

the Banner

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Organized 1881—the only male organization recognized by the Grand Army of the Republic

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Number 5

Duluth Encampment Eventful and Historic---Congressional Charter Granted

The 73rd Nat'l Encampment of the S.U.V.C.W. and the 68th Nat'l Encampment of the Auxiliary was held in Duluth, Minn. from Sunday, August 8th through Thursday, the 12th. The Hotel Duluth was headquarters, where all meetings and activities were held. Over 400 members of the two organizations participated in the many joint meetings and social affairs.



(Duluth News Tribune Photo)

This bust of Albert Woolson, sole survivor of the Union Army, will be placed in the Duluth City Hall. Above, from left, are Mayor George B. Johnson; Woolson; Gen. U. S. Grant 3rd, Commander-in-Chief; and Mrs. Mildred R. Webster, Auxiliary Nat'l President. The bust was presented by Mrs. Hellen Newbright, Nat'l Patriotic Instructor of Auxiliary and was unveiled by Frances Ann Kobus, 5, Comrade Woolson's granddaughter.

The Encampment continued

Various delegations arrived in Duluth on Sunday, Aug. 8th including a chartered bus from Massachusetts, and several special cars on the Burlington Lines Railroad.

Monday morning was taken up by Council and Credential committee meetings and various activities in preparation for the actual Encampment. On Monday afternoon the entire delegation from both organizations was taken on a courtesy bus trip along "Sky Line Drive" showing the beauty of Duluth, Lake Superior, and the Duluth Harbor. Ten large buses were required for the trip which lasted over two hours.

On Monday evening the most outstanding patriotic ceremony ever held in Duluth and one of the finest ever held in the country was witnessed in the Crystal Ballroom of the Hotel Duluth in honor of Comrade Woolson. Dr. J. F. Robinson (of the American Legion) said that nothing like it had ever happened before in Duluth.

Following the invocation given by Nat'l Chaplain Louis T. Story of Calif., the entire assemblage sang "The Star Spangled Banner" with Miss Lucy Monroe of New York City as soloist. Miss Monroe is a well known concert artist who has sung the Nat'l Anthem on thousands of occasions, and has received many citations for her cooperation with veteran organizations.



(KDAL-TV Photo)

Pictured above is a partial view of the opening ceremony.

A bust of Comrade Woolson, cast in bronze, was unveiled at the ceremonies and the old veteran told about 600 persons, "It's a good likeness." Remarkably spry for his 107 years, the last of the soldiers of the Union Army complimented Dr. Avarad Fairbanks, of Salt Lake City, Utah. "The Author cannot be too highly commended for his work," Woolson said. "We are all here for a grand purpose."

Speaking in a loud, firm voice, the old soldier thanked members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War for holding their encampment in his honor. "I thank you for this splendid assembly," he said. "I hope you enjoy your stay in this fair city of Duluth."

The bust of Comrade Woolson, accepted for the city by Mayor George D. Johnson, will be placed in the rotunda of the City Hall. In accepting the bust, the Mayor noted "a sense of history in this room. Mr. Woolson symbolizes the last moments of a truly great

era in American history."

Gov. C. Elmer Anderson said "this State is proud of Albert Woolson, one of the few men who remember that terrible struggle", and added: "We pay tribute to the gallant men who upheld and fought for the cause of freedom. In fighting to preserve this nation, the men of the Union forces made one of the greatest contributions in the history of this country as well as in the history of western civilization." The Governor said the Grand Army of the Republic preserved the Union "and it also helped to sustain and preserve the freedom which you and I enjoy today".

Ceremonies were opened by Gen. U. S. Grant 3rd. He was introduced by Harold Grinden, publicity director, Chamber of Commerce. The General read greetings from President Eisenhower as follows:



I AM HAPPY TO SEND GREETINGS TO THE SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR ON THE OCCASION OF YOUR ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT. IT SEEMS TO ME ADMIRABLY APPROPRIATE THAT YOU HAVE CHOSEN TO MEET IN THE CITY WHERE THE LAST SURVIVING MEMBER OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC IS SPENDING HIS ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH YEAR. FROM THE SOLDIERS WHO FOUGHT IN THE CIVIL WAR WE HAVE GREAT HERITAGE AND A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY. THAT WAR WAS A BITTER AND YET REAL PROOF THAT THE MEN OF THE BLUE AND THE GRAY WERE WILLING TO DIE IN ORDER TO DEFEND WHAT THEY FELT IN THEIR HEARTS WAS THE RIGHT. EVEN IN THAT WAR BOTH SIDES WERE FIGHTING FOR THEIR OWN CONCEPTIONS OF THE PRINCIPLES OF LIBERTY AND HONOR IN WHICH WE TODAY COMMONLY AND FERVENTLY BELIEVE. FOR THE BATTLE FOR THE RIGHT STILL GOES ON AND THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR WAGING THAT BATTLE IS NOW OURS. IN REMINDING US UNCEASINGLY THAT THIS IS A STRUGGLE WHICH CALLS FROM MEN THEIR HIGHEST COURAGE, FORTITUDE AND DEVOTION, THE SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR ARE MAKING A GENUINE CONTRIBUTION TO OUR NATION'S STRENGTH- DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

Vice-President Richard M. Nixon also wrote and asked that Comrade Woolson be given "my very best wishes for health and happiness". Mr. Nixon called upon the organization to "keep up the fight against Communist infiltration in the U. S." and asked that the members emphasize youth education for the fight.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur wrote that "the tradition he (Woolson) represents is perhaps the finest in the history of the republic". He also said to Gen. Grant, "I would that the invincible spirit of your immortal Grandfather may continue always to lead us on. I am sure were he alive he would join me in a simple message—a simple admonition to all fighting men—In war, there is no substitute for victory."

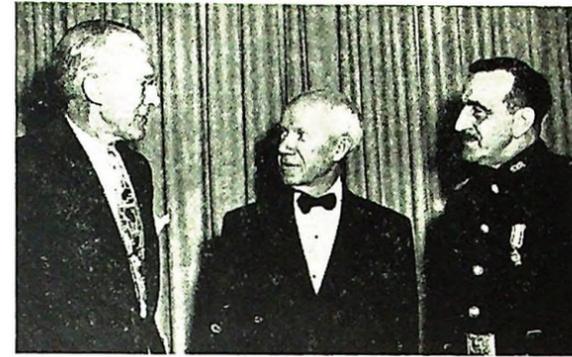
(Encampment continued on next page)

Some will always be above others. Destroy the inequality today, and it will appear again tomorrow.

—Emerson

Opposition inflames the enthusiast, never converts him.

The Encampment continued



Pictured from left: Harold A. Grinden of the Duluth Chamber of Commerce who presided; Dr. Kenneth P. Williams, principal speaker; and Chief of Staff John H. Runkle.

In the main address, Dr. Kenneth Powers Williams, mathematics professor at the Univ. of Indiana, said Woolson is a symbol of "the great heritage left us by our fathers." Outlining the history of the G.A.R., Dr. Williams said the Union Army is remembered not only for the wartime battles but for a "host of post-war achievements." "It is fitting," he said, "that Mr. Woolson, whom we reverentially honor tonight, is a member of the G.A.R. and Sons of Union Veterans."

Ceremonies were marked by a massing of colors by members of the S.U.V.C.W. under command of Chief of Staff John Runkle dressed in Civil War uniform and representatives of the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Naval and Marine Corps, the 598th AAA Minn. Nat'l Guard, the 216th AAA Minn. Nat'l Guard, the U.S. Marine Corps, and the U.S. Air Force. Music was furnished by 515th Air Defense Group, U.S. Air Force. During the program several beautiful selections were sung by the St. Luke's Nurses Choir of Duluth. There were about 30 nurses in uniform in this group.



Pictured above is the combined Nurses Choir of St. Luke's Hospital, Duluth that performed beautifully at the Monday evening ceremony.

Guests of honor in addition to Comrade Woolson, Commander-in-Chief Grant and Nat'l Pres. Mrs. Mildred Webster were: Mayor George Johnson, Governor C. Elmer Anderson, Dr. Kenneth Powers Williams, Ph. D., Dr. Robert L. Kincaid of Lincoln Univ., Dr. Avarad Fairbanks of Utah College, Mrs. Gertrude McLean, Nat'l Pres. W.R.C.; Mrs. Emma Cadieux, Nat'l Pres. D.U.V.C.W.; Mrs. Irene Mangel, P.N.P. Ladies of G.

A.R.; Mrs. Mildred Murray, Nat'l Pres. Daughters of the Union, and Maj. John Ruggles, Adjutant, Pennsylvania Reserves S.U.V.C.W.

During the ceremony Commander-in-Chief Grant presented Comrade Woolson with a box of cigars and a check for \$100.00. Nat'l Pres. Mrs. Webster also presented him with a check for \$100.00, and the National Presidents of the Allied Orders as well as Maj. Ruggles also presented him with gifts.

Other guests included Col. George Hicks 3rd, Comr. 515th Air Defense Group; Lt. Col. R. H. Hoch, Comr. 598th AAA Battalion; Lt. H. F. Ohme, Comr. U. S. Naval Reserve; Capt. L. H. Worster, Comr. U.S. Marine Corps Reserve; and Chief Warrant Officer Thomas Daly, Duluth Coast Guard group commander.

When Gen. Grant called at his home earlier in the day, Comrade Woolson smiled happily when he shook his hand and told him "I've always had nothing but the greatest of admiration for your grandfather." Woolson, who through the years has always been outspoken in his praise of the first Gen. Grant, paid tribute in a booming voice to "one of the greatest military men that ever lived."



Comrade Woolson with his granddaughter Frances Ann Kobus. This picture was taken immediately prior to the Monday evening ceremony.

The local committee had the large ballroom decorated with American Flags and flags of all nations. They along with the G. A. R. banners furnished by Roy and Anna Stoudt and the palms and beautiful flowers furnished by the committee made a beautiful setting for the impressive ceremonies throughout the week. The committee also provided welcome signs that were displayed throughout the city.

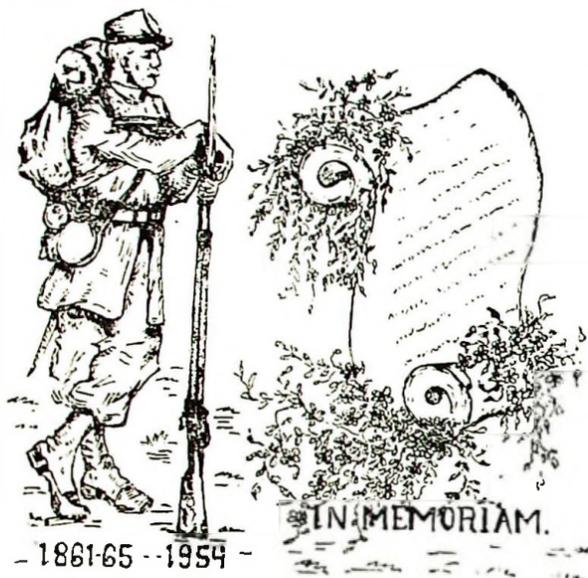
The large Hotel Duluth was unable to accommodate all of our delegates and visitors, which resulted in the housing of many at the Holland, Spalding, and Lincoln Hotels. There were 132 registered at the Sons meeting and 205 at the Auxiliary, with both organizations having many that did not register.

Never before have we seen such news coverage. The entire program was televised by KDAL-TV as well as on radio. The Associated Press was represented and sent items from coast to coast. Photographers were also present from the Duluth, Chicago, Minneapolis and St. Paul newspapers.

(Encampment continued on next page)

The Encampment continued

On Tuesday morning the local committee entertained the Nat'l Officers of both organizations along with the Past Commanders-in-Chief and Past Nat'l Presidents at a courtesy breakfast. Both organizations held business sessions on Tuesday, with a Joint Memorial Service being held on Tuesday afternoon under direction of Nat'l Chaplain Louis Story and Nat'l Chaplain Mrs. Sue Bennett.



DULUTH, MINNESOTA

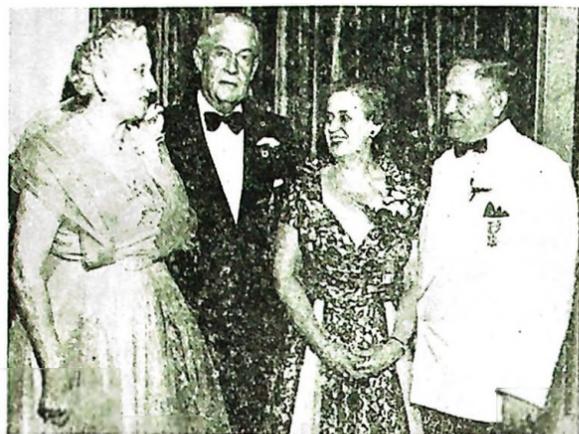
The above original drawing by Nat'l Chaplain Mrs. Bennett appeared on the Memorial Services Program. A complete description of the service will be contained in the proceedings.

On Tuesday evening the Past Commanders-in-Chief and Past Nat'l Presidents held their banquet and meeting. Also on Tuesday evening the Aux. Courtesy Hour was held under direction of Nat'l Chief of Staff Mrs. Anna I. Stoudt. Following this a beautiful and impressive color film was shown of U. S. Highway No. 6 (G.A.R. Highway). This program was under direction of P. C. in C. Holbrook with the film furnished by the U. S. Highway 6 Ass'n. The projector and screen were furnished by the Highway Dep't of Minn.

During the Wednesday session visiting committees were received from our Aux., the W. R. C., Ladies of the G.A.R., and the D.U.V.C.W. Nat'l Pres. Mildred Webster headed the delegation of 10 Aux. members and extended best wishes of the organization. In addition to personal gifts to C. in C. Grant the Aux. presented us with a \$200.00 check as a love token. The W. R. C. and D.U.V.C.W. were represented by their Nat'l Presidents, and the Ladies of G.A.R. by P.N.P. Mrs. Irene Mangel, all of whom extended greetings and best wishes and presented C. in C. Grant with personal remembrances.

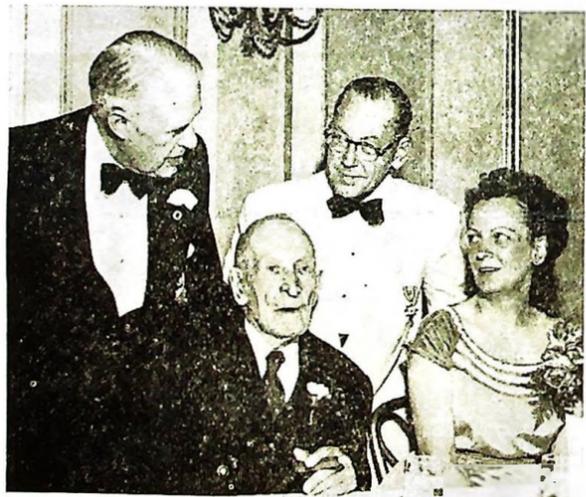
It was during the Wednesday afternoon session that C. in C. Grant was called to the telephone. He returned with a big smile on his face to announce that Hon. Kenneth B. Keating had called him from Washington, D. C. to say that the U. S. Senate had just passed our Charter Bill. As the House of Representatives had passed it the previous week, this meant that the end of a long effort was in sight. The news was greeted by en-

thusiasm and cheers, the entire delegation rising to its feet and the demonstration lasted several minutes.



Pictured at banquet (from left) Nat'l Pres. Mrs. Mildred R. Webster; C. in C. Grant; Chief of Staff Mrs. Anna I. Stoudt; and Toastmaster, P.C. in C. Stoudt.

On Wednesday evening the banquet and reception arranged by Nat'l Chief of Staff Mrs. Anna I. Stoudt was perfection itself. Two long head tables seated the Nat'l Officers and Past Nat'l Officers, with various State Delegations seated together in the room. An outstanding surprise was when Comrade Woolson was escorted into the room by his daughter and son-in-law. This was arranged by Roy and Anna without anyone knowing about it. The cheers sounded loud and Comrade Woolson seemed to thoroughly enjoy it. Various State songs were sung, and the entire group sang "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" for Comrade Woolson. Mrs. Henrietta Satterthwaite of New Jersey was the featured soloist. She sang "Old Soldiers Never Die" and "The Sons of Veterans Reserve March".



Also pictured at banquet: C. in C. U. S. Grant 3rd; Comrade Albert Woolson; Nat'l Sec'y-Treas. Albert C. Lambert; and Mrs. John Kobus, daughter of Comrade Woolson.

On Thursday, concluding business sessions were held which included election and installation of officers. The officers were installed jointly on Thursday afternoon. The Sons officers were installed by P. C. in C. John Sautter and the Aux. by P. N. P. Mrs. Gladys

(Encampment continued on next page)

The Encampment continued

Sallman. P. C. in C. Richard Locke presented General Grant with his Past Commander-in-Chief's badge and P. N. P. Ida Rokes Klein presented the Past National President's badge to Mrs. Webster. We are indeed fortunate that Gen. Grant was persuaded by unanimous vote to accept the office of Commander-in-Chief for the coming year. Only twice before in our 73 years of patriotic activity has a man been re-elected to this high office. His outstanding qualities of leadership and his thoughtful, considerate, and understanding devotion to our Order has inspired every one of us. In taking time from his busy life, he has demonstrated his love for the principles and ideals for which we stand.

NATIONAL OFFICERS 1954-1955

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF U. S. Grant 3rd., Maj-Gen. U. S. A. Ret. 1135 21st St. N. W., Washington 6, D. C.
SR. VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF John W. Emery, 227 Esat St., Easthampton, Mass.
JR. VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF Homer L. Young, 1129 Bertch Ave., Waterloo, Iowa
COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION Frederick K. Davis, 1193 Pearl St., Eugene, Ore. Geo. W. Kimball, 11A John St., Chelsea, Mass. Wallace W. Scott, 242 W. Sierra Madre Blvd, Sierra Madre, Cal
NATIONAL SECRETARY-TREASURER Albert C. Lambert, 2772 S. Broad St., Trenton 10, N. J.
NATIONAL PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR C. Leroy Stoudt, 2540 Fairview Av., Mt. Penn, Reading, Pa.
NATIONAL CHAPLAIN Rev. Hermon L. Brockway, 201 E. Seneca St., Ithaca, N. Y.
NATIONAL COUNSELOR Richard F. Locke, 526 Crescent Blvd., Glen Ellyn, Ill.
NATIONAL CHIEF OF STAFF John H. Runkle, 814 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg, Pa.
PERSONAL AIDE Charles Dexter, 3685 Wayburn Av., Detroit 24, Mich.
COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN
G. A. R. HIGHWAY Allan B. Holbrook, 218 W. Wauponsie St., Dwight, Ill.
LEGISLATIVE Fred E. Colwell, 517 University Av., Rochester 7, N. Y.
AMERICANISM A. Waller Lewis Jr., P. O. Box 128, Ashaway, R. I.
REVISION OF C. & R. Chas. H. E. Moran, 72 Carlton St., Holyoke, Mass.
NATIONAL GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICER Bertrand O. DeForest, Sr., 27 Homestead Av., Derby, Conn.

Business Sessions

The first business session opened Tuesday, Aug. 10 in the Moorish Room of the Hotel Duluth. Prayer was offered by Nat'l Chaplain Louis T. Story. Officers were present with the exception of Nat'l Council Members Laurence J. Parker and Frederick K. Davis. C. in C. Grant appointed James C. Tatman of Maryland to the Council for this encampment.

Reports of all officers were read and referred to the proper committees, after which communications and resolutions were read and referred to committees for study. These reports and resolutions will be printed in full, along with all committee appointments, in the proceedings.

Legislation enacted includes the following: The words "Under God" were added to our Pledge of Allegiance. Starting with the 1954-1955 term, the records of the Nat'l Sec'y-Treas. will be audited each year by a Certified Public Accountant. Camps at large are now entitled to one delegate at large to each Nat'l Encampment. A committee of five will be created to study, re-

vis, and bring the C. & R. up to date. This committee will report to the 1955 Encampment, after which a new C. & R. will be printed. Camps were urged to add \$1.00 yearly to dues for the purpose of subscribing to The Banner for each member. A meritorious certificate will be created to be presented to those rendering outstanding service to our Order. Also a bronze star to be added to the badge will be provided for outstanding service. Associate Members will be accepted in accordance with the Amendment to the Constitution. Otherwise, where not in conflict with this Amendment, all provisions of membership and dues will apply to this class of membership. Camps will report Associate Members under a separate heading. A committee headed by P.C. in C. John Runkle recommended Cincinnati as the place of our 1955 Encampment. This report was accepted unanimously. A motion was adopted to invite all the Allied Orders to meet with us in Cincinnati next year. A committee of three was appointed to investigate the advisability of requesting the Treasury Dep't to issue a commemorative 50 cent piece in honor of Comrade Woolson. The Honor Banner for increase in membership was won by the Michigan Dep't. This was presented by C. in C. Grant to Dep't Comdr. Thomas L. Wilson. A recording was played of the last encampment of the G. A. R. in Indianapolis. The Runkle Club announced that they will provide a plaque to be awarded to the Dep't showing outstanding activity. Any Dep't winning this plaque three times will be entitled to keep it. Nat'l Patriotic Instructor Arnold reported that \$700.00 had been collected for the G. A. R. Memorial Fund. The Encampment voted to award a \$250.00 scholarship to Lincoln Univ., preferably to a descendant of a Civil War Veteran. Appropriations of \$25.00 each were made to the Legislative Committee, Grave Registration Officer, and the American Coalition. An appropriation of \$250.00 was made to the G.A.R. Highway committee.

Resolutions were adopted commending the objectives of the Committees of the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in their efforts to weed out subversive elements in all branches of government. Also to the Federal Bureau of Investigation commending them in their able performance of duty and continued and unremitting activity against foreign intrigue and domestic disloyalty.

Resolutions of appreciation were adopted and sent to Hon. Chauncey Reed, Wm J. B. Dorn, George A. Dondero, Kenneth B. Keating, Everett McKinley Dirksen, Wm. Langer, Edw. J. Thye, John A. Blatnik and Hubert Humphrey. Also to Pres. Eisenhower, Gov. Anderson of Minn. and Mayor Johnson, Duluth. Also to the Nurses Choir, the various branches of the Armed Services in Duluth, Miss Lucy Monroe, the Chamber of Commerce, the newspapers and television and radio stations of Duluth.

Congressional Charter Granted

The report of the Nat'l Sec'y-Treas. at Indianapolis in 1949 contained a recommendation that we apply for a Congressional Charter. This recommendation was approved, and through the ensuing years many members have devoted much time and attention to this legislation. During the years, Brothers Colwell, Locke, Runkle, and Bauer have served as chairmen of this committee. The bills that were finally considered by the 83rd Congress were H. R. 8034 and S2924 which were written by

(continued next page)

Congressional Charter, continued

Bro. Bauer. During March 1954, C. in C. Grant and Nat'l Sec'y-Treas. Lambert attended a hearing of the Senate Judiciary Sub-Committee in Washington, D.C. at which time the text of the bill was altered to meet the requirements of the committee.

We were informed that Congress had agreed not to grant any more such Charters at the present time. However, in view of the unusual circumstances, they decided to give us consideration.

Through the cooperation of Hon. Kenneth B. Keating, Hon. Everett McKinley Dirksen, Hon. Chauncey W. Reed, Hon. George A. Dondero, Hon. Wm. J. B. Dorn, and Hon. William Langer along with many other members of the House of Representatives and the United States Senate, and with the effective lobbying of C. in C. Grant our efforts met with success.

On August 3, 1954, the House of Representatives approved H. R. 8034, and on August 11th (during our Encampment) the United States Senate voted to approve H. R. 8034 in place of its original bill.

Perhaps the best explanation of the importance of this legislation is contained in the statement of the Committee of the Judiciary in reporting to House of Representatives which was as follows:

"This bill would grant a Federal Charter to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. . . . The primary purpose of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is to keep alive the memory and traditions of the Grand Army of the Republic and to preserve and make available for historical research and public appreciation in their respective localities the great quantity of historical records, data, and reminiscences relating to the Grand Army and the Civil War period of our national history.

The congressional charter granted to the Grand Army of the Republic will expire by its terms upon the death of the last member of the Grand Army. The sole surviving member, a Mr. Woolson of Duluth, was 107 years old last February 11. In a sense, therefore, the charter proposed by this bill will succeed the charter formerly granted by Congress to the Grand Army of the Republic, which, before very long inevitably will expire. In the areas of operation of their organization, the members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War consider themselves the successors to the Grand Army of the Republic. . . . Heading the list of incorporators are General of the Army Douglas MacArthur, Maj. Gen. Amos A. Fries, Retired, and Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant 3rd, Retired."

Newly Installed Officers

Left to right: Homer L. Young (Iowa) Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief; U. S. Grant 3rd, (Washington, D. C.) Commander-in-Chief; Mrs. Ursula Shepardson (Mass.) National Vice-President; Mrs. Ellinore Konrad (Wisconsin) National President; and John W. Emery (Mass.) Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief.



Cincinnati Selected For 1955

By the unanimous vote of the 73rd Nat'l Encampment, the 1955 Nat'l Encampment will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio. Cincinnati is one of America's leading convention centers, and is within overnight distance of more people than other metropolises in the country. Travel time and expense are reduced to a minimum. It is a hub for rail traffic and is served by 8 major

railroads. It is a center for air travel and a major port for the principal airlines of the U.S. Bus service is fine and auto travel convenient and fast, over a broad network of arterial highways leading directly into Cincinnati. Pt. Pleasant, Ohio, the birthplace of Gen. U. S. Grant 1st is about 30 miles from Cincinnati. A pilgrimage to this shrine will undoubtedly be planned as a feature of the convention. PLAN NOW to ATTEND More details in the next issue of The Banner.

Encampment Sidelights

The weather in Duluth was near perfect, ranging at times from a low of 44 to a high of 70. The total lack of humidity together with sunny skies made our week very enjoyable.

Messages were received at the Encampment from many U. S. Senators and Congressmen as well as from several Past Commanders-in-Chief. A greeting was also received from the Society of the War of 1812.

Prior to the Monday evening ceremony, Gen. Grant entertained all of the honored guests at a private dinner party. This was a most enjoyable prelude to an outstanding evening.



Shown with C. in C. Grant and Nat'l Pres. Mildred Webster is Miss Lucy Monroe of New York City. This outstanding concert artist has sung "The Star Spangled Banner" more than 3,000 times on official occasions

On Saturday, Aug. 14th, C. in C. Grant stopped over in Minneapolis to dedicate a plaque erected by Minneapolis Camp 8 and its Aux. in Beltrami Park, formerly Maple Hill Cemetery. The plaque honors 46 Civil War Veterans interred there whose identities were lost many years ago. Hon. Eric G. Hoyer, Mayor of Minneapolis also spoke. Music was furnished by the 47th Infantry Division Band.

Both the Hotel Duluth and the Duluth Chamber of Commerce have expressed great satisfaction with our convention. The Hotel said they had never entertained a finer group, with none of the rowdiness present at times at some conventions. Mr. Grinden of Chamber of Commerce expressed appreciation and said "If there is anything that I can do personally for your organization in the future, you will only have to drop me a note".

In response to the resolutions adopted and sent to Mr. J. Edgar Hoover of the F. B. I. he wrote "I was, of course, happy to read the generous comments about the F. B. I. included in the resolution passed by your organization recently. Such kind words are a source of great encouragement for my associates and me, and we earnestly hope that we may always be able to merit the confidence of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War."

The Times Herald Tribune carried a picture of Gen. Grant with Comrade Woolson in their Paris, France edition. Pictures were also carried in the Washington Post, St. Louis Dispatch, and many other newspapers throughout the country.

Dr. Robert L. Kincaid of Lincoln Memorial University writes: "I attended the 75th reunion of the Union and Confederate veterans at Gettysburg in 1938. In some respects your function in honoring 'the last man', Albert Woolson, is an event of equal importance. I will always treasure the memory of the occasion when we saluted this grand old man of the Union Army."

Auxiliary Receives New Flag



During their 68th Annual Encampment in Duluth the Nat'l Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War was presented with a new organization flag by Lila's Banner Girls. This group is composed of the Dep't Presidents and Nat'l Officers that served in 1952-1953 with Nat'l President Mrs. Lila A. Macey.

Auxiliary Events

Nat'l Chief of Staff Anna I. Stoudt called the 68th Nat'l Encampment of the Aux. to order, extending her greeting and best wishes for a happy convention. Nat'l Pres. Mildred Webster was escorted by her husband to a seat under an arbor of yellow roses. Past Nat'l Presidents entered, wearing red, white and blue corsages. Nat'l Officers wore yellow roses and were escorted to their stations after being presented separately. All this was done under an arch of gladioli formed by Nat'l Aides and Nat'l Special Aides. Flowers were then presented to our Nat'l President while P. D. P. Mary Mandeville sang "You". The Maine Dep't presented Nat'l Pres. Webster with a brass bell which was topped by a spread-eagle. Leroy and Anna Stoudt presented her with a plastic gavel and P. N. P. Eva Blackman presented her with a gavel made from the wood of a tree under which Gen. Grant's troops rested.

The meeting was opened by the Nat'l President and the regular business begun. While Nat'l Vice Pres. Helen Sprenger presided, the Nat'l Pres. read her splendid report, after which P.N.P. Ida Klein told her she had brought dignity, tact, and splendid relationships to the organization. The Nat'l President's gift from the organization was a beautiful diamond ring.

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Auxiliary Events, continued

Greetings were received from the Spanish War Veterans Aux., the Woman's Relief Corps, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and the Ladies of the G. A. R.

Nat'l Patriotic Instructor Hellen Newbright reported 2,253 flags were purchased by the Auxiliaries and \$9,485.00 spent for patriotic work. Both the Nat'l Patriotic Instructor and the Nat'l Chief of Staff reported outstanding financial reports which were received with great applause.

P. N. P. Celeste Gentieu reported \$17,063.52 in the G.A.R. Memorial Fund. This is to be used for a life-sized figure of Comrade Woolson seated on a bench, cane in hand. This position of Comrade Woolson was requested by the family. The statue is to be placed in Gettysburg Nat'l Park and dedicated later at a time to be announced.

Bro. Bert Isaacs of New York presented the Auxiliary with a carrying belt to use with the new Banner which was presented by Lila's Banner Girls.

In the future we will include in the Pledge of Allegiance the words "Under God" after the words "One Nation".

Each Dep't President is asked to send to the Nat'l Secretary the name of her State Song, and if possible, the music so the musician will have it for next year.

A delegation from the S.U.V.C.W. headed by C. in C. Grant was escorted into the convention. Gen. Grant presented our Nat'l President with a gift and thanked her for the lovely watch the Aux. had given him. He also thanked the Aux. for presenting him with such a gracious, pleasant, and beautiful lady to serve as Nat'l President during his year.

Another delegation of Sons, all from Maine, among them P.D.C. Charles Webster, was received. Brother Webster thanked everyone for the kindness shown his wife during the year.

The Joint Installation was truly an impressive part of the ritual. P.N.P. Gladys Sallman installed our new Nat'l President and her staff of officers in a beautiful manner. C. in C. Grant and his staff were installed by P. C. in C. John E. Sautter for the second time Nat'l Pres. Ellinore Konrad was presented a beautiful arm bouquet of yellow roses by the Milwaukee Aux. and another of red roses from her husband who could not be present.

Mrs. Wilhelmina Tagart,
Press Correspondent 1953-1954

Woolson Pictures & Souvenirs Available

In reply to many requests, arrangements have been made to supply additional pictures of Comrade Woolson as well as banquet favors used at Duluth. Picture prices are as follows: 5"x7" 75¢—8"x10" \$1.00—18"x24" \$4.00. Paperweight favors \$1.00 each. All prices include prepaid postage. These can be secured by writing to P.C. in C. Leroy Stouidt, 2540 Fairview Ave., Reading, Pa

"BANNER" Management Changes

Starting with the January-February, 1955 issue, The Banner will be edited and published by Bro. Leslie W. More, 265 Erie St., Owego, N. Y. Detailed information relative to this change will be contained in our next issue.

President Signs Charter Bill!

Commander-in-Chief Grant has received an official communication from the White House that President Eisenhower signed H. R. 8034, the bill for the incorporation of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. In view of Gen. Grant's particular interest in this legislation, one of the pens used in connection with the signing has been sent, and will be kept in our organization archives.

Four of Thirty-three P.N.P.'s and P.C. in C.'s at Duluth



From left: Chas. F. Sherman, C. in C. 1914; Blanche Beverstock, Nat'l Pres. 1921; John E. Sautter, C. in C. 1913; Edna Bergwitz, Nat'l Pres. 1914.

AUXILIARY NATIONAL OFFICERS 1954-1955

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 Vice-President-Mrs. Ursula W. Shepardson, 2964 Main St., Springfield 7, Mass.
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NEWS DEADLINE for Nov. issue OCTOBER 20.

Associate membership badges can be had at \$1.25 each from Nat'l Sec'y-Treas. Lambert. These badges have a blue ribbon on which the word "Associate" is printed in silver letters. The first associate badge has been issued to Mr. Kenneth Crouch of Bedford, Va., who affiliated with Dayton Camp 5 of Trenton, N. J., on August 3rd.

Honorary Memberships Granted

By action of the 73rd Nat'l Encampment, Hon. Everett McKinley Dirksen, U. S. Senator from Illinois; Hon. Kenneth B. Keating, Congressman from New York; and Hon. George A. Dondero, Congressman from Michigan, were elected as Honorary Members of our Order. All have accepted and have expressed their appreciation. Certificates of Honorary Membership will be sent to them.