief Sheldon:—

Past Commander-in-Chief Horn: I move you that that report be laid on the table because it will have some reference to the same report the Committee on Resolutions will present later.

The motion was duly seconded, put by the Commander-in-Chief, and declared carried.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sisson: I move the adoption of the report of the committee as a whole as amended by the several votes, be adopted.

Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman: I second the motion.

The motion was put by the Commander-in-Chief, and declared carried.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: May I rise to ask a question: Do I understand we have approved the recommendation of the National Secretary which limits the organization of a Camp so that there must be at least thirty members?

National Secretary Hammer: The National Secretary made no recommendation.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: That is correct. It was a suggestion.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sisson: No Camp can be organized without a membership of thirty.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: And a membership fee of ten dollars?

Commander-in-Chief: The Chair understood the Chairman of the Committee to say five dollars in reading it. The written draft of the report says ten dollars.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: May I further inquire if there was any provision for the \$300.00 fund that accrued in the new Camp; does it belong to the Camp, with the exception of the amount to be paid for the charter, or does it in any sense carry out the further suggestions of the National Secretary with reference to providing that that money be put into what might be called a trust fund?

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PRESS.

Commander-in-Chief: Is the Chairman of the Committee on the Press ready to make a report? The Chair recognizes Brother Holbrook.

Past Division Commander A. S. Holbrook, of Illinois: I beg to report that the news of the Encampment has been given the representatives of the daily papers, who have apparently been pleased to get it.

Commander-in-Chief: Is the Committee on Fraternal Relations ready to report? The Chair recognizes Past Commander-in-Chief McGuire, who is chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL RELATIONS.

Past Commander-in-Chief McGuire: My part of the performance has been performed. Division Commander Frank C. Huston and I visited the Ladies of the G. A. R., and extended greetings, and received the heartiest response to our greetings.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sheldon: I move that the report of the committee be accepted and the committee discharged.

The motion was duly put by the Chair, and carried.

Commander-in-Chief: Apparently the business of the convention is concluded so far as reports of committees is concerned, except insofar as concerns the report of the Resolutions Committee which is now at work.

NEW BUSINESS.

Division Commander Buck, of Illinois: This Encampment in its wisdom a few moments ago adopted a resolution which provided for the permanent marking of the graves of soldiers of the Civil War. So far as I was able to determine, there was no provision in the resolution as presented by the committee which provided for the active carrying out of that resolution, and if you please, sir, I move you that the incoming Commander-in-Chief be instructed to appoint a committee whose duty it shall be to carry out the provisions of the resolution just adopted by this Encampment.

Past Division Commander C. D. Thomas, of Illinois: I second the motion.

Delegate A. L. Weinstock, of Pennsylvania: Merely as a suggestion and as exemplifying the motion of the Brother who previously spoke, I might say that in Pennsylvania the marker question is answered by our civil, county and state authorities. In Philadelphia, where I reside, any Son of a Veteran, whether a member of our organization or not can receive a most beautiful marker absolutely free of charge which he can take and place on the grave of his father or grandfather by applying to the County Commissioner, who by the way, in our case, is a member of the Camp of which I am a member, and he cheerfully goes to any trouble to see that the Sons of Veterans get these markers without any charge, and every county in the state does that. However, I am not conversant with the condition in other states but as a matter of economy to this committee when it comes to the question of providing a marker, I

might suggest that the laws of the different states, or regulations if there are no laws, be looked up so that this can be made just as easy as possible because I am of the opinion that if each one of you knew you could get a beautiful marker for your father or grandfather's grave, you would be glad to see to it and get it yourself.

Past Division Commander Fred G. Hansen, of New Jersey: In New Jersey we have had a law since 1909 that every County Board of Freeholders must provide markers, flags and wreaths and see that they are placed in the various cemeteries on the Sunday previous to Memorial Day.

Delegate Charles E. Storey, of Massachusetts: I want to say that it seems to me that the tenor of this proposition is a subject matter that ought to be entirely unnecessary. It seems to me we ought not to cover up our National Organization with any more committees than are actually necessary.

It is a very happy fact to all of us I think that a simple request on the Quartermaster's Department at Washington, D. C., with a proper certification of the death and location of the grave of a veteran of any of the wars will produce in a reasonable length of time, at the request of any responsible person, a marker furnished by the government for the grave of such veteran; and to appoint a committee of the National Commandery-in-Chief to handle this thing it seems to me complicates matters.

I know I have had experience in my own Camp, and I have had in my desk blanks to fill out for veterans who passed away.

In the cemeteries in Massachusetts I can take you through where there are gravestones furnished by the government for men of the United States Naval Reserve Forces and other units of the World War which will compare favorably in their manufacture, in their appearance, in their whole composition with any product of any private concern making gravestones, as an ornament as well as a historical marker for that grave, and along side of that I can point you to a stone furnished by the same government for veterans who died with your fathers and my fathers on which the workmanship is of the poorest.

What we want to do, if we are going to take up the matter of a permanent memory, is to work upon our Congressmen.

Past Division Commander Will F. Jenkins, of Illinois: I rise to a point of order. The question before the house is to appoint someone to carry out the recommendations of the committee. We are glad that all these states have provisions for marking the graves, but the matter being discussed is not germane.

Commander-in-Chief: The Chair states that his understanding of the motion was that it was to appoint a committee to take any action which might be necessary to carry into effect the resolution heretofore adopted.

Delegate Charles E. Storey, of Massachusetts: I will say that I feel there is no occasion for a committee of this nature, because the individual Camp, the individual Commandery, and anybody can get the marker.

Commander-in-Chief: All those in favor of the appointment of the committee say aye, those opposed no. The ayes

appear to have it. The ayes have it, and the motion is adopted.

At yesterday's session a report from the committee of last year with regard to the memorial project of the G. A. R. was laid on the table until the reports came in today. Those reports have come in. By your action on the report of the Committee on Officers' Reports, you have re-adopted the proposition, and National Secretary Hammer now asks that we take from the table the report that was laid on the table, from Brother Johnson's committee. The Chair will entertain a motion of that kind.

Past Division Commander Frank K. Maples, of New York: I move you that that report be taken from the table.

The motion was duly seconded, put by the Commander-in-Chief, and carried.

Commander-in-Chief: The question before the house now is on the report of the special committee of Brother Johnson. Shall the report be adopted?

Past Commander-in-Chief Ralph M. Grant, of Connecticut: I move that the matter now taken from the table be referred to the committee.

Commander-in-Chief: The Chair would have to rule that out of order. It is believed that Brother who made the motion does not understand what the result of that would be. The report is now before this body. A report from the committee headed by Brother Johnson provided for a Memorial Building to the Grand Army of the Republic, and the Encampment has already adopted the substance of it. This report provides the machinery for carrying into effect the action you have already taken.

Past Division Commander Fred G. Hansen, of New Jersey: I move you that we adopt the report of that committee and the committee be continued.

The motion was duly seconded.

Commander-in-Chief: It has been moved and seconded that the report of the committee read to you by Brother Johnson yesterday be adopted and the committee continued.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: May I inquire just where we would be at in case of a negative vote on the motion of the gentleman of New Jersey?

Commander-in-Chief: Just where we were if we had not taken the report from the table.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: Would the project be dead, or would it still be alive?

Past Commander-in-Chief Sheldon: It would be alive to the extent that we have adopted the report but have not provided any machinery to operate it. This provides the machinery to run it.

Commander-in-Chief: That is correct. We have already by our prior action adopted the project in general. The report of this committee sets up the special machinery to carry that into effect.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: Then I renew my ques-

tion. Frankly I do not know where we would be at in the event of a negative vote on this motion.

Commander-in-Chief: We have taken action, but we have failed to provide the means to carry that action into effect. Does that answer the question?

National Secretary Hammer: Has our committee any information from the other bodies as to what they have done, or are they doing anything?

Past Commander-in-Chief Sheldon: I will state that all of the fraternal bodies have approved of the plan and entered into it, with the exception of the Woman's Relief Corps who are to act upon it at this Encampment. Whether they have or not I do not know, but all the other bodies have approved of this idea and plan.

National Secretary Hammer: I do not want to interfere in anything, but realize if this is going over, don't come with eighty dollars like to the Harding Memorial Fund. When you are going to put up a Memorial to the Grand Army of the Republic, think a little; that's all.

Commander-in-Chief: The question is called for. Those in favor say aye; those opposed no. The Chair is in doubt. The question before the house is whether or not the report of Brother Johnson's committee be adopted and the committee continued. All in favor please rise. Those opposed rise. Apparently the motion is defeated. The motion is lost.

What further business is there before the Encampment?

Past Commander-in-Chief Sheldon: Now Commander-in-Chief, your action here now is typical of what the Sons of Veterans have been doing since its existence. The resolution which I offered would prevent just what you are doing and I just wonder whether or not you understand just what you are doing.

Now, gentlemen, be reasonable. You are all of age, and I believe you have a little bit of grey matter, but you haven't demonstrated it just this minute. You have voted down something that you thought was fine. You thought the Memorial was fine and you turn right around after adopting it and do not approve of anything to carry it out with. I tried to arise and explain something to you but I could not. All of the bodies have acted and acquiesce.

Now how does it place the Sons of Veterans? We come to these bodies and ask their support, and the resolution is unanimously approved by all of the allied organizations agreeing to support it. Now I don't know about the Woman's Relief Corps. Last year they laid it on the table to be voted on this year. Now suppose the Woman's Relief Corps, the largest fraternal organization in existence, suppose they come to you and say, we approve of it and we are going to work our hands and heads off for it! What are you going to say about it? It was the Sons of Veterans, their plan, they approved of it—still they vote it down when it comes to putting it into effect.

Gentlemen, I have been in the Order so long that it is just what I expected of you. You one minute want to do one thing, and in the next fifteen minutes, you turn around and do something else. Now if this body of men will just use what little

grey matter they have and give this question some thought, and then when you do something stay by it, you will get some place. You are doing wrong here today.

Delegate W. J. Schultz, of Ohio: That matter has been disposed of and cannot be debated. I rise to a point of order.

Past Commander-in-Chief Johnson: I move that we reconsider the vote just passed, refusing the adoption of this report and that the motion be reconsidered.

Commander-in-Chief: Brother Johnson moves a reconsideration of the vote whereby the report was rejected. Do I hear a second to the motion?

Past Commander-in-Chief Sheldon: I second the motion.

Commander-in-Chief: All those in favor of the motion say aye and those opposed no. The ayes have it. The business before the house now is the report of the committee on the project of the G. A. R. Memorial. The Chair recognizes the Chairman of the Committee who made the report.

Past Commander-in-Chief Johnson: Now, Commander-in-Chief, I move the adoption of this report, with the following amendment, that the report of the committee be adopted provided the Woman's Relief Corps votes at its Encampment to come into the combine to erect this memorial. If they do not come in, why, let this matter be dropped, the whole matter, not lay it on the table, but come out squarely and say that we do not care to place ourselves under obligation in this thing.

Now, Brothers, your committee, and it was composed of men who do what they are told to do, and they do it right away and they do it well—I want you to understand, sirs, that this committee is not unmindful of its situation. You have placed this committee in a position before the allied orders where they say “What can you depend on from the Sons of Veterans?” I approached a very high official in the Woman's Relief Corps and I said, won't you work for us to get the Woman's Relief Corps into this thing, because I knew that if we could get the Woman's Relief Corps that the thing would be a glittering success, and every member of this Encampment knows that to be true. There is not an organization in the United States today that can go out collectively and raise money for a proposition behind which they stand as can the Woman's Relief Corps.

Now, gentlemen, we are going to place ourselves before that organization as a set of “welchers.” Can this organization afford to go before the Woman's Relief Corps in a matter for the support of the Grand Army and say, we love you, we will put down our lives for you—that is the stuff you hear in the Camp room. I have been a member of this Order for nearly forty years, and I will tell you brothers here now that during that forty years there have been very few meetings that I have attended but what there has been constant reference to the “dear Grand Army.” Let's do for them what we can; let's perpetuate their memory—that is at every meeting in the Camp, and yet when the proposition is brought up, what is this Encampment today saying—“the Grand Army be damned!” That is the substance of it.

Now, Brothers, I told you a minute ago that I personally went to this woman of the Woman's Relief Corps. She says,

"Mr. Johnson, you are wasting your time; the Sons of Veterans have been in existence for forty odd years and what have they ever done for the Grand Army of the Republic, or anybody else except to go out on Memorial Day and decorate graves; don't waste your time because they will do nothing. The Woman's Relief Corps wants to be assured that they are going to receive adequate help from your Order." That is the position that is held by many of the ladies of the Woman's Relief Corps as the gentlemen who are familiar with the members of the Woman's Relief Corps can say.

Now we are doing a mighty poor thing to refuse to adopt this report. You left it to the committee. The committee has certainly done what it was authorized to do and directed to do at the Milwaukee Encampment. If there was any objection to this thing it should have been registered at the Milwaukee Encampment. The Order has been placed in a critical position. For Heaven's sake, don't bury our position with the Woman's Relief Corps, or our standing rather with the Woman's Relief Corps and the Grand Army of the Republic. (Applause).

Past Division Commander Will F. Jenkins, of Illinois: I voted to kill this the other day for the simple reason that it did not contain the Woman's Relief Corps and I did not believe that the other organizations could carry it out. Under this motion as now proposed I would be glad to vote for it because it takes in the Woman's Relief Corps.

Commander-in-Chief: Motion has been made and seconded that the report of the committee be adopted provided the Woman's Relief Corps at this Encampment takes similar action in regard to the project. The Commander-in-Chief was appealed to yesterday by the President of the Woman's Relief Corps who said that she expected to bring it before the Woman's Relief Corps for adoption.

Division Commander Frank C. Huston, of Indiana: I just want to state, Commander-in-Chief and Brothers, we have just taken a vote on this thing which was a very great surprise to me. I am inclined to believe that the vote was taken by a great many who were hardly half awake. I hope before this vote is taken this time that you boys will be wide awake, because it seems to me one of the most foolhardy actions I have seen taken by any deliberate body, to pass the resolution that we did a while ago and then kill every piece of machinery to put it into effect.

Delegate A. L. Weinstock, of Pennsylvania: I want to raise a point of order, and my point of order is that it is out of order for a speaker to lecture this convention for the action it has taken. I think it is a thinking body, and not a numbskull. I think the speakers should constrain themselves in their remarks.

Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman: Now let us be serious about this vitally important question. Let us adopt this enthusiastically by a rising vote. Let us say to the Grand Army of the Republic and the Woman's Relief Corps that we are in favor of this proposition to honor the soldiers, living and dead. I ask for a rising vote.

Commander-in-Chief: Those in favor of the motion please

rise. Those opposed please rise. Clearly the ayes have it. It is apparently unanimous, and the motion is adopted.

Delegate Edward F. Ream, of Illinois: I now move to strike from the minutes the record of the previous action on this motion.

Past Commander-in-Chief Johnson: I second the motion.

Commander-in-Chief: Motion has been made and seconded to expunge from the record that portion of it which shows the previous action of this Encampment on this motion. All those in favor of the motion say aye, and those opposed no. The motion is carried.

The Chair will recognize Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman of New York, who is Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, with a further report.

FURTHER REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: Your committee was charged with a difficult problem, and we hope you will be very considerate of the efforts we have put forth. Your committee is unanimous in support of this resolution and I move its adoption.

(The report of the committee was then read to the convention by Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman).

Commander-in-Chief: It has been moved and duly seconded that the report of the committee be adopted. All in favor of the adoption say aye; the contrary no. The ayes have it and the motion is adopted.

(Following is the report of the committee just adopted):

"WHEREAS, A change of name of our organization has been suggested by our parent body, the Grand Army of the Republic, and

"WHEREAS, A change in name would furnish a wonderful opportunity for a change in our general plan of operation whereby we might with increased efficiency assume the responsibilities attendant upon a larger usefulness to our parent body; and

"WHEREAS, It is most desirable that our program be so rearranged as to promote a wider and more inviting interest among that vast army of eligibles who have and do meet our appeals with deafness; therefore be it

"RESOLVED, That the present Commander-in-Chief appoint a special committee of seven members of the Commandery-in-Chief, and they hereby are instructed and empowered, in conjunction with the Commander-in-Chief to act in an executive and advisory capacity regarding all matters pertaining to the transaction of the business of the Commandery-in-Chief until the next session of the Commandery-in-Chief.

"It shall be the further duty of this committee to make a study or survey of the needs and requirements of the Order, and report to the membership through The Banner at least thirty days previous to the next annual session, the results of such survey, with recommendations as to the future policy of the Order and the general revision of our Constitution, Regulations, Rituals and Ceremonies.

"Such survey shall be prosecuted to the end that a definite program may be developed which shall more strongly appeal to that vast army of eligibles whom we have been unable to reach under our present system and whose affiliation is altogether desirable, and whose activity would insure our future usefulness in a field of enlarged responsibility.

"RESOLVED, That all action upon the Constitution and Regulations, Rituals and Ceremonies, enacted at this session of the Encampment be held in abeyance until this special committee makes its report."

Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman: To make the record clear I now move that the two propositions that were laid on the table a few minutes ago, one with reference to the Council of Administration, and the other the resolution of Dr. Sheldon, be taken from the table and referred to this new committee.

(The motion was duly seconded).

Commander-in-Chief: Motion is made and seconded that the matters which were a few moments ago laid on the table pending the report of the committee which you have just adopted, be taken from the table and referred to the committee you have now created for its action. Are you ready for the question? Those in favor of the motion say aye, and those opposed no. The ayes have it and the motion is carried.

(The two propositions referred to in the above motion are as follows:)

RESOLVED, That Article VII, Chapter III of the C. & R. be amended to read as follows:

COMMITTEES.

The regular committees of the Commandery-in-Chief shall consist of five members each and shall be appointed as provided in the order of business hereinafter set forth, except that a standing committee of five members shall be appointed by the Commander-in-Chief for a term of five years to be known as the Committee on Legislation, and to which all proposed legislation, recommendations of officers, and resolutions other than of a purely social or fraternal character, shall be submitted through proper channels at least thirty (30) days prior to the convening of the Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief for their careful consideration and recommendation of said committee, and no amendment shall be made to the C. & R. at any session of the Commandery-in-Chief unless first approved by said committee.

Submitted by

RALPH SHELDON.

(Section from report of Committee on Officers' Report:)

That the following be adopted in lieu of Section 5, Article 5, Chapter III of the Regulations:

There shall be a National Council of Administration, consisting of the Commander-in-Chief, the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, the National Secretary-Treasurer, and one member from each Division, to be chosen by the National Encampment (one-third of the Divi-

sional members to be elected for a term of one year, one-third for a term of two years, and one-third for a term of three years and thereafter all members representing Divisions to be elected for a term of three years.)

The National Council of Administration shall meet immediately after adjournment of the National Encampment, and at such other times and places as it or the Commander-in-Chief may order; and ten members thereof shall constitute a quorum. The Council may select from among its members a smaller number (not less than five nor more than nine) to be known as an Executive Committee, to act for it during the interim between its sessions.

The National Council of Administration shall audit the accounts of the various national officers, shall propose and execute plans of action for the good of the order, and shall represent in all matters, the National Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, in the interval between its sessions. It shall keep full and detailed records of its proceedings, and present same as its report at a stated meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief.

Commander-in-Chief: Apparently the convention has finished the majority of the business before it. Are there any other committees to report?

National Secretary Hammer: The Credentials Committee reports, supplementary, that we have 223 delegates enrolled, and I move that this be considered the final roll unless other delegates present themselves to the committee for registration, and the committee be considered discharged with the close of the Encampment.

The motion was duly seconded, and carried.

National Secretary Hammer: We have the following telegrams of greetings:

Tulsa, Okla., Sept. 2, 1925.

H. H. Hammer,
National Secretary, Sons of Veterans,
Grand Rapids, Mich.

Please extend my greetings to the Encampment. Am in Tulsa with the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Accept my best wishes for a successful Encampment and a prosperous future.

C. B. MARTIN,
Parsons, Kansas.

Rochester, Minn., Sept. 2, 1925.

H. H. Hammer,
National Secretary Sons of Veterans,
Grand Rapids, Mich.

Greetings to Commandery. Expected to be there but wife is under operation.

M. D. FRIEDMAN.

And the following written communications:

South Londonderry, Vt., Aug. 8, 1925.

Mr. W. M. Coffin,
C-in-C., S. of V.,

Dear Commander:

Your kind remembrance of July 24 was forwarded to me here where I am on the old farm where I spent my boyhood days, long ago.

I fear I must forego the pleasure of seeing you at Grand Rapids. Please remember me to the boys, and accept for yourself cordial greetings and best wishes.

My address until December will be Apt. 27, The Stanhope, Washington, D. C.

Faternally,

E. R. CAMPBELL.

Allentown, Pa., Aug. 31, 1925.

H. H. Hammer,
National Secretary, S. of V.

My best wishes for a successful Encampment.

Yours in F., C. & L.,

WALTER E. SMITH, P. D. C., Pa.

St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 29, 1925.

My Dear Hammer:

Owing to my wife's health I regret to say will not be able to attend the Grand Rapids Encampment.

The first National Encampment I attended was in 1895 at Grand Rapids, and on account of that I am quite disappointed by non-attendance.

My best wishes for a most successful Encampment; and more than that, to the Old Guard who have worked so long and faithfully for our beloved Order.

Loyally yours,

E. H. MILHAM.

Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 30, 1925.

W. M. Coffin, Commander-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.,
Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Dear Commander-in-Chief:

Greetings, and best wishes for a large and harmonious Encampment.

Faternally,

LEON. L. ROBERTS,
Past Division Commander.

CAROLYN ROBERTS,

Past Division President, Sons of Veterans Auxiliary.

514 Kittredge Bldg.,
Denver, Col., Aug. 28, 1925.

Honorable W. M. Coffin,
Grand Rapids, Michigan,
Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

My Dear Commander:

I hereby tender to you and your associate officers and delegates assembled, fraternal greetings on this the Forty-fourth Annual Meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Although not personally present, I am with you in thought and spirit, in all that our grand organization stands for.

With best wishes for a profitable and pleasant Encampment.

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

LEW WALLACE McCOMB,
Past Division Commander, Wisconsin Division.

P. S.—The name that our Order should bear, The Sons of the Grand Army of the Republic."

And while passing I want to say to you gentleman, that the Council-in-Chief, you must remember, did not know what this legislation was going to be in order to provide a budget of expenditures or even receipts, so you will have to be just as lenient to the Council-in-Chief as you have been to yourselves in the last two days. The Commander-in-Chief says that he is going to get you out of here before four o'clock.

Past Commander-in-Chief Stephens: It is quite evident that we will have a half or three-quarters of an hour to wait for the report of our Council-in-Chief. We have here an officer from the United States Army, Captain Hopkins. I ask unanimous consent that during this time we invite Captain Hopkins to address us upon a subject that is very interesting not only to us but to all patriotic people in the country. I ask your unanimous consent for a half hour for that purpose.

Commander-in-Chief: Without objection, that will be considered the sense of the Encampment. The Chair hears no objection, and therefore the consent is granted. Will Past Commander-in-Chief Stephens please escort the gentleman to this station.

Past Commander-in-Chief Stephens: Commander-in-Chief, I desire to present Captain Hopkins.

Commander-in-Chief: We will be very glad to receive the message which he has to bring to us while we are waiting for the report of the Council-in-Chief. We are proceeding under the order of the resolution yesterday to keep in continuous session until the business is finished. I am sure we can well afford to take the time necessary to listen to the address of Captain Hopkins.

ADDRESS BY CAPTAIN C. B. HOPKINS,
President Military Intelligence Association,
Chicago, Illinois.

Captain Hopkins: Mr. Commander, and Members of the Sons of Veterans, let me say that I appreciate very much the

courtesy extended, not from a personal standpoint, but because I know that I have a message that you should hear, and I am confident that when I have concluded you will be glad for what you have heard, not in any sense that I am an orator; I speak under no such term, but I have information that this organization and every patriotic organization should have.

The day is here when we Americans should have the highest and noblest conception of American citizenship, and a complete and full realization of our obligations, responsibilities and duties toward maintaining the sacred ideals and principles of Americanism. I am here to speak to you upon the subject,

DOES AMERICA NEED DEFENDING?

While I wear the uniform of the United States Army, I am not here to plead for military supremacy. I am here to plead for an adequate army to defend what has been bought at so dear a price.

The enemy that I refer to today is not an armed force, Thank God. We have never yet met an enemy upon a field of battle that we have had to yield supremacy to. (Applause). But there are elements at work, subtle, pernicious and vile, that it is well for you and for me to take cognizance of, and realize what this enemy is doing.

In dealing with the question of defending America and Americanism, we must remember that while we are in a world of ideals, we are not yet an ideal world. Most of us believe that this is just about the best country on earth. America stands today unrivaled among the nations of the earth, and this governmental structure that raised itself so proudly is not a creature of accident; it did not just happen. It was because our forefathers with inspired vision foresaw this country as we have it today, possibly not realizing how great it was to be.

I noticed as I came into your room that you have a table upon which is the American flag, and the Bible. The Bible and the flag have ever gone hand in hand. Faith and allegiance are interwoven like threads of gold in the fabric of American history. President Coolidge concluded his inaugural address and message with these words:

"America cherishes no hopes save to merit the favor of Almighty God."

Our Pilgrim Fathers, pioneering, said that they were opening up this country for the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian faith. And surely you recall Benjamin Franklin of the Constitutional Convention, after days of seemingly fruitless deliberation, addressing himself to President Washington something after this fashion, said: "Mr. President, I am convinced that God governs in the affairs of men, and it is strange that this body has overlooked invoking the blessing and aid of Almighty God upon these deliberations." From that day forth those deliberations and those sessions were opened with prayer. And what was the result?

That body gave to the world the greatest document that human comprehension has ever conceived—the Constitution of the United States. And men, that Constitution is still in force. What are some of the provisions of it:

The six fundamental principles for forming this government: (a) form a more perfect Union, (b) establish justice, (c) provide for the common defense, (d) insure domestic tranquillity, (e) promote the general welfare, and (f) secure the blessings of liberty.

These words are profound enough to be found within the holy writ. We have agencies at work that would tear apart that Constitution; that would unbuild what we have builded. Not to go into detail, I am going to tell you today of the operations of the Third International of Russia in the United States, and some of the methods that it is pursuing in order to uphold the sovietism and bring about the communist regime throughout the world.

If the red, as he is commonly called, was the fellow down here with the bushy hair, wild eyed, confined himself to the soap box on the corner, we would pay very little attention to him. But we are not dealing with him in that sense and in that sphere. I will tell you, and I have documents to prove and show that he is working through our clergy, certain of them, our colleges, our schools, and our women's organizations. We have pacifist organizations in the United States. Pacifism is working hand and hand with the Third International of Moscow. It is being directed, and to some extent financed by the Third International; and I want to say here that Judas Iscariot shakes hands with himself every time he hears a pacifist. A pacifist and a betrayer of God, betrayer of country, is one and the same thing. Pacifism is murder.

It was murder before the last war. It was murder and will be murder before the next war. The idea that you can get young manhood today, and without training, put them in a field of battle tomorrow, if the call tomorrow comes, with a fair chance for his life, is murder. You cannot do that with a football team.

The Third International, operating under a communist manifesto, like our Constitution of the United States, our preamble, has six cardinal points, but how different they are from those that I quoted. Listen to them; abolition of private property, of all rights of inheritance, of the family, of marriage, of religion, of the distinction between town and country.

I will not deal with the private property proposition more than to say that communism says no man may own anything in his own right; owning nothing he can have nothing; nothing may be inherited.

But the abolition of the family, of marriage, of religion! What have we today that is of value to us if we discard and eliminate from our lives the home circle and religious influence?

Under the communistic reign in Russia at the present time children are being, as they call it, nationalized. There is no marriage. A father has no responsibility for the child that the woman bears. The woman has nothing to say as to the man who shall be the father of her child, nor has she any claim upon him. They become wards of the State. I quote from the wife of the president of the Third International:

"We must nationalize the children. We must remove the children from the pernicious influence of the family. We must register the children. Let us speak plainly.

We must nationalize them, and thus they will remain from the start under the beneficial influence of the communistic school and compel the mother to surrender her child to us, the Soviet State. That is the practical test before us."

I doubt if there is a man in this room that would deny that everything that guides him today, that fundamentally everything that guides him today in his choice of right and wrong, comes to him, and is helped and aided by that oral instruction that he received at his mother's knee. (Applause).

A few months ago former Secretary Hughes made the statement that the reds hoped to eventually raise the red flag over the White House.

The United States Department of Justice had intercepted a letter of instructions to the Workers (Communist) Party of America, from the Soviet Government of Russia which included these words:

"With reference to the organization of the Workers Party of America, the Communist International expresses its completest satisfaction and approval. * * * We hope the party will, step by step, conquer the proletarian forces of America, and in the not distant future raise the red flag over the White House."

Let me say this with regard to the Workers Party of America and the Communist Party of America; they are one and the same thing. The Workers Party of America is principally organized as a political party under the laws of our country, but every member of that organization is also a member of the party No. 2, The Communist Party of America, and receives his instructions from and promises to abide by the orders of the Third International of Russia.

Proof of that statement is given in the records of your own State of Michigan here, in the case of the State of Michigan vs. Ruthenburg, where the conviction of Ruthenburg was secured largely through the statement of one of his own colleagues that that was a fact, that they were in the Workers Party carrying out the orders of the Third International.

On November 11, 1922, Russia gave instructions through Ludwig Katterfield that a communist daily be published in the United States:

"It will be the duty of the communists to mobilize the proletariat of the United States. To perform this and the many other tasks the most important step is the establishment of an English communist daily in the United States."

Since that edict was sent forth the "Daily Worker" was started in Chicago, and is being published at 1113 West Washington Boulevard. It is the official organ of the Workers (Communist) Party of America.

At a secret communist convention in Chicago, December 30, 1923, Martin Ahern, a delegate, and worker among the communist youth, in making his report to the convention, said:

"Methods must be devised to reach young workers in military training camps with revolutionary propaganda."

In this connection you will recall that two "red" youths were expelled from Camp Custer this past summer.

I hold in my hand International press correspondence which contains the program of the Communist International. I will not take time to read it. It advises taking over the public schools, fighting against religion, and taking this country by revolution.

I have here a manual for leaders of children's groups in which instructions are given to the "reds" to proceed to undermine the patriotic idea that our children have, and to explain the communist ideas.

A magazine published for the young people in the City of Chicago, and circulated as far as possible among the school children contains the statement in Volume 1, No. 3, "We will fight against the public schools."

In the public schools, our children, yours and mine, are taught to love our country, to be patriotic. Their instructions are that they must band together to fight against that instruction.

On the last page of the same issue is a reference to allegiance to the American flag, in which the writer refers to the pledge of allegiance to the flag in our public schools, and refers to the fact that by saluting the flag every morning in our schools the children are making patriotic slaves of themselves. And he calls attention to the red flag and the cause for which it stands, freedom for the working class, and instructing the children when they are asked to salute and to give allegiance to the American flag, to refuse to do so, and under their breath to pledge allegiance to the red flag. This is printed in English and circulated in Chicago and other places.

I hold in my hands a cartoon taken from an illustrated weekly published in Russia. Those of you who go to church know that we have various denominations which we support. This is a picture of the Savior, his body being dismembered, his intestines being pulled out, women and men gnawing at them, drinking his blood.

The "National Youth" devotes several pages instructing against religion and ordering them to fight against religion.

I have here a poster gotten out by the Liberty Defense Council, Headquarters in Chicago, in which it makes reference to the Herrin massacre at Herrin, Illinois, in which it states "Herrin miners have finished up their job. They followed up their first victory with another." Absolute proof that the massacre at Herrin, Illinois, was what we have always contended it was, a "red" outbreak. And on the national committee of the Liberty Defense Council we find a number of ministers, from different denominations—I will not take the time to read all of them—my time is getting short—but you will find the name of Rev. John A. Ryan, National Welfare Catholic Organization; and last but not least, not a minister, but William Z. Foster.

The Civil Press Union, New York City, is headed by Rev. Harry F. Ward, a Methodist preacher. When Foster and the other communists were arrested a few years ago and brought to trial this organization got out this pamphlet asking for a fund

of one hundred thousand dollars to defend Foster and Ruthenburg, and the others, who attempted to hold an illegal convention. Bear in mind that these people advocated that religious instruction be done away with, and here is an organization thus organized headed by a Methodist minister,—and by the way I am a member of the Methodist church.

The Civil Press Union, in the last analysis advocates support of all subversive interests detrimental to the interests of the State and Nation; it tends not only to protect crime, but to encourage an attack on our institutions, and religious instruction. This committee is made up of not only ministers, but professors, and such men as William Z. Foster; and among others, is Miss Jane Addams, of Chicago, and she told me that her name appeared on this committee with her consent and approval, and that she was in entire sympathy with the program of the Civil Press Union.

"Pacifism" and "Communism" are cuckoos in the same nest. The Christian Century, a "Journal of Religion" published in Chicago, carried a full page ad for the "Friends of Soviet Russia"—an organization whose chief object is to bring about recognition of Soviet Russia by the United States Government. On October 30, 1924, this same paper said:

"No christian minister has any business in an army uniform. * * * An army * * * can exist only by the partial unmaning of those who participate in it."

Your sires who fought to maintain the Union, you and your brothers and your sons who fought in the World War, are less men because they wore the uniform of the United States Army.

This same paper opposed Defense Day, and months ago censured the Government severely for not releasing the I. W. W. prisoners who sought to cause dissension in our army and naval forces during the war. The editor, Charles Clayton Morrison, did not know what these prisoners were jailed for.

Russia's designs upon the United States are shown in a statement of Trotsky's, in the "Moscow Izvestia," official organ of the Third International, October 21, 1922:

"Comrade Trotsky was asked in what country it would be most advantageous to have a proletarian revolution. He answered, in the United States, the richest country, with well developed industry, and possessing half of the world's gold reserve, half of the wealth of the world. In other countries the working class is less prepared for revolution. In Russia our party gave the ideal example how one must sieze the governmental apparatus, how to keep it and secure it in the arms of the working class."

I have here the figures of the United States Army in comparison with those of Russia. I will not give them in detail, except to say they have a total of 5,670,000, and her population is 129,500,000. In our army today we have in the regular army 130,000 officers, men and reserves, and in the national guard 176,000 and in the organized reserves 83,000, a total of 389,000, and the pacifists want to take away what we have. This is Russia's dream. If she can get the rest of the world disarmed during the time that she is building up her red army,

the day will come when she can come up and conquer the world for communism.

I must bring this to a close. What are we going to do with an organization like this? I plead for a renewed allegiance to America, and what it stands for. This world is going to know you, not by who you are, or what you have, but by what you do. In the Arlington Cemetery, at Washington, there is a tomb to the unknown soldier dead occupying a position so that this world can visit before that tomb with uncovered head. No one knows who lies there, his color or his creed, but all the world knows what that chap did; that he is typical of those who gave themselves, and made the supreme sacrifice to maintain and perpetuate the ideals of Americanism; and a country that is worth dying for, men, I say to you is worth living for. (Applause).

We want no red flag in time of peace. We will have no white flag in time of war. (Applause). America recognizes but one flag. It is an unstained flag. It is a flag of 150 years of glory behind it. It is an unfaded flag that has never waved over any people except in the cause of liberty and freedom:

Your flag and my flag
And how it flies today,
In your land and my land
And half the world away!
Rose red and blood red
The stripes forever gleam;
Snow white and soul white
The good forefathers dream;
Sky blue and true blue,
With stars to gleam aright
The glad Gideon of the day
And shelter throughout the night.

Your flag and my flag
To every star and stripe
The drums beat as hearts beat
And fifiers shrilly pipe!
Your flag and my flag
A blessing in the sky;
Your hope and my hope
It never hid a lie!
Home land and far land
And half the world 'round
Old glory hears our glad salute
And ripples to the sound.

Your flag and my flag
And, Oh, how much it holds—
Your land and my land
Secure within its folds!
Your heart and my heart
Beat quicker at the sight;
Sun kissed and wind tossed,
The red and blue and white.
The one flag, the great flag, the flag
For me and you
Glorified all else beside,
The red and white and blue.

I thank you. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief: The chair desires to express the appreciation of this body to Captain Hopkins for his talk. We also regret that it was not possible under the circumstances to give him all the time that he might have used. It occurs to the chair that it was particularly appropriate for him to drop in on us at this moment and take up some of our unoccupied time.

The chair desires to call attention to the fact that you authorized the appointment of a committee on patriotic education. Suppose that those of you who have insisted on this meet Captain Hopkins in the rear and see some of the evidence that he has with him. In The Banner something was said of these things. Captain Hopkins was in town today with the evidence to prove the statements there made.

Past Division Commander Frank K. Maples, of New York: I move you, sir, that we give Captain Hopkins a rising vote of thanks for his talk to us.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: I second the motion.

Commander-in-Chief: You have heard the motion. All those in favor of the motion please rise. Those opposed no. It is unanimous.

Past Division Commander Frank K. Maples, of New York: I now move that we proceed with the regular order of business.

Commander-in-Chief: The regular order of business is called for, and it is so ordered, unless there is objection.

Is the Council-in-Chief ready to submit its report at this time? Brother Yengling is recognized to present the report of the Council-in-Chief.

Park F. Yengling, of the Council-in-Chief: Your Council-in-Chief have directed me to submit to you the following report:

REPORT OF COUNCIL-IN-CHIEF.

Grand Rapids, Mich., September 3, 1925.

To the Officers and Members of the Forty-fourth Annual Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.:

Greeting:

Your Council-in-Chief beg to submit, as a record of our proceeding for the past year, the following report for your consideration and approval.

Following adjournment of the Forty-third Annual Encampment, held at Boston, Mass., August 12-13-14, 1924, we convened at Hotel Somerset in that city, and perfected the organization with Park F. Yengling, Chairman; Herbert D. Williams, Vice Chairman, and William H. Cressey, Secretary.

BONDS.

The amount of the bonded officers was fixed as follows:

Commander-in-Chief	\$ 1,000.00
National Secretary-Treasurer	10,000.00

The books and accounts of the National Secretary-Treasurer, together with the vouchers and requisitions pertaining thereto, have been audited and found correct to a penny.

The Commandery-in-Chief demonstrated its wisdom, when

they elected Brother Hammer to this highly important office. Your Council as usual found it a pleasure rather than a task in performing the work. The balance on hand as certified by the Reading National Bank, of Reading, Pa., is \$3,464.60.

The recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief for a contribution of \$500.00 to the permanent fund of the Grand Army of the Republic, has the hearty endorsement of your Council-in-Chief.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin in his report to the convention recommends an increase in the per capita tax from 32 cents to 36 cents. Your Council-in-Chief feel at this time that it would be unwise to raise the per capita tax, but would suggest that at the time of the renewal of the contract with The Banner, that we contract for an eight page and not a sixteen page paper, eliminating a large percentage of Camp news which is not read by the membership aside from the Division from which it comes. Therefore we recommend that the per capita tax for the coming year be fixed at 32 cents per member, the same as last year, EXCEPT

That in the event of legislation changing the name of our organization, which will make it necessary to increase the receipts of the budget to meet the expenditures, we recommend that the per capita tax be fixed at 36 cents.

Having gone over the expenditures of the past year, we note with a great deal of pleasure, that they have been kept well within the budget prepared by the preceding Council-in-Chief, and notwithstanding the fact that the receipts were about \$1200.00 less than estimated owing to a loss of membership.

BUDGET.

Estimated Receipts:

53,000 members at 32 cents	\$16,960.00
Estimated from charters	200.00
Estimated from supplies	4,000.00
Bank balance	3,464.60
Miscellaneous	150.00
	<hr/> \$24,774.60

Estimated Expense:

The Banner	\$12,000.00
Encampment	1,500.00
Stock	3,500.00
Printing	300.00
Shipping supplies	200.00
Salaries	3,300.00
Bonds	30.00
Commander-in-Chief's traveling expense..	1,000.00
Other officers' traveling expense	200.00
Office rent, expense, etc.	1,200.00
Past Commander-in-Chief's badge	200.00
Grand Army permanent fund	500.00
Miscellaneous	200.00
	<hr/> \$24,330.00

\$ 344.60

In conclusion we wish to express our appreciation shown us by the Commander-in-Chief and the Order at large for many helpful suggestions.

Respectfully submitted in F. C. & L.,

P. F. YENGLING,
HERBERT D. WILLIAMS,
WILLIAM H. CRESSEY.

I now move that the report be adopted as a whole.

Delegate Isadore Lang, of New York: I favor the report from the Council-in-Chief, but I strenuously object to making The Banner any smaller than it is. It recommends making The Banner eight pages instead of sixteen pages.

Chairman Yengling: That is a suggestion that we pass on to the next Administration in case it is necessary to provide increased funds by lessening expenditures. It is a suggestion, is all. It just provides a budget of \$3500.00 for supplies.

National Secretary Hammer: If the Commander-in-Chief feels like I do he won't buy any quantity of supplies. If we are going to change our name, then all forms and blanks will have to be changed.

William H. Cressey, Council-in-Chief: I second the motion that the report be adopted as a whole.

Commander-in-Chief: The motion before the house is that the report be adopted as a whole. All those in favor of the motion say aye; and those opposed no. The ayes have it and the report is adopted.

Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman: I now move that all committees of the Encampment be discharged.

Past Commander-in-Chief Russell: I second the motion.

Commander-in-Chief: It has been moved and seconded that all committees of the Encampment be discharged. Are there any remarks? The Chair desires to state that we have not yet passed the subject of new business. I do not know that it will develop anything for any of the committees. All in favor of discharging all committees except as heretofore provided for the Credentials Committee, say aye and those opposed no. The motion is carried.

Past Division Commander Frank K. Maples, of New York: I now move that we proceed with the election of officers.

Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman: Under a point of order, no such motion is necessary and I raise the point of order because no other business can be transacted under the constitution after that order of business is called for.

Commander-in-Chief: The Chair would like to inquire of the Encampment whether or not it cares to hear from Brother Weiler on his postponed material.

Past Commander-in-Chief Stephens: I was just going to suggest that if there is no other business that is to be transacted, there was a committee to appoint, and whether that could be appointed before or after the election of officers. I refer to the committee that was established by the resolution to be advisory to the Commander-in-Chief for next year.

Commander-in-Chief: I don't think the Commander-in-Chief ought to be forced to make these appointments off-hand. Let it be understood that the committee should be appointed at his convenience.

The Chair would like to inform the Encampment that Brother Weiler had material here which he wished to present. Is it the desire of the Encampment that he be given any time on this?

Past Commander-in-Chief Stephens: I move that Brother Weiler be given the time necessary to present what he has to this Encampment.

Commander-in-Chief: How much time?

Past Commander-in-Chief Stephens: A reasonable length of time. I don't know what the material is, but a reasonable length of time to present it.

Past Division Commander George E. Cogshall, of Michigan: I move as a substitute that the gentleman be heard after the election. The motion was duly seconded.

Commander-in-Chief: A substitute has been offered that Brother Weiler be heard after the election.

Past Commander-in-Chief Russell: I move that this motion be laid on the table.

The motion was duly seconded.

Commander-in-Chief: The motion is to lay on the table. All those in favor of the motion say aye and those opposed no. The Chair is in doubt. Will those in favor of the motion rise; and those opposed may now rise. The ayes have it.

Commander-in-Chief: The motion before the Encampment now is that Brother Weiler be extended the privilege of the floor. Those in favor of the motion say aye, and those opposed no. The ayes seem to have it. The ayes do have it.

Division Commander Henry F. Weiler, of Boston, Mass.: I was requested to prepare a paper to deliver at the convention of the Secretaries.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: Do I understand that this paper that was prepared was for the use of Division Secretaries?

Division Commander Henry F. Weiler: I suggest that the Commander-in-Chief advise Brother Sautter of the request you made of me.

Commander-in-Chief: The paper was originally prepared for use at the conference Monday morning.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: I was at that conference. The only point I want to get at, was that for the benefit of the Division Secretaries. If that is the understanding, then I move that a sufficient number of copies be typewritten at the expense of the Commandery-in-Chief for distribution to the Division Secretaries. (The motion was seconded).

Past Division Commander Fred G. Hansen, of New Jersey: I was going to add to that that it be published in The Banner. I am not against anything which is for the good of anybody, but I do think we ought to get through here.

Commander-in-Chief: It is moved and seconded that the

matter which Brother Weiler desires to submit be typewritten with sufficient copies to distribute to the different Division Secretaries, at the expense of the Encampment. All those in favor of the motion say aye, and those opposed no. The ayes have it, and it is so ordered.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Commander-in-Chief: We have now reached the order of business, "election of officers." Nominations for Commander-in-Chief are in order. The Secretary will call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll and when California & Pacific was reached, the following proceedings were had:)

Division Commander D. B. Bowley, California: Officers and Members of the Encampment, the army officer who just addressed us referred to the Good Book lying on our altar. You will find within its pages this quotation:

"Let him who would be called great among you, serve."

California's candidate for the important position of Commander-in-Chief has served our beloved organization for thirty-five years. He has been Secretary and Treasurer of his Camp, Commander of his Camp, Secretary and Treasurer of his Division, Division Commander, and at the present time, knowing of his great value, when I became a Division Commander, and I am happy to state here, that the honor was given to me unsolicited and I received the endorsement of every Camp in my Division, of which any man can well be proud, finding that this was the most active official that we had west of the Rockies; finding that we had a man who had dedicated every hour of his life to furthering the interests of the Sons of Veterans, I again appointed him as my Secretary and Treasurer.

A year ago twenty-one Sons of Veterans representing twenty-three Camps undertook a pilgrimage of some six thousand miles to the dear old city of Boston, and submitted his name for your consideration. At that time we found that there were four states that sought the honor, and when on the moment of election two of these states had withdrawn, in order to make it unanimous, in order to save that time, we gracefully and gladly withdrew in the interest of Ohio's favorite son, whom we all know has certainly made good. (Applause).

He raised his voice from the Atlantic to the Pacific, giving us notice, as this United States army official has done today, that there was danger of laws being passed in this country that would deprive us of the very principles for which our fathers fought. He certainly awakened my Division Secretary-Treasurer, for he went to work, took off his coat, and never ceased until he had rolled up the membership of his own Camp, and when the last per capita tax was paid in June it was on 525 members, which made the California State Camp Number One, the largest Camp in the United States of America. (Applause).

And permit me, if you will, to refer briefly to that Camp; its Commander, Senior and Junior Vice Commander, Secretary and Treasurer, Patriotic Instructor and Chaplain are either members of the California Society of American Revolution or are entitled to join the same. It has on its rolls the name of Rear Admiral Barry, United States Navy; also a brother, of whom

we are justly proud, U. S. Grant III. Some of the most prominent business men and professional men of the west have been put on the rolls of that Camp through the personal solicitation of California's candidate.

When I took command of the Division I found that there was a reserve fund consisting of some Liberty bonds of different denominations of some \$350.00, and upon inquiry I discovered that they had been purchased out of the personal funds of California's candidate for Commander-in-Chief and two other brothers.

I also discovered that the beautiful silk banner, that dear flag raised by Washington, baptized in the immortal blood of Lincoln, and kept flying by New England's favorite son, Calvin Coolidge, had been presented to the Division by one of Ohio's cherished daughters, the mother of the California candidate for Commander-in-Chief.

I find that he has had thirty years experience in the banking business, and has been very successful, and has had a large experience in other organizations.

Now, brothers, for thirty-nine years we have been attending, the members of our Division, the National Encampments. I can feel a good deal like my friends down in Boston felt, how the Colonists must have felt against King George, the English King, a case of taxation without representation.

Now there is much virgin field west of the Rocky Mountains. Here you have an able man, a conservative man, a man who will take counsel from our past officials who have this organization greatly at heart; who will devote every hour of his time to furthering the interests of this organization. He has no family ties; but he does love the Sons of Veterans and is in a position to give it his services. It is a rare opportunity it seems to me.

I told you in Boston, and I repeat it here, I believe that the interests of our Order are of paramount importance to the ambition of any individual, or any set of individuals. I have told you time and time again, that if you can produce a man that is any better qualified, who can achieve greater good for our Order, and for our representative republic, than California, then we will gladly retire.

We ask you, brothers, in all fairness, to render justice to the Divisions west of the Rockies. Elect this candidate from the west. Remember that Lincoln found it necessary to go west to find a gentleman to bring the Civil War to a close. That distinguished Union General received his early education in California. Select this man—the future is yours. With this candidate seated in the saddle, or at the helm this organization will become greater, better, and be put on a stronger basis financially, numerically, and will gain recognition that we have never had before. Do this, and the future is yours.

I consider it a privilege, and pleasure and an honor, to submit for your consideration the name of Col. Clarence Sidney Scott, of the California and Pacific Division, for Commander-in-Chief of this beloved Order. I thank you. (Applause).

(The Secretary continued the call of the roll, and when Indiana was reached:)

Division Commander Frank C. Huston, of Indiana: You

have listened to the splendid recital of some of the activities of Col. C. S. Scott. The speaker has touched upon but very few of the splendid activities of this man who has been presented for your consideration. We find, friends, that he must be a man of ability. We believe at this time with the prospective change that will take place in the name of our Order and the things that will perhaps be incident to the making of a change, it will take a man of some ability, some executive ability, to oversee this work, which with the help of the committee that will be announced to perform and perfect the work which is in hand which we believe will carry the Sons of Veterans where we may rightly expect to be.

This man Col. Scott, of whom you have heard mention, was selected a few years ago, and went before the State legislatures of the Western States and raised approximately one million dollars to be used at the Pan-American Exposition in San Francisco. He is a man who has been conversant with large business. He knows how to handle these things successfully.

For forty-four years we have been meeting in Encampments. For thirty-nine years the Division of California has been in existence. Never one time has there been a representative west of the Rocky Mountains, and only twice in the forty-four years has there been a representative west of the Mississippi River.

I believe in my brethren; I believe in the spirit of fairness in the heart of the average American, and I most certainly believe in the spirit of fairness in the hearts of my brothers here today. As I have been coming to these Encampments long enough to learn the names of the boys, I am more and more persuaded that there is no finer or fairer set of men coming together anywhere, under any name, or under any conditions than the Sons of Veterans of the United States of America. (Applause).

And so, brothers, were there any reasons to doubt the capabilities of the candidate from California we might well consider that part of it, but there are none. But, friends, and brothers, in the spirit of fairness, we believe that this man will lead on our splendid work to the position that we believe it ought to occupy in the next administration, and succeeding administrations. We believe this man possesses capabilities; we believe he is in territory which perhaps will be worked somewhat better by the fact of his having been their Commander-in-Chief, because we all know that every Division has reacted to the fact that there has been a Commander-in-Chief in the respective Divisions.

So, I am speaking, my friends, for Col. Scott, and I am expecting if Col. Scott is elected as our Commander-in-Chief greater things than we have accomplished, as great as they are, with a membership of 2500 on the coast I am satisfied that that will be added to in a large measure. But, friends, I am satisfied also that this man who has at his disposal his time and ability, an ability to get around the country, will not confine his labors or interest to the Division, or to an inspection of the country which lies west of the Rocky Mountains. So brothers, and Commander-in-Chief, Indiana takes pleasure in seconding the nomination of Col. C. S. Scott for Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans.

(The Secretary continued the call of the roll, and when Maryland was reached:)

Past Commander-in-Chief Johnson: This is the time of the year, or the season of the year when we get together for the purpose of selecting for the ensuing year our officers; when we gather to pass legislation for the government of the organization; and when we gather to provide means for carrying this legislation into effect. This we have done today with the exception of the first mentioned.

Now, brothers, I do not want to take up your time. I will tell you who the candidate to be offered by myself on behalf of the Maryland Division is. It will take me three minutes—not more.

In 1862 a man from the State of Maryland, which State was then partially in rebellion, you might say in rebellion against the United States, for at that time Maryland was controlled by federal troops by order of Lincoln—a man went out from the City of Baltimore, a young man less than 20 years of age, and enlisted in the navy, and served under that great Commander, Farragut, and at the close of the war the father of this brother whom I am about to name had served in every occasion in the war under Farragut. He laid himself open to all the dangers we read about. He was in the force that went around through the harbors of the South and helped subdue the rebels.

Now we are presenting to you for your consideration, very largely in view of what we have been expecting for the last three years, a man capable of carrying out the ideas, if the Grand Army of the Republic does as we think it will do, and for which we have today prepared the means to accomplish the end, a man conservative in his actions, a man whose education has been that of conservatism, who has done all possible from his early boyhood up until today to sustain the flag, to protect it, and done all that any man could do. His patriotism cannot be questioned. He is a man of ability, a man of fine ability. I will tell you, brothers, those who do not know him intimately may say that men of ability are myriad. They are. But to those who know him personally, intimately, have known him for years, he is known as a man of unusual ability; a man whose education in business, for he is a business man, whose education in business has been that of judgment, where judgment was vital to one of the greatest institutions of its character in the United States, if not in the world. That responsibility is placed on this man, not wholly, but in a large measure, by one of the greatest institutions, as I said before, in the world.

We are offering you a conservative man, a man of judgment, a man whose patriotism cannot be questioned, a man who has served his Camp, his Division, and has served the Commandery-in-Chief in various capacities; a man who in a crisis of this Order presided over and conducted a convention of this very Commandery-in-Chief where a vital question was before it, and where it required not only judgment, but it required knowledge—knowledge, and the power of using it at the right time.

Now, my brothers, I present to you a man who is well known practically to every man in this Encampment, who has attended almost continuously since about 1905 almost all Encampments

between that time and this. He is known to you, he is known to you favorably; you have had association with him; you have had experience with him; you have seen him work in the various Encampments he has attended where he has always been on some important business of the Encampment, where his judgment has been called for, and freely given, and it has always been good.

I therefore take pleasure in presenting to you on behalf of the Maryland Division, Edwin C. Ireland, of Maryland, for the position of Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans of the United States of America for the ensuing year. (Applause).

(The calling of the roll was concluded and no further nominations were offered).

Commander-in-Chief: The Chair will appoint as tellers Brother Carrick, of Maryland, and Brother Wilson, of California.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE ON SURVEY.

Commander-in-Chief: While we are waiting for the tellers to get ready, the Chair will announce the following Committee on Survey: H. D. Sisson, Mass., Chairman; Ralph M. Grant, Conn.; John E. Sautter, Pa.; Wm. T. Church, Ill.; H. V. Speelman, Ohio; Chas. F. Sherman, N. Y.; Frank P. Corrick, Neb.

We are about to proceed to the election of a Commander-in-Chief for the ensuing year. The National Secretary will call the roll of Divisions.

(The National Secretary then called the roll and the following votes were announced:)

	Scott.	Ireland.
California & Pacific	7	
Connecticut	5	1
Illinois		10
Indiana	12	
Iowa	2	
Kansas	1	
Maine	2	2
Maryland		8
Massachusetts		8
Michigan	8	5
Minnesota	2	
Missouri	3	
Nebraska	2	1
New Hampshire	5	
New Jersey	3	4
New York	1	16
Ohio	3	9
Ohio	3	24
Pennsylvania		4
Rhode Island		2
Wisconsin	2	
	62	94

Delegate E. J. Wilson, of California: The tellers have tallied the vote and find that Scott received 62 votes, and Ireland 94 votes.

Past Division Commander C. S. Scott, of California: Mr. Commander-in-Chief, I take great pleasure in moving to make

this election unanimous. California has always been loyal to these United States, and to the Sons of Veterans, and we have no reason to do any different. We appreciate what has been done. We appreciate those who have tried to do what they thought was right on behalf of the State. We came here with all good intentions, and we go away the same way. I thank you. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief: The Chair takes the remarks of the gentleman from California as a motion to make the result just announced unanimous. Is that the intention?

Past Division Commander Scott: Yes, sir.

Delegate Wilson, of California: I second the motion.

Commander-in-Chief: You have heard the motion. All in favor of the motion say aye; those opposed no. The ayes have it, and the motion is carried, and Brother Ireland is declared elected unanimously.

Brother Ireland, you have been elected Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans for the ensuing year. Do you accept?

Past Division Commander Edwin C. Ireland: I will. (Applause).

Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman: I move that the further calling of the roll be dispensed with, and that nominations be made from the floor.

Past Division Commander Cogshall, of Michigan: I second the motion.

Commander-in-Chief: It has been moved and seconded that the calling of the roll be dispensed with and that nominations be made from the floor. All those in favor of the motion say aye; and those opposed no. The motion is carried. Nominations for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief are now in order.

Past Division Commander Cogshall, of Michigan: Commander-in-Chief and Brothers, at this time while you are enjoying the hospitality of this great city of ours, we are asking nothing in return except that you enjoy yourselves to the fullest extent. We have tried to give you the best time that we possibly could give you. There have been little occasions when the things have not worked just as they should work, but, brothers, it has been a big proposition, and we have got along with as little friction as possible.

Now in order to make the matter short, Michigan comes before you with a candidate for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. We have a gentleman in Michigan who has belonged to this Order for almost forty years, commencing as a boy, and has held his membership continuously from that time on.

One of the big features about this boy who has grown to be a man is that on Constitution Day, the 17th of March, 1867, he saw the light of day. We offer this man whom Michigan has learned to respect and love and to cherish. He has been a Commander of the Michigan Division; he has had honors on the committee of your Commandery-in-Chief, and for five years after he was Commander of the Division he accepted the Secretaryship of the Division and performed the work continuously for that five years.

He has labored both in and out of Camps; both in and out

of Michigan; and he stands today a most respected brother in the Order which we all love; and without taking any further of your time, Mr. Commander-in-Chief, and brothers, I submit for your consideration the name of Frederick J. McMurtrie, of Michigan, for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. (Applause).

Past Commander-in-Chief Sisson: George has just furnished me a bit of enlightenment. When I was Commander-in-Chief one of the Divisions which I visited was Michigan. Mc was there, and he suspected a little bit of the Irish blood that flows through my veins incognito, a part of that blood which was born on March 17th, 1867. George called it Constitution Day—Constitution of Ireland, I presume. Anyhow, Mc and I had a little bit of a scrap, and I always wondered what it was about, and why. But it has occurred to me that a man that will stand up and fight the Commander-in-Chief on his own ground has the courage of his convictions at least, and I admired his skill and ability as a fighter.

Therefore, it is with a great deal of pleasure that I second the nomination of Fred McMurtrie.

Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman: I move that the nominations be closed and the Secretary-Treasurer be directed to cast the entire vote of this Encampment for Frederick J. McMurtrie for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Past Commander-in-Chief Russell: I second the motion.

Commander-in-Chief: It has been moved and seconded that the nominations be closed and the Secretary be directed to cast the entire vote of this Encampment for Frederick J. McMurtrie for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. Those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye; those opposed no. The motion is carried.

National Secretary-Treasurer Hammer: The ballot is cast.

Commander-in-Chief: Brother McMurtrie, you have been elected Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. Do you accept?

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief-elect McMurtrie: I do.

Commander-in-Chief: Nominations for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief are now in order.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: I want to nominate a brother of the New York Division for the office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief; and I want to disprove the idea that Sherman never stands on his feet but what he makes a long speech. I can talk all the afternoon about the humor and favor and ability of the candidate that I wish to name, but you would vote as you want to any way, so without tiring you or worrying you at this time. I nominate Past Division Commander William H. Klein, New York Division, of the city of Syracuse, for the office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Past Commander-in-Chief Stephens: There being no further nominations, I move that the nominations be closed, and the Secretary be authorized and directed to cast the entire vote of this Encampment for William H. Klein for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: I second the motion.

Commander-in-Chief: You have heard the motion. All

those in favor of the motion say aye; and those opposed no. The ayes have it and the motion is carried.

National Secretary-Treasurer Hammer: I cast 156 votes this time for William H. Klein for the office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Commander-in-Chief: 156 votes having been cast, he is duly declared elected. Brother Klein, do you accept?

Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief-elect Klein: I do.

Commander-in-Chief: Nominations for the Council-in-Chief are now in order.

Division Commander Albert B. DeHaven, of Maine: During the past year we have had on our Council-in-Chief a man from Maine; a man of great business ability in his own private life. We have used that ability in our national organization. The experience that he has gained during the past year should be utilized by us the coming year, and without further ceremony, I present to you the name of William H. Cressey, of Cumberland Mills, Maine.

Past Division Commander H. Harding Hale, of Massachusetts: I believe it is a wise policy of this Commandery-in-Chief to recognize merit and sound achievement, and from observation of the record in recent days of the Maine Division, I am convinced that the Maine Division is no longer marking time, but is marching on to larger and better achievement. Therefore I take great pleasure, coming from Massachusetts, in seconding the nomination of our neighbor William H. Cressey for Council-in-Chief.

Past Division Commander Felix A. Kremer, of Wisconsin: I believe it has been recognized by this Commandery-in-Chief in recent years that a faithful servant is entitled to a second term. If I am in order, I move that the nominations be closed and the Secretary-Treasurer instructed to cast the unanimous vote of this convention for William H. Cressey for member of the Council-in-Chief.

Past Division Commander Fred G. Hansen, of New Jersey: New Jersey again wishes to present to you the name of the brother who served you last year ably and efficiently, and without any further recitation of his qualifications that he should be given another term. I will assure you that he will not sleep on the job, but that it will be an inspiration for him to do better next year. I take pleasure in presenting to you the name of Past Division Commander Herbert D. Williams, of Trenton, New Jersey.

Past Division Commander William H. Klein, of New York: I second the nomination.

Delegate O. R. Wilson, of Missouri: I wish to place in nomination as a member of the Council-in-Chief Brother William C. Schneider, of St. Louis.

Past Division Commander Felix A. Kremer, of Wisconsin: If there are no further nominations, I know all of these brothers will make a splendid Council, and I move that the nominations be closed and the Secretary cast the unanimous vote for these gentlemen.

Division Commander D. B. Bowley, of California: I rise to

a point of order. My point of order is that the nomination of the gentleman from Missouri is not seconded.

Past Division Commander Will F. Jenkins, of Illinois: I second the nomination.

Division Commander D. B. Bowley, of California: Now Brother Kremer, you will be in order, or shall I make your motion?

Past Division Commander Felix A. Kremer, of Wisconsin: I have called others to order, and I appreciate the joke on myself. I now move that the nominations be closed and the Secretary cast the unanimous vote of the Encampment for these gentlemen placed in nomination.

Past Division Commander Will F. Jenkins, of Illinois: I second the motion.

Commander-in-Chief: It has been moved by Brother Kremer, and seconded by Brother Jenkins that the nominations for members of the Council-in-Chief be now closed, and the Secretary be instructed to cast the entire ballot of the Encampment for the three members nominated, there being three members to elect. Are you ready for the question? All those in favor of the motion say aye, and those opposed no. The ayes have it and the motion is carried.

National Secretary-Treasurer Hammer: My duty is performed. The ballot is cast for the three members for Council-in-Chief, the same being 156 votes.

Commander-in-Chief: The Secretary announces that he has cast 156 votes for Cressey, of Maine; Williams, of New Jersey; and Schneider, of St. Louis; and I declare these gentlemen duly elected as members of the Council-in-Chief.

Brother Cressey, do you accept?

Member Council-in-Chief-elect William H. Cressey: I do.

Commander-in-Chief: Brother Williams, do you accept?

Member Council-in-Chief-elect Herbert D. Williams: I do.

Commander-in-Chief: Brother Schneider, do you accept?

Member Council-in-Chief-elect William Schneider: I do.

Commander-in-Chief: Nominations are now in order for Secretary-Treasurer for the term of five years.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sautter: It may be necessary at times to use words of some length to bring before the Encampment the name of a brother whom you desire to nominate, but Pennsylvania desires to present as a candidate for National Secretary-Treasurer one who is known so well to all of you that it is altogether useless for me to attempt to sing his praises. You all have done it in the past. I desire only to say these words—I nominate for the office of National Secretary-Treasurer the most efficient Secretary-Treasurer that any organization in the United States has ever had, Horace H. Hammer, of the Pennsylvania Division.

Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman: I take pleasure in seconding this nomination, and move that the nominations be closed and that Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman be directed to cast the entire vote of this Encampment for Horace H. Hammer for Secretary-Treasurer.

Past Division Commander Felix A. Kremer, of Wisconsin: I want the record to show, and I am seconding the motion of Brother Speelman, but I want the record to show that the modesty of Brother Sautter in presenting Brother Hammer is exceeded only in the ability of Brother Hammer.

Commander-in-Chief: It has been moved and seconded that the nominations be closed and Brother Sherman be directed to cast the entire vote of the Encampment for Brother Horace H. Hammer as National Secretary-Treasurer for the ensuing term. Those in favor of the motion, say aye, and those opposed no. The ayes appear to have it. The ayes have it. Brother Sherman, do your duty.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sherman: No greater pleasure could come to me. I have pleasure in casting 156 votes of this Encampment for Brother Horace H. Hammer for Secretary-Treasurer.

Commander-in-Chief: Brother Hammer, you have been elected Secretary-Treasurer for the ensuing term. Do you accept?

National Secretary-Treasurer: Yes.

PRESENTATION OF BADGE TO COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

Past Commander-in-Chief Stephens: Brother Commander-in-Chief, and Brothers of this Encampment; I have a very pleasant duty to perform which was delegated to me by the membership of this Encampment. I desire to present in your name to our Commander-in-Chief who is just retiring from office this beautiful badge of Past Commander-in-Chief.

In presenting this badge, it will not be necessary for me to call your attention to the duties performed by Commander-in-Chief Coffin during the past year. We who know him well and see him almost daily know that he has worked diligently and conscientiously to advance the interests of the Sons of Veterans, and I believe that the work he has done has had a very good effect, not only among our membership, but with the other patriotic societies.

Brother Coffin, in behalf of the membership of this Encampment, I desire to present to you the badge of Past Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans. I know that you will wear it honorably and with pleasure, and that the memories that come in future years will be the pleasant ones that you have had and will have of the year of your work as Commander-in-Chief.

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Of course, this was to be expected. It is no surprise. But just a word from me in appreciation of that which was to be expected is certainly not out of place. As a last word, and as a valedictory, I want to tell all the brothers how very sincerely I appreciate the courtesies and kindnesses I have received from them all,—from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

In the course of our work, things may have been said, things may have been done, at which some may have taken offense; but I would have you bear in mind that often it seems necessary to arouse anger in order to dispel lethargy and to get things accomplished; and I want you to know that all has been done in good

spirit and with a zealous desire to see this great Order, which we all love, advance as we go by.

Once more, I tell you most earnestly of my great appreciation of the honor you conferred upon me a year ago. (Applause).

Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman: This is merely a little token of the love and esteem of your own boys. It comes from the members of the Ohio Division, and in their name I ask you to accept these cuff links, emblematic of the Golden Rule of friendship, that when you come back to us as a private in the ranks we know that you will do your duty then and there as you have done it so nobly and so well in this year of your administration of the Order as its Commander-in-Chief; and God bless you. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Coffin: Brother Speelman, I assure you and the members of my home Division that there is nothing which touches more keenly, or which I could appreciate more, than this token of their love and respect from the home folks.

And I wish to say now before the entire Encampment, as I did to them, that I have appreciated more and deeper as the days have gone by, their very earnest backing up of their Commander-in-Chief; because they came across, they showed what was in Ohio; and I appreciate it more keenly than I can express in words.

Assure them also that they need have no fear but what Bill Coffin will always be on the firing line, whether it be as high private in the rear ranks or as Commander-in-Chief of the army. (Applause).

Is Commander-in-Chief-elect Ireland ready to name an installing officer?

Commander-in-Chief-elect Ireland: I would be very glad if the present Commander-in-Chief would act in that capacity.

Commander-in-Chief: I shall be very glad to do so.

Whereupon the following officers were then duly installed, Commander-in-Chief Coffin acting as installing officer:

Commander-in-Chief—Edwin C. Ireland, of Baltimore, Md.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief—Frederick J. McMurtrie, of Detroit, Mich.

Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief—William H. Klein, of Syracuse, New York.

Council-in-Chief—William H. Cresscy, of Cumberland Mills, Maine; Herbert D. Williams, of Trenton, New Jersey; William C. Schneider, of St. Louis, Missouri.

Secretary-Treasurer—Horace H. Hammer, of Reading, Pennsylvania.

Commander-in-Chief Ireland: I believe it is customary at an installation service to use some stereotype phrases that are usually used, but in doing so I want you, my brothers, each and every one of you, to realize that the utterances that I am about to make come from that organism which regulates the heart and regulates the conduct and the life.

I say to you that I consider this, the office to which you have elected me this afternoon, the highest honor in the gift of man. The reason that I say that is this, that our Order is an

Order based upon a heritage left you and me by a loyal sire. It is incumbent upon you and me to make this Order what you and myself feel it should be.

There are responsibilities in the assumption of the executive head of this Order. Those duties, obligations and responsibilities I fully realize. I desire to serve you to the best of my ability to bring to you at the end of the administration a report which will possibly merit your concurrence and bring the Order up to your expectation if within the gift of my powers I am able to do so, with your assistance.

The time, as you heard on the floor of your Encampment today, is here when there must be an active, aggressive, consecrated administration. The officers of your Commandery-in-Chief must depend upon the several units composing the Commandery-in-Chief to make good this promise I have made to you.

I say to you, my brothers, that I trust you will give to me, as you have given to the Past Commanders-in-Chief during their administration, that degree of loyalty, that degree of support, that when the administration upon which I am now entering with the other officers you have elected this afternoon comes to a close, we can come to you in 1926 with words of commission; with work of action and not of words, that when we say one word or another we mean to back it up with that concentration of effort that will bring forth the desired results from the individual standpoint, and the individual standpoint of the individual members of the parent organization as well as the allied bodies.

I feel, inasmuch as you have been in continuous session today, and have been favored with a flow of oratory better than I can give you, that I should bring my remarks at this time to a close to permit those of my colleagues who will serve you to bring you some message, some means of encouragement in your work, because I feel that the Commandery-in-Chief of which you are the individual and parcel, is the fountain head from which inspiration must be gathered, and that inspiration disseminated among the individual members of the Order if we make this Order what it should be.

And let me in closing say to you, and when I say these simple words I do so in their largest sense, I thank you for the honor conferred, and may He who rules our destiny give to me that wisdom, that power, that energetic effort that shall bring to you a successful administration. (Applause).

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief McMurtrie: He is happy indeed who has many true friends. The realization of that has come to me this afternoon in the vote that has been extended to me. However, I can only say at this time, brothers, I thank you one and all.

I pledge to you, My Chief, during the entire year the best of my ability in aiding you in any capacity to which you may assign me, and at the close of the year, one year hence, I hope to meet you and have you feel exactly the same toward me as you do today. I thank you. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Irelan: Has the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief anything to say?

Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Klein: Deeply realizing

the great honor given to me this day I have only to say to the brothers that I will serve you to the best of my ability. I will endeavor at all times to act in the best interests of the organization.

Commander-in-Chief, call upon your Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, and he will respond to the best of his ability. I thank you. (Applause).

Council-in-Chief Cressey: I wish at this time to thank the members of the Commandery-in-Chief for the honor conferred upon me for a second time.

And I wish to assure you, my Commander, that I will be at your service and assist you in any way that I can to make your term of office successful. (Applause).

Council-in-Chief Williams: I wish to express my appreciation for the confidence you have shown in me by returning me to this office with my good brother, and I assure you that in the coming year I will be just as faithful to the Order as I have always been. (Applause).

Council-in-Chief Schneider: Commander-in-Chief and Brothers: I wish to thank you Brothers of this Encampment from the bottom of my heart for the honor that you have conferred upon me, and I assure you that if there is any time I can be of assistance to you, I shall be glad to do so. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Ireland: We will be very glad to hear from him who is the bulwark of our organization, our dear and beloved Secretary, Brother Hammer.

National Secretary-Treasurer Hammer: I am just able to thank you. And as long as I am capable and can, I will try to serve you to your best interests. I thank you. (Applause).

National Secretary Hammer: I move that the usual number of printed proceedings of the Encampment be provided and they they be forwarded to Divisions for promulgation to Camps. (Adopted).

Commander-in-Chief Ireland: There being no further business to come before the Encampment, we will proceed to close.

Whereupon at 2:25 o'clock p. m. the Encampment was closed in due form.

The foregoing is a correct transcript of the proceedings of the Forty-fourth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary-Treasurer.

APPENDIX

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC AT GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., SEPT. 3, 1925.

Grand Rapids, Michigan, Sept. 3, 1925.

Commander-in-Chief:

Your committee on conference on name hereafter to be borne by the Sons of Veterans, beg leave to make the following report:

FIRST: We have thoroughly canvassed and investigated the subject matter as regards the change of name of the Sons of Veterans in harmony with the purposes for which we understand we were appointed and have held repeated and extended conferences with the committee of the Sons of Veterans during the current Encampment week, and after mature deliberation and careful consideration of the facts and surrounding circumstances, your committee, together with the committee of the Sons of Veterans, have settled upon a change of name, and under date of September 1, 1925, the Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, in regular session in the City of Grand Rapids, Michigan, adopted the following

RESOLUTIONS,

to wit:

"WHEREAS, The Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans in regular session in Milwaukee, in 1923, adopted a resolution asking the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic to name a committee representing that organization to confer with a committee to be named to represent the order of the Sons of Veterans, to consider, among other things, a change in the name of the order of the Sons of Veterans that would clearly indicate and designate of whom the order consists, and

"WHEREAS, Dr. L. F. Arensburg, Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, has named a committee to represent that organization consisting of Past Commanders-in-Chief Willett, Burton and King, and

"WHEREAS, That committee has communicated to the committee representing our order, that they have unanimously decided to recommend to the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic that the Order of the Sons of Veterans, United States of America, adopt the name "Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War;" be it

"RESOLVED, That the Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans in regular session do hereby adopt the recommendation of the committee representing the Grand Army of the Republic,

and subject to the approval of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic of the recommendation of their committee, such portions of the Constitution and Regulations of the Order of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., as pertain to the name of the order, be repealed and in lieu thereof the name

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

be adopted and inserted; and be it further

"RESOLVED, That a committee be named by the Commander-in-Chief, with full power to act upon such details as may be found necessary to change the Constitution and Regulations, ritual, badges and all forms, reports and papers to conform to the name Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and further to take such legal action as may be necessary to cause the corporate name of the order of the Sons of Veterans, United States of America, to be changed to that of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War."

The above resolution was adopted at a regular session of the Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, held in the City of Grand Rapids, Michigan, Tuesday, September 1, 1925.

W. M. COFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

The original of which resolutions, certified as above, being hereto attached, marked Exhibit "A," and made a part of this report.

Therefore, your committee in furtherance of the foregoing action of the Sons of Veterans, do hereby approve of the name therein adopted, to wit: "Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War" and we unanimously recommend to the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic now in session, that this change of name shall be and hereby is approved by this National Encampment.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. WILLETT,
JNO. R. KING,
C. G. BURTON.

SECOND: Your committee make further report:

That in order that the status of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War may be more clearly indicated and determined in its relation with the Grand Army of the Republic, we have agreed upon a report for the consideration of this Encampment, the following resolution, to wit:

RESOLVED, That we, the representatives of the Fifty-ninth Annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, in session in Grand Rapids, Michigan, this 3rd day of September, A. D. 1925, do hereby recognize the noble, generous and patriotic objects, aims and purposes of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and believe that organization to be worthy of the support and encouragement of all loyal people; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we cheerfully extend to the said Sons of

Union Veterans of the Civil War a cordial welcome as an allied society of the Grand Army of the Republic and we bid this organization of our sons God-speed in the noble work to which it is consecrated, and recommend all Departments, Posts and Comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic to accept their services on all occasions when it is proper so to do, to the end that it may increase and prosper and teach to future generations of our nation the principles of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty.

J. W. WILLETT,

JNO. R. KING,

C. G. BURTON.

(The above report was adopted by the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic at Grand Rapids, Michigan, on September 3rd, 1925).

THE FEDERATED PATRIOTIC SOCIETIES, ALLIED WITH THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

MINUTES OF SIXTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

Grand Rapids, Michigan, Sunday, August 30, 1925.

The Sixth Annual Conference of the Federated Patriotic Societies, allied with the Grand Army of the Republic, was held on above date at Hotel Pantlind. Officers present were President Drusilla I. Thayer, Vice President Ida S. McBride and Secretary-Treasurer Samuel S. Horn.

The meeting was called to order at three o'clock p. m., by the President who extended greetings to those in attendance and called upon Past National President, Lola S. Elliot of the Daughters of Veterans to offer an opening prayer. Sister Elliot responded in a beautifully worded invocation, following which all joined in singing "America." The Universal Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was then given, led by Comrade L. Longfellow, Patriotic Instructor of the G. A. R.

Following the roll call (see complete list of voting attendance attached), the minutes of the last previous conference at Boston, were on motion dispensed with and approved as published in the several Journals of Proceedings, and as submitted by the Secretary in printed copies distributed.

Secretary-Treasurer Horn presented an interesting written report, interpolating it at different points with special references. The report is as follows:

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY.

August 30, 1925.

To the Officers and Members, Sixth Annual Conference, Federated Patriotic Societies, Grand Rapids, Michigan:

It is perhaps unusual to submit a formal report for consideration of this body. Yet I believe the organization should now have certain fundamentals for future action based upon its experiences and as viewed by these who may have taken more than an ordinary interest in the mutual work of the Allied Orders.

From close observation it has seemed that thus far it has been an organization without a definite aim or policy, yet banded together, strong in desire to be of value to, and influence in, the cause of patriotic work. Working individually rather than collectively, we are actuated more by the impulses of our separate organizations, viewing these annual meetings more as a "get-to-gether meeting," lacking the complete effort of ratification of conclusions. We thus fail to give it due regard as the "Clearing House of Patriotism" it should be as representing the combined force of hundreds of thousands loyal men and women who would be powerful in a unified force and influence.

With due respect to a general desire always on the part of officers of all organizations to properly serve those who elect them, selections are frequently made as a compliment, the necessary qualifications being forgotten for the time. A consideration must be given to the fact that here is a real work to be carried on and that the annual meetings are a part of the general work rather than simply an annual incident.

I am considering what I believe to be the needs of the organization when I suggest that if we are to become practical in the work, the future Secretary should be chosen for a term of not less than three years;—and that there might be a re-election of officers; that choice be made from those who have been active in the work of patriotism in their respective bodies and whose past continuous service is an assurance of a loyal, constant, prompt and intensive interest necessary to the success of the Society. It would also seem to me that this Society should be of such influence, power and weight, with the respective organizations, that its actions would be such as to generally assure the adoption of their conclusions by each of the allied bodies, yielding any personal ideas to the paramount good of all, that our Nation might be blest and aided by our work. When I realize and remember the wonderful unity of purpose, and such traveling "hand-in-hand" as existed during the term in which I was Commander-in-Chief of my organization, it would seem that any minor differences as existed might be sunk into the discard in a unified co-operation, leaving such differences as an individual thought rather than a barrier to a common good. Until such a level is maintained we may consider ourselves as without a destination and with a social annual gathering as the only objective.

I never realized the possibilities of this Society until, by virtue of the office I held, I became a member. In a desire to conserve some of that possibility, I presented certain Resolutions last year. In a measure they worked to an accomplished end, but, owing to certain conditions, the full result hoped for was not attained.

Your indulgence is craved for any apparent use of perpendicular pronoun "I." It is an expression which cannot entirely be avoided and is the result of personal thought, experience and a desire to use it to bring to this conference, something tangible for consideration.

For several months after being elected, this office could not properly function, owing to delay in receiving records of the Boston meeting, and the funds of the Society. As soon as possible thereafter, efforts were directed to establishing a complete

basis of records and to further the work and to place before this Society the results of study that we might consider our own future. I believe that the Federated Patriotic Societies is one of the salvations of our organizations.

In September, 1923, Sister Louise Benson in passing her records to her successor, very properly suggested that "it would seem very desirable that a record book be established, the only record of the first meeting being leaves clipped from a Journal of the Woman's Relief Corps and later only loosely written records."

Even the loosely written records were incomplete. Finding that the Woman's Relief Corps had published in each of their Annual Proceedings, the minutes of the successive meetings, it was possible through the courtesy of this year's National Officers of that body to secure sufficient back copies to make a complete record available. With this record now established under cover, there are extracts of the action of the Society of each year as a basis for our present functioning. The thanks of this Society are due and hereby tendered to the Relief Corps for their kindly courtesy in the matter.

A suggestion was also made at that time that the funds might be continued in one bank in the name of the Society. This seems impracticable, especially with an annual change in office. Until some change is made in the tenure of office of the Secretary-Treasurer, it would seem more logical to turn over at the annual meeting, a draft or certified check to the successor in office, leaving any outstanding bills presented too late for payment, to be cared for by the new officer as a part of the succeeding year's records. This plan I have adopted and with my report herewith as Treasurer, such a check is ready for my successor.

It would seem consistent also, that Officers of the Society should be chosen from the list of retiring National Chiefs or from Past National Chief Executives, whom by virtue of service is a voting member of the Society.

The Allied Orders should also in response to a request from this body, arrange to publish as part of their proceedings, a record of the minutes of these meetings each year, now being done by only a portion.

Another matter of import it would seem, (and I do not believe this Society can properly function otherwise), is, that every organization recognized by, allied with and kindred to, the Grand Army of the Republic, should be in the family circle of this Society. To my mind it is useless to continue unless this be so. To my mind also, it is a question as to the seeming discourtesy to the parent organization not to be associated herein to the fullest extent intended in the ideas which were the initiative of this Society.

I present supplementary to this report, a submission for an established form of By-Law, together with other submissions which seem proper for consideration and adoption. Also a financial report as Treasurer.

My thanks are due Sister Thayer, President, for her courtesies and forbearance during the past year. She has had a real interest in the work. Sister Vice President McBride has supplemented her former work in the gospel of patriotism. The rela-

tions with the heads of the Allied Orders has been pleasant and profitable. Especially with the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, Comrade Louis F. Arensberg, who despite the number of years which have passed over his head, has been vitally interested and unusually energetic in his work for the honor of his comrade's services and has led the van in patriotic endeavor.

Thanks too, to the members of this Association for honoring me as its Secretary and giving me this opportunity to render this report and other submissions for consideration.

Fraternally and loyally yours,

S. S. HORN,

Secretary.

FINANCIAL REPORT, FEDERATED PATRIOTIC SOCIETIES.

Balance on hand, received from former Treasurer.....\$ 31.50

Receipts—

Contribution, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.....	\$25.00
Contribution, Woman's Relief Corps	25.00
Contribution, Daughters of Veterans	25.00
Contribution, Sons of Veterans Auxiliary.....	25.00
	<hr/> \$100.00

Aggregate receipts\$131.50

Disbursements—

Feb. 11—Stamps for President	\$ 4.00
Stamps for Vice President	2.00
Stamps for Secretary-Treasurer	5.00
Mar. 7—Stationery for Officers	15.25
Postage for shipping stationery	1.22
July 31—Circular notices and return cards.....	9.25
Postage sending out circulars	3.00
Aug. 14—Menus and Creed cards	8.75
Aug. 19—Pledge of Allegiance place cards	3.70
	<hr/> \$ 52.17

Balance on hand in certified check herewith.....\$ 79.33

Respectfully submitted,

S. S. HORN,

Treasurer.

On motion of Sister Maybelle Plymire, the report was commended and ordered placed on file as part of the minutes of the Conference.

At this point, President Thayer made interesting remarks in connection with the work of the Societies and of the joint effort of the officers to place it in a commanding position in the list of patriotic societies, with an established policy and outline of duties to accomplish. She spoke of the cordial relationship and co-operation while she was a National President, with the Commander-in-Chief of the "Sons," and its continuance in the co-related offices this year of President and Secretary, suggesting that it had much to do with the success of the year and its anticipated future progress. She referred to the fact that much thought and work were represented in the report of the Secre-

tary and in proposed By-Laws and Resolutions he would offer, copies of which had been placed in her hands previously.

Commander-in-Chief Louis F. Arensberg of the Grand Army of the Republic, who had just previously arrived and was greeted with great applause, was then formally introduced to the Conference by the President. He made an excellent and inspiring address and was frequently interrupted by loud applause. He expressed his pleasure at being permitted to speak to a representative gathering of the several organizations, and then referred to many matters of vital interest to all patriotic Americans, and especially to the "Boys in Blue" and those who were identified with their interests. He deprecated the fact that legislation such as the "Stone Mountain Coinage Act" and the "Lee Mansion Restoration Bill" had been passed without a proper Legislative Committee to have them scanned closely to have discovered their real intent. He suggested the appointment of joint legislative committees, and a close scrutiny of all bills of a character that might hide an intent to be detrimental to patriotic interests, and especially those which might seriously affect the institutions and traditions of an ever loyal people. He urged the members of all the Orders to be ever watchful of the interests of those always loyal to the Nation, its Institutions and its Flag, and by word and deed exemplify the highest standard of true American citizenship.

On motion of Comrade Longfellow and Secretary Horn, the Conference heartily endorsed the utterances of the Commander-in-Chief, as well as his earnest patriotic endeavors during his term of office.

Regular business being resumed, Secretary Horn presented a series of By-Laws, with Supplementary Objectives and Order of Business, which were read, being interpolated at times for explanation or for the information of members asking questions, by the Secretary. On motion of Sister Addie Wallace, the By-Laws, Supplementary list of Objectives and Order of Business, were unanimously adopted, as follows:

BY-LAWS,

FEDERATED PATRIOTIC SOCIETIES, ALLIED WITH THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

Submitted at Grand Rapids, Michigan, August 30, 1925.

ARTICLE I.—NAME.

The name of this Society shall be: **FEDERATED PATRIOTIC SOCIETIES, ALLIED WITH THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.**

ARTICLE II.—OBJECTS.

The objects of this Society shall be:

To effect a closer union and relationship of the patriotic interests of the Orders allied to the Grand Army of the Republic;

To promote, foster and support, in these United States of America, a true Americanism, love of Country, respect to the Flag, reverence for the spirit of our Institutions and obedience to the Constitution and laws of the land in which we live;

To denounce and oppose in every way, any act which attempts to disrupt our Nation, weaken its Institutions, lead to disloyalty or tend to impair the great heritage handed down to us and secured by the services and sacrifices of our forefathers;

To serve as a "Clearing House of Patriotism" for the Allied Orders, that there may be a greater unity of purpose, harmony of methods and solidity of action in their service in the common cause as expressed in their Preamble, Principles and Objects.

ARTICLE III.—MEETINGS.

The meetings of this Society shall be held Annually at the same time and place as the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic and its Allied Bodies, on a day preceding the formal openings of such Conventions. Each such meeting shall be termed a "CONFERENCE."

ARTICLE IV.—MEMBERSHIP.

Membership shall consist of the several Organizations recognized as allied to and affiliated with the Grand Army of the Republic, represented by a voting membership as follows:

1. Listed Regular Voting Membership;
 - (a) Sitting National Chief Executives.
 - (b) Past National Chief Executives.
 - (c) Sitting National Patriotic Instructors.
 - (d) Sitting National Secretaries.
 - (e) Founders of the Society (not included in above).
 - (f) Past Officers of the Society who have served one full term of office prior to the Boston 1924 meeting.
 - (g) One Delegate from each Organization, certified to the Secretary by the National Chief Executive.
2. Non-listed Attending Voting Membership;
 - (a) Any member of the several Organizations who may be present who are serving or who shall have served as an Officer or on the Staff of the National body.
3. Honorary Voting Membership;
 - (a) Sitting and Past Commanders-in-Chief of the G. A. R.
 - (b) Sitting Adjutant General and Patriotic Instructor G. A. R.

ARTICLE V.—OFFICERS.

The Officers of the Society shall be chosen from the Sitting or Past National Chiefs of the Allied Orders who are present at the Conference, not more than one officer from either of the Orders, and who may be subject to re-election, as follows:

President—For a term of one year.

Vice President—For a term of one year.

Secretary-Treasurer—For a term of three years.

ARTICLE VI.—DUES.

The dues to the Society shall be a subscription of \$25.00 from each National body allied to the G. A. R., upon call, but not more than once annually.

ARTICLE VII.—STATE BRANCHES.

State branches may be established, to conform co-relatively to the National Society. Where State branches exist, they may be represented in Annual National Conference by the Division or Department Chief and Patriotic Instructor or an Alternate to such Officers.

ARTICLE VIII.—AMENDMENTS.

Any amendments to these laws must be submitted in writing and shall clearly state the amendment, together with the Section or Article as it would appear as amended. Amendments shall be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the voting membership present at any Annual Conference, after it shall have been properly presented, read and discussed.

GENERAL AND SUPPLEMENTARY OBJECTIVES.

(1) A recognition and adoption of a policy by all Organizations, Societies and public and private gatherings, that nothing but the Holy Bible shall ever rest upon the Flag of the United States of America.

(2) To prevent any desecration of the Flag of the United States of America by lettering or advertisement; or use upon any article of merchandise or a receptacle for such; or any mutilation, defacing, defiling, trampling upon, or by word or act cast contempt upon such Flag; or the use of any Red Flag, Black Flag, Sacreligious Flag or Banner; or use of any such Flag or Banner as is not the recognized Flag of any existing and friendly foreign Nation.

(3) To require the Flag of the United States of America to be displayed at the head of every public parade; in or at every election polling place; in or at every public school and at every public gathering.

(4) To secure the issuance of a public State proclamation covering Flag Day; and adherence to a universal proper display of the Flag of the United States of America wherever it may be used; to have the Universal Pledge of Allegiance generally used and regularly taught in the public schools of the land.

(5) To work for legislation in the Nation and in every State for "Flag Laws;" for the proper gift of Flags for Veterans' graves with a recognition of the Allied bodies or general committee of such to be the recipient of contributions for Memorial Day work; for the gift of grave markers for Veterans' graves and for their proper listing, for grave or headstones for such by Counties or other sub-divisions of the States, and proper care for all public Memorials.

(6) For Legislative Committees in Congress and in Legislatures to scrutinize all Bills affecting the Veterans; for a determined effort for the passage of all proper bills and for the defeat or repeal of such bills as are detrimental to the welfare of the Nation, the interests of the Veterans and the causes for which they fought.

(7) For the elimination of all improper history text-books in the public schools as belittle our patriots and their deeds in the history of our Country and especially in the Civil War.

(8) Assistance in the cause of Americanization and the welfare of the youth of our land; the suppression and final elimination of papers published in foreign language unless correspondingly published in English, to the end that there may be One Country, One Language, One Flag.

(9) A co-operation with all kindred patriotic Societies and Veteran's organizations in all work of Americanism, Patriotism, Love of Country and the institutions and heritage it represents.

(10) Legislation for restriction of sports for at least on the morning of Memorial Day.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Call to Order.
2. Prayer.
3. Hymn, "America."
4. Universal Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
5. Roll Call of Officers.
6. Roll of attendance of voting membership.
7. Minutes of previous meeting.
8. Report of Secretary-Treasurer.
9. New and General Business.
10. Reports and remarks from Individual Organizations.
11. Miscellaneous: Open Forum for Good of the Orders.
12. Election of Officers.
13. The "American's Creed" in unison.
14. "Star Spangled Banner."
15. Adjournment. (Banquet).

Any business may be postponed for action upon same at the banquet meeting, except that the election of officers shall be held before recess. New officers will commence to serve after banquet is held.

THE AMERICAN'S CREED.

(Wm. Tyler Page)

I believe in the United States of America as a government, of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign nation of many sovereign states; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes. I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its Constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its Flag; and to defend it from all enemies.

Sister Wallace suggested that the By-Laws be printed that each organization and those interested might have a copy. The information was volunteered by the Secretary to the effect that each of the Allied Orders would print a complete record of the minutes of the Conference which would include the By-Laws in full. This, he argued, would fully serve the purpose and avoid an unnecessary and excessive expense.

A set of Resolutions, prepared by the Secretary, was presented to the meeting and read in full. The Secretary in presenting the Resolutions, suggested that unless there was a uni-

son of action by all the Allied Bodies, the work would be at cross-purposes, and that the real objects of the Societies and the necessary results, could not be attained. The approval of the Resolutions by the Conference would result in a copy being sent to each of the Orders in convention assembled, backed by those Societies composed of active members of each organization, recommending, and possibly insuring, their adoption by all.

Note:—(From the fact that the acoustic properties of the meeting hall were very poor, which had already affected the comfort of the hearers, many present could not hear the entire reading of the several paragraphs of the Resolutions. Consequently a motion to adopt them caused a number of questions and also considerable discussion as to the real import of the paragraphs submitted. Remarks and inquiries and a participation in the general discussion were made and entered into by Comrades Pilcher and Longfellow, Brother Coffin and Sisters Flood, Hoster, Wallace, Bender, President Thayer and Secretary Horn. Motions for postponement, re-reference, re-consideration of the laws adopted, etc., were offered, but were subsequently withdrawn. It was finally agreed that instead of adjourning at the end of the afternoon session, there would be a recess and a continuation of the meeting at the evening dinner, where the Resolutions would be again read and offered for adoption under probable better and more satisfactory conditions for hearing. The Resolutions were temporarily withdrawn and appear in these minutes later).

The President suggested that as it was necessary to recess shortly, and that election of officers must take place prior to recess, a number of those present whom it was desirable to hear from would be placed on the speakers list for the dinner. Sister Plymire suggested that as Sister McMillan, National President of the Ladies of the G. A. R., who were not yet a part of the Societies, was present, she be called on at this time. Sister McMillan responded as follows: "I did not expect to be called upon as I understand our organization is not yet affiliated. I have enjoyed the meeting and the remarks I have listened to, and as National President of the Ladies of the G. A. R. I will do my part to see that we join the Societies." (Applause).

Sister Rae Druck of the Woman's Relief Corps was recognized, spoke on Thanksgiving Day as a patriotic day, and offered the following Resolutions:

RESOLUTION.

The Federated Patriotic Societies allied with the Grand Army of the Republic, consisting of the Woman's Relief Corps, Ladies of the G. A. R., Daughters of Veterans, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., and the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, in session assembled at Grand Rapids, Mich., August 30, 1925, do hereby approve the Resolutions presented by Mrs. Rae B. Druck to the Woman's Relief Corps, as hereinafter expressed;

We do further present it herewith to the several organizations in Encampment assembled at Grand Rapids and recommend its adoption, and a furtherance to the desired end through General Orders and through all other influences to secure its general observance:

WHEREAS, The holiday of Thanksgiving affords a most fit-

ting occasion on which to express our gratitude and reverence to God for the outstanding years of our history which stands as a reminder of the struggles and sacrifices, efforts and achievements which paved the way for the United States of America of today, the land of opportunity, and

WHEREAS, The real significance underlying the celebration of Thanksgiving Day, the spirit of thankfulness to God as well as to our Country, is embodied in the first National Thanksgiving Proclamation issued by President Washington, October 3, 1789, and

WHEREAS, The patriotic observance of the Day offers a splendid opportunity for impressing the history of our Country and the American Ideals of Citizenship upon the minds and hearts of our children and citizens, thereby arousing a greater degree of patriotism, loyalty, and appreciation of our Country, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we include in our usual observance of Thanksgiving Day the patriotic significance of that Day and that we urge upon our membership the display of the Flag as on other National Holidays, and use every effort with the National American Commission and other organizations to include Thanksgiving Day in the list of Flag Days, and include the patriotic observance of Thanksgiving in all Americanization programs.

On motion of Secretary Horn and Sister Wallace, the Resolutions were unanimously approved and ordered referred to each of the several Allied Bodies with earnest request for adoption in each of their conventions.

Time of recess being near at hand, the President called for nomination and election of officers for the ensuing year.

The following were placed in nomination and unanimously elected:

President, Wm. M. Coffin, retiring Commander-in-Chief, S. V., 3755 Hyde Park Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Vice President, Grace B. Willard, retiring National President, W. R. C., 1401 N. Fairfax Ave., Los Angeles, Cal.

Secretary-Treasurer, Kate G. Raynor, Past National President, S. V. Auxiliary, 660 Oakwood Ave., Toledo, Ohio.

With the recital of the "American's Creed" in unison, and a singing of the "Star Spangled Banner," the conference recessed to the Rotary Club Room of the Pantlind Hotel for the dinner and further and final session.

The Societies reconvened at six p. m. in banquet and business session. Eighty-five members of the allied bodies gathered about the banquet table in social companionship. Guests of the Society in addition to the Officers and the National Chiefs included the following: Commander-in-Chief L. F. Arensberg, Past Commanders-in-Chief John R. King, Lewis S. Pilcher and James W. Willett of the G. A. R., and Patriotic Instructor Longfellow.

Following the dinner and a patriotic song by Brother Julius Jenkins of the Illinois "Sons," President Thayer tendered greet-

ings and prefaced the introduction of the speakers in the following words:

"Comrades and Friends, I feel that this is the close of an almost perfect day, and I am happy that you came to Mrs. McBride's and Sam's and my party. I feel that we are greatly honored tonight. It is really an unusual thing to have the heads of all of the organizations we are affiliated with, present with us. Just look around this table! We have our fathers; our mother organization; our sisters and our brothers, and I think we should feel very highly honored and very happy. I know that each and every one of you do feel so.

"I know there is one we never tire of hearing, and we are honored by having our Commander-in-Chief with us this evening—it is an honor to be proud of—and I take great pleasure in presenting Commander-in-Chief Arensberg to you again this evening and in asking him to say a few words."

The Commander-in-Chief made extended remarks, complimenting the Societies upon their organization and their interest in the general work. He commended the several resolutions under consideration, and in general supplemented upon the topics of his afternoon address. He urged that the resolutions upon adoption be the basis not simply of paper action but that it be followed with the energy of action which leads to victory in all conquests for good.

National President Grace B. Willard of the W. R. C., and Vice President-elect of the Societies responded to an introduction and gave an interesting talk. She referred to the great value of the organization to the allied bodies and complimented the work of the Secretary. She commented upon her association with the Commander-in-Chief of the Sons, extended the greetings of the Corps and thanked the members for the honor of being chosen Vice President. She pledged co-operation with the new President and gave a kindly tribute to the several Orders.

National President Nellie McMillan of the Ladies of the G. A. R. spoke of the adage "in union there is strength" and applied it to the co-operative force of the Societies, concluding with the words "Inspire me Oh Star Spangled Banner, to be faithful and loyal and true to the obligation I have taken in the cause I represent."

National President Maybelle Plymire of the Daughters of Veterans, told of the wonderful heritage in our hands as the kin to the Grand Army of the Republic, and the Union Veterans. She pleaded for the slogan of "One Country, One Flag" in referring to the display of so many Flags besides "Old Glory." She gave the greetings of the "Daughters," spoke feelingly in referring to the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army, and pledged her organization in all patriotic kindred works.

National President Ida H. Rokes of the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary compared the distance separating her from the Chiefs of the other orders in the extreme west but spoke of the close connections and team work which melted distance and made each other near and dear. She told how her organization had been especially interested in the initiatives of the Societies and expressed a thankfulness for the brotherly and sisterly deeds

of all the orders in co-relative and co-operative work. She referred to a particular interest in the several resolutions and sensed the action of her convention to be a unanimous approval and a determined effort to further the tenets the resolutions seek to establish. She brought the greetings of her convention and wished for successful sessions to all the allied bodies.

Commander-in-Chief Wm. M. Coffin of the Sons of Veterans, and the newly elected President of the Society pledged every effort to further the objects of the Societies, whose general policies were those he had endeavored to preach and practice to and through his organization. He asked for a short conference after the meeting, with the heads of the several orders, to discuss ways and means for accomplishing some of the desired results.

Interesting and eloquent remarks were made by Past Commanders-in-Chief Lewis Pilcher, James W. Willett, John R. King, Patriotic Instructor L. Longfellow and Judge Advocate General McBride of the G. A. R., Ida S. McBride, Vice President of the Societies and Kate G. Raynor, newly elected Secretary-Treasurer. Comrade Pilcher spoke of his pride in being a "citizen of the United States" and suggested that in our pride of such citizenship, with this organization before us, it stimulated us in making our country even more worthy of our pride. Comrade King remarked that he had no idea heretofore of the extent of the Societies; that we should teach with more energy than ever, true patriotism, that we in turn as had the Union Veterans, hand down the Flag to the coming generations, without dishonor, without defect and without defeat; to be true to the Flag and all that it stands for. Comrade Willett spoke of the matter of immigration and naturalization; the need to teach the true tenets of our form of government that the "melting pot" may work as it should. He spoke of the disregard for law and urged education in the principles of patriotism suggesting that liberty was not license. Comrade Longfellow said he noted with pride that the allied orders were taking advance ground on the question of teaching loyalty to the Flag, and he gave especial reference to that subject. Judge McBride in his remarks suggested that the Federated Patriotic Societies allied with the Grand Army of the Republic can control the destinies of the Country, and he urged that the combined influence be used in the support of the real needs of the U. S. A.

(Note:—Space forbids the re-print of the full addresses. Through the courtesy of Sister Louise Chandler who volunteered to shorthand the entire conference, the talks are recorded complete for the records of the Societies and filed with the Secretary).

Secretary Horn, at the request of the President, responded to the speakers collectively. In part, he said:

"I hardly know what to say in response to all the wonderful words spoken tonight. The Officers of the Societies are more than satisfied if they have brought to the Grand Army comrades, particularly to these Past Commanders-in-Chief, and to our own members also, some knowledge of the work we hope to do. * * * We know we are not heirs in the sense of an organization, but we do want to prove in their declining years of the Veterans, that hundreds of thousands of loyal men and women

—wives, sisters, sons and daughters, grandsons and granddaughters, mean to yet make the Grand Army of the Republic an even greater organization than it has ever been. * * * This is a wonderful gathering and on behalf of the officers of the Societies I extend thanks for the wonderful response to our efforts. I believe it means extended influence. Many did not know the full objects and have never realized before there was such an organization which meant such influence. I fully agree with Commander-in-Chief Arensberg that we need action and not all talk. Our individual organizations must work as a part, a cog, of the machinery of the entire organization. * * * I extend to you all, the heartfelt thanks of the officers of these Societies. To the retiring officers, Sister Thayer and Mother McBride, that just as there was a wonderful year twelve months ago, so there has been a wonderful year this year. I trust there is sufficient influence in the members of our several organizations here tonight to support the measures in their conventions and work which mean good results in the unification of interests, a solidity of action and above all a sincerity of purpose.

A corrected roll-call of attendance was conducted, and on motion of Secretary Horn, to complete all records, it was adopted: That the actions of the Officers of the Societies in conducting the work for the year, the arrangements for the conference and banquet and the invitation to the guests be approved; that the bills in the hands of the Treasurer for guest plates and other expenses be approved and paid; that the thanks of the Societies be extended to Miss Louise Chandler for her unselfish services through the meeting, and that the minutes of the conference as taken by the stenographer and approved by the retiring President and Secretary be adopted as the record of the conference. The motion was seconded by Sister Addie Wallace, and unanimously adopted.

The set of resolutions offered for approval at the afternoon session, and carried over for action until evening session, were then presented by Secretary Horn, supplemented by the following remarks: "These resolutions have been prepared along lines as we understood the Grand Army of the Republic desired in their work for patriotism and legislation, and we should represent their interests. If approved by these Societies, they are in proper shape to pass copies to each of the allied organizations, to be referred to their committees on resolution in their convention this week for consideration and, we hope, adoption." (Reads Resolutions).

RESOLUTIONS:

The FEDERATED PATRIOTIC SOCIETIES, Allied with the Grand Army of the Republic, approve and present herewith to the several Allied Organizations in convention assembled at Grand Rapids, Michigan, the week of September 1st, 1925, for consideration and adoption:

That this Organization herewith approves and adopts, or hereby ratifies such previous approval and adoption, the Universal Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and the Flag Code as adopted by the National American Commission as a part of its Ritual and usages in the Order, and a furtherance of them for recognized universal use;

That a Legislative Committee, if not now so provided for, be annually named by the National Chief Executive of this Order, to act in conjunction with, and for the interests of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Union Veterans of the Civil War, to be represented at Washington, D. C., especially during sessions of Congress, as a part of a general combined Committee representing the several Orders, in support of, or opposition to, bills affecting the Union Veterans in particular, and in patriotic legislation generally;

That this National Body, urge through its General Orders and otherwise, the establishment in Divisions and Departments of similar Committees in reference to all State Legislation;

That, in an appreciation of the furthering of schemes by special or disloyal interests to the glory of those who sought to destroy this Union and Government, we record this Organization as favoring pension legislation tending to relieve any needed condition of all veterans of war who served under the Flag of the U. S. A., and their widows and orphans:—we deprecate and are opposed to Acts authorizing the coinage of money by the Government, which will permit to be displayed thereon, inscriptions or likenesses of those who fought against or sought to destroy this Government, or for expenditure of public funds to any dedication of a traitorous cause; that this organization use every honorable effort to influence the repeal of any such objectionable Acts and to further oppose any legislation which discredits the cause for which our fathers, and all loyal men and women, fought, suffered and died;

That the minutes of the meetings of the Federated Patriotic Societies, allied with the Grand Army of the Republic, be published in the Annual Journal of Proceedings of National Convention; that the Officers of the Societies be placed upon the mailing lists for a copy of the Annual Roster, Journal of Proceedings, issues of General Orders and the Official Organ of the Order. That the National Secretary file with the Secretary of the Societies the result of the action upon these Resolutions, and that the National Officers use all means possible to further the intent thereof.

On motion of Secretary Horn, seconded by Brother Coffin and Comrade Longfellow the resolutions were adopted unanimously and copies ordered handed to the National head of each of the Allied Orders.

Sister Addie Wallace and Sister Blanche Beverstock moved that a call be made on each organization for the \$25.00 contribution. Carried.

On motion of Sister Wallace a rising vote of thanks was extended the retiring officers for their faithful work during the year.

Secretary Horn: May I now say Sister President, that I believe the Federated Patriotic Societies has accomplished more this year than in all the years of its existence. We have established a policy; we have adopted by-laws; we have placed ourselves on record on things which are of vital interest to each and every organization. There is one more thing which ought to be done and I believe we have the assurance of the National President of the Ladies of the G. A. R., that they will join us,

because we want a united family, each working in the interest of each other and of the Grand Army of the Republic. Though we may have different views of some things, although we march separately, we are marching side by side in one cause. As I said in my report today, I believe we ought to submerge our own particular ideas along certain lines at times if for the general good of the constituted organizations. I never realized until last year as Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, the value of this organization. When Commander-in-Chief Saltzgaber, God bless him, I wish he were here, Mother Bell Bliss, Sister Martha Van Duzor, Sister Drusilla Thayer, Sister Emma Finch and I worked together as if we were one, hand in hand and yet separately in our orders. We are on a broad highway of the future. At our rear is the ending of the Civil War; in front of us, the broad highway upon which we all walk toward one end which has led from the pivotal point in the rear. We have been walking many years on "muddy roads;" we had the improved "macadam," but now we are on the "concrete" highway to the goal. Because of the remarks tonight of the Past Commanders-in-Chief who are with us and our own "Commanders-in-Chief" of our National allied bodies, I believe there is going to be an out-pouring of effort because I believe we understand each other better, and know we have a goal which to reach must have the support of every cog in this wonderfully big wheel of these five organizations, all of whom revolve on the cam shaft of the Grand Army of the Republic.

President Thayer: Thank you, each and every one for coming here tonight, and thank you for the honor conferred upon me by this office. I extend best wishes to Brother Coffin and his officers for a happy and successful year. Now we will close by singing "Blest be the tie that binds" and then "God be with you till we meet again." (Singing). The Conference is adjourned and the new officers will assume the charge of the Societies.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF TREASURER.

Balance on hand at opening of Conference session...\$79.33
Expended:

Supplementary expenses of Conference, guest dinners
and expenses\$53.00

Balance to new Treasurer\$26.33

ATTENDANCE ROLL.

Officers: President Drusilla I. Thayer, Vice President Ida S. McBride, Secretary-Treasurer Samuel S. Horn.

Past Officers: Past Vice President Grace L. Johnson.
Grand Army of the Republic:

Commander-in-Chief L. F. Arensberg.

Past Commanders-in-Chief John R. King, Lewis Pilcher,
James W. Willett.

National Patriotic Instructor Levi Longfellow.

Woman's Relief Corps:

National President Grace B. Willard.

Past National Presidents, Flo Jamison Miller, Mary Lord Carr, Ida S. McBride, Ida K. Martin, Inez Jamison Bender, Marie L. Basham, Bell W. Bliss.

National Secretary Kate Reed Humphreys.

Ladies of the G. A. R.:

National President Nellie R. McMillan.

Past National Presidents, Elma B. Dalton, Ella S. Jones, Catherine DeLacey Roche, Lillian Clark Carey, Anna M. Michener.

National Secretary Myrta M. Talmage.

Daughters of Veterans:

National President Maybelle Plymire.

Past National Presidents, Elizabeth B. Stanley, Clara F. Hoover, Katherine R. A. Flood, Clara G. Yengling, Nellie M. Goodman, Lola S. Elliott, Drusilla I. Thayer.

National Secretary Edna Wadsworth.

National Patriotic Instructor Leah M. Simpson.

Official Societies Secretary Louise Chandler.

Sons of Veterans:

Commander-in-Chief Wm. M. Coffin.

Past Commanders-in-Chief, Ralph Sheldon, A. E. B. Stephens, Frank Shellhouse, Samuel S. Horn.

Sons of Veterans Auxiliary:

National President Ida H. Rokes.

Past National Presidents, Kate G. Raynor, Mary L. Warren, Addie M. Wallace, Mayme E. Dwyer, Blanche Beverstock, Margaret P. Stephens, Minnie E. Groth, Emma S. Finch.

National Secretary Margaret L. Waters.

National Patriotic Instructor Lillian E. Pierce.

The foregoing minutes of the Sixth Annual Conference of the Federated Patriotic Societies Allied to the Grand Army of the Republic, are approved as the record of such Conference.

DRUSILLA I. THAYER,
President.

SAMUEL S. HORN,
Secretary.

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