SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS
(Revised)

FIFTH NATIONAL CONVENTION

of

The AMERICAN LEGION

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
October 15-19, 1923

Compiled by Publicity Division, National Headquarters
NOTE: The following is the revised summary of the proceedings of the Fifth National Convention of The American Legion at San Francisco, October 15th-19th. It replaces the first summary, hastily got together for the benefit of delegates, which of course contained a number of errors. Corrections were made by Legionnaires who have kindly called attention of National Headquarters to the same, and such typographical errors which have been found.

It is hoped that this revised summary will meet all the requirements of Legionnaires who desire a complete and correct account of the fifth convention proceedings.

LEMUEL BOLLES,
National Adjutant.
INTRODUCTION

"With the help of the thousands of men who have dedicated their lives to the principle set forth in the preamble of The American Legion Constitution, and who now constitute the membership of The American Legion, I expect to see the accomplishment of greater deeds to the benefit of our glorious Republic."

John R. Quinn, newly-elected Commander, prefaced his administration with the declaration that from every Legionnaire did he expect help that might carry the organization to greater achievements during the year.

But a short time before, Alvin Owsley, retiring National Commander, placed effectiveness of the Legion squarely on its membership, when he cited splendid records of posts throughout the organization, telling of increased rosters and of untiring efforts exerted for the Nation and comrades.

On the men and women of the Legion, then, in the opinion of its leaders, rests a definite obligation. To give unstintedly that the Nation may profit; to work unceasingly, that its principles may redound to the credit of the Nation, are the duties of the far-flung membership.

The work of a Legion year is often arduous, but a genuine pleasure in performance of a task. The accomplishments of each convention evidence this. The Fifth Annual Convention marks the close of a year bespeaking solidarity and progress. The attitude of the Legionnaires in the convention city attests this quality. The fifth year of the Legion has assuredly welded it into a greater alliance for wielding an influence of tremendous good.

It is now every Legionnaire’s duty to go forward to even greater attainments.
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PROCEEDINGS

Note: Reports of committees are incorporated in chronological order.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1923

The Fifth Annual Convention of The American Legion was called to order at ten o'clock, Monday morning, October 15, 1923, at the Civic Auditorium, San Francisco, California, National Commander Alvin Owsley presiding.

National Commander Owsley then introduced Lieutenant-General Hunter Liggett, national chairman of the California Convention Committee, who introduced to the convention Senator Hiram W. Johnson of California.

ADDRESS OF SENATOR JOHNSON

HONORABLE HIRAM JOHNSON: "Mr. Commander, Gentlemen of the Convention and Members of The American Legion: It is a very proper and proud moment for every man who can participate in any degree in this auspicious occasion. The very hearty and sincere welcome that has been accorded you by city, by state, by nation, too, expresses something of the pleasure that is ours in having you in our midst today, voices something of the affectionate regard in which all American men hold you and your cause and arms, and, indeed, the welcome has an added fervor in what we hope and expect will be your achievements in the days to come.

"Those of us who are almost passing from the scene of activity nationally now look to you, you who recently won your great laurels in blood and carnage beyond the seas—we look to you in the problems that confront this nation in the days to come, to win fresh laurels for the American flag and for the American people. And the problems which will confront you in the days of peace will be no less trying than the battles which confronted you in the days of war.

"Each bloody page of history is written in indelible red the deeds of warriors and soldiers in by gone days. Every man with imagination, every individual who has read his history at all knows the names (they are as familiar to him as his own) of the great conquerors of the past; not only does he know the names of the great conquerors of the past, but in his memory are inscribed the very pages of their victories. Only dimly has history recorded the victories of peace, but the victories that were no less glorious than those that have been won in war, and these victories of the peace in the past have marked the milestones of progress, of humanity, and of civilization.

"You have won your victories in war; you have yet to win your victories in peace.

"We who have come here today welcome you not as your guests, but as your friends, as your fellow soldiers, and we welcome you for what we know you are going to do in the future. All of us have read in story and in song of every battle that was ever fought in which there was a conquering of a race or the victory of a people. The fateful charge of the British in the Charge of the Light Brigade, but there never was in all history written a record such as you American lads wrote across three thousand miles away from your homes, in the recent great war.

"I can remember the very dark days in March, 1918, I recall as a member of the Massachusetts Draft Board, I was at that time watching upon the maps that were pasted upon the wall in Washington the various activities of the armies in the field. I remember the day when we received the news that the American khaki-clad boys had come into Chateau Thierry, and I remember then the waving of the flag at the White House. I remember then the news, shocking and heart-rending, that the job and saved civilization for the world.

"Then remembering what you have done in these days gone by, ah! we pray what you may do in the days to come. My hope, my prayer, the hope and the prayer of men like me who have now gone past their age of physical activity, the hope and the prayer of the American people, is that these men in the front of us, those who were companions in arms and are now comrades in peace, shall in the days to come bind up the nation's wounds, care for every man who gave of his body that his country might be saved and civilization might live. We hope that the days of the past, ever commemorating the deeds of glory that have been yours, shall in the present and the future ever be diligent and America tolerant, ever the bulwark of the American freedom, the guardian always of American institutions that usually have been the bulwark of human progress, caring for men and for women and for little children in this land, and that if the time ever again shall come when your country needs you that you will respond as you did in the days gone by, and, marching under the old Stars and Stripes, will never permit the drum beat of the nation to beat the retreat."

NATIONAL COMMANDER OWSLEY: "My Comrades, after being welcomed by you and your hosts and old comrades in arms, and, indeed, the welcome has added fervor to what we hope and expect will be your achievements in the days to come. You who recently won your great laurels in blood and carnage beyond the seas—we look to you in the problems that confront this nation in the days to come, to win fresh laurels for the American flag and for the American people. And the problems which will confront you in the days of peace will be no less trying than the battles which confronted you in the days of war.

"Then remembering what you have done in these great battles of the recent great war and having come to you as your hosts, we feel that we as your guests should say to you that we as your guests should say to you that it is our object in life which we shall never lose sight of that those principles so beautifully presented to you by our Chaplain is our guiding star in life. Those are the principles for which we fought and for which many of us gloriously died.

"Every second of our lives, every moment, every day we as your guests, it is our object in life that this nation be actuated at all times by that..."
patriotic fervor that made us one from Canada to Mexico, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and carried us on a transport of patriotic fervor of the nations, actuating this greatest of all nations for war.

"We remind you, too, those of you who are not so fortunate as to be able to join the armed forces of this nation, that we have no desire to appropriate the results of past patriotism or to let you think that we desire to have all the patriotic duty in the future. We remind you that we are to-day four million of one hundred and ten million, that what we did we did because of you and because you helped us do it, and with your support we could not have stayed there; that the effort that you people at home put out was just as important, just as effective, and the value was without stint and which we know you gave without stint, and we want the high ideals of The American Legion cherished by every man and every woman in this nation, and we want no possible excuse to be listened to from any man or woman who hasn't those ideals. It is our ambition that it be driven into the hearts of every citizen of the United States, that is our ambition, that is our purpose, that is our only policy. There are no patriotic organizations in the United States that is in every home. It is not restricted to any religion, to any politics, to any sect or race or color, to any woman; we are all represented from the hovel to the castle. (Applause.) That is our privilege. We are, fortunately for ourselves and unfortunately for the nation, the only organization that can possibly reach everybody, and because we reach everybody we want to be everybody, we want everybody to be us. We can only succeed if we all feel that The American Legion is not the property of the Commander or the Executive Committee of the Legion itself, but the property of the United States, and that it cannot succeed unless the United States says it is our business, and we are proud of it, we shall help it.

"Now, you people of the Golden West, we are with you, we are going to enjoy your hospitality in such a manner that it shall ever be to you a pleasant memory as it will be with us a pleasant memory."

Commander Owsley then called up the Committee on Permanent Organization for the report, which was presented by the chairman of the committee, Paul Davis of Idaho.

**Report of Committee on Permanent Organization**

**MR. DAVIS:** "To the Fifth National Convention of The American Legion, San Francisco, California, October 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 1923: Twenty-one members of your Committee on Permanent Organization met at 2 p.m., Sunday, October 14, 1923, at Committee Room D, in Civic Auditorium. The committee has agreed on the following report, which is respectfully submitted for your consideration:

"That the National Adjutant be made permanent secretary of the convention, with power to appoint such assistant secretaries as may be deemed necessary.

"That there be the following convention committees, each committee to consider such subjects as may come within the limits hereinafter set forth, and in addition the powers and duties of any committee which may be specifically referred to it by the convention:

**RESOLUTIONS**—To consider all questions referred to it by the convention; to formulate such convention resolutions as may be appropriate, proper and necessary, and not specifically falling within the jurisdiction of some one of the following committees, and, in addition, all resolutions received too late for the attention of other convention committees. The committee is hereby called to meet at 2 p.m., October 16, 1923, Committee Room 'A,' Civic Auditorium.

**REHABILITATION OF VETERANS**—To consider all questions pertaining to disabled veterans and their dependents for which legislation is not pending; to study carefully the work of the Veterans' Bureau and recommend such changes as are considered necessary; to receive the reports of special committee on Veterans' Bureau Rating Chart and National Rehabilitation Committee. The committee is hereby called to meet at 2 p.m., October 15, 1923, in Committee Room 'B,' Civic Auditorium.

**LEGISLATION**—To receive reports of the National Legislative Committee and special committee on Farm and Home Aid; to consider legislation now pending before Congress directly affecting service men and women and their dependents and recommend legislation not specifically falling within the jurisdiction of other convention committees. The committee is hereby called to meet at 2 p.m., October 15, Committee Room 'C,' Civic Auditorium.

**CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**—To receive and consider all suggested amendments to the national constitution and report approved amendments not later than morning session of October 17. The committee is hereby called to meet at 2 p.m., October 15, 1923, in Committee Room 'D,' Civic Auditorium.

**INTERNAL ORGANIZATION** To study all phases of the Legion's program and policy of operation and organization, the policies and maintenance and organization projects of the national organization and recommend to the convention definite plans for correcting deficiencies in the operation of officers; to consider the question of post activity, and fix the national dues for 1924; to consider all questions relating to the membership or editorial policy of the organization and recommend to the convention any changes in the business management or editorial policy of the Legion.

**Americanism**—To receive report of the National Americanism Commission; to receive report of special committee on Orphans' Home; to receive report of standing committee on Memorials; to receive report of special committee on Veterans' Bureau Rating Chart; to receive report of special committee on Farm and Home Aid; to receive report of special committee on Mutual Aid and Benefit Division; to receive report of special committee on Employment; to receive the report of the business manager of the Legion Weekly and recommend to the convention any changes in the business management or editorial policy of the Legion Weekly.

**Finance**—To receive the report of the National Treasurer and of the National Finance Committee; to consider all questions relating to national per capita tax committee and fix the national dues for 1924; to consider any plans relating to finance or financial policy that may be allowed before the convention. Members of the National Finance Committee be requested to sit with this committee. The committee is hereby called to meet at 2 p.m., October 15, 1923, in Committee Room 'E,' Civic Auditorium.

**Military Affairs**—To receive the report of the National Committee on Military Affairs and to consider any questions which are referred to the convention bearing upon the military policy of the United States. The committee is hereby called to meet at 2 p.m., October 15, 1923, in Committee Room 'H,' Civic Auditorium.
"Naval Affairs.—To receive the report of the National Committee on Naval Affairs, and to con-
consider all questions which may be submitted to
the convention bearing upon the naval policy of
the United States. The committee is hereby
called to meet at 2 p.m., October 15, 1923, in
Committee Room 'L,' Civic Auditorium.

"Aeronautics.—To receive the report of the National Committee on Aeronautics, and to con-
sider all questions which may be submitted to
the convention bearing upon the aerial policy of
the United States. The committee is hereby
called to meet at 2 p.m., October 15, 1923, in
Committee Room 'J,' Civic Auditorium.

"Time and Place of Next Meeting.—To con-
sider the invitation of the committee to enter-
tain the 1924 convention and recommend to the
executive committee governing the convention city
as to organization of the community, financial
support, etc. The committee will not report
favorably any city which does not comply with
these requirements. The committee is hereby
called to meet at 2 p.m., October 15, 1923, in
Committee Room 'K,' Civic Auditorium.

The report was declared adopted as amended to
provide that all resolutions referring to immigration be referred to the Convention Com-
mittee on Americanism.

D. Boone Tree Gavel.

Department Commander J. G. Simms of Ten-
nessee was then recognized and came to the
platform to present a gavel made from the
famous "Daniel Boone Tree." He told how
nearly ninety years before Sutter had discovered gold
in California that Boone, the famous trapper,
was killing bears in Tennessee. In one county,
Commander Simms declared that until five years
ago a tree had stood, near which Boone had killed
his greatest bear, and with his hunting
knife had inscribed the words on the trunk of
the tree, "D. Boone felled a bar, 1760." From
this gavel a new one had been made, and Com-
mander Simms presented this to National
Commander Owsey on behalf of Kings Moun-
tains Division of the Legion in Johnson City, Tenn.
Commander Simms in his presentation speech
deprecated the sturdiness of the gavel and
its workmanship typified the spirit of the Le-
gion and the spirit of the pioneer of Tennessee. Following the presenta-
tion, a delegate from Kentucky declared that
that state had a gavel made in Kentucky, and not Ten-
nessee, while a delegate from North Carolina
took credit for the fact that Boone had been
born in that state, though disputed in this
statement by a delegate from Pennsylvania.
Commander J. J. Wicker of Virginia added that
when Boone killed the bear, there was neither
Kentucky nor Tennessee but all was in the
commonwealth of Virginia.

Commander Owsey acknowledged the presen-
tation of the gavel, closing his statement with
the words: "I wish to express my great ap-
preciation for this thoughtful act. I hope that
there shall not be committed under its charge
any partial ruling from the chair, but that in
the spirit of the great pioneer, Daniel Boone,
who knew a right and a wrong in our time would
have made a good Legionnaire."

Commander Owsey then called on Thorn P.
Gale of California who introduced Mr. Luther
Burbank, who welcomed the delegates and vis-
itors to the State of California.

Commander Owsey then called for the re-
port of the committee on Credentials, George W.
Owsey, of Michigan, chairman.

Report of Committee on Credentials.

NATIONAL COMMANDER OWSEY: "Un-
der the report of the Credentials Committee it
became the duty of the presiding officer to ap-
point and select for you a permanent Sergeant-at-Arms.

I believe it would be a wise thing to recognize
a splendid department of The American Legion
outside of our continental confines of America;
not only that, but I want this convention to
know that I opened our session with the gavel
from the Department of Panama, and as your
permanent Sergeant-at-Arms please let me an-
nounce, with your permission, John H. Hilkene,
Department of Panama."

GEORGE W. YEOMANS: "Comrade Com-
mander and Comrades of The American Legion. The
members of your Committee on Credentials met at 10 a.m., October 14, 1923, at Committee
Room 'E,' Civic Auditorium, and agreed on the
following report, which is respectfully submit-
ted for your consideration:

"That the official roll of the convention in-
clude vote of National Executive Committe-
men, National Vice Commanders and Past
National Commanders, as follows:

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I know that I opened our session with the gavel
from the Department of Panama, and as your
permanent Sergeant-at-Arms please let me an-
nounce, with your permission, John H. Hilkene,
Department of Panama."
THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

Officers and in the vote on next convention place.

"15. Nominations for National Officers shall be from the floor on a roll call, the departmental list being alphabetically arranged. A department may present as many candidates as it chooses.

"16. Nominating speeches shall be limited to five minutes each. Not more than one seconding speech shall be made for each candidate, not to exceed three minutes.

"17. In the event more than two candidates are nominated for any one office, the balloting shall continue until one candidate shall have received a majority of the votes of the convention.

"Mr. Commander, I move the adoption of the report on the Committee on Rules as amended."

The motion was seconded and the report adopted as amended.

NATIONAL COMMANDER OWSELY: Gentlemen of the Convention, General Joseph Haller, Commander of the Polish armies, is in the rear of the building. Will you stand?"

Mr. Commander Owsley then made his report to the convention.

National Commander Owsley's Report.

Another year for our Legion has gone into history, mingling with all the other years in the great ocean of the past. In keeping with the clear mandates of our National Constitution and in obedience to the will of the delegates assembled at the National Convention of The American Legion in New Orleans, we have gathered here in San Francisco for our Fifth Annual National Convention to receive the reports of our national officers and committees; to transact whatever business you may deem necessary to the orderly conduct of the Legion's welfare and elect your national officers for the ensuing year.

I bring you today a message filled with enthusiasm; a statement of accomplishment by posts, Departments and the national organization in which we can take pride; the assurance of duty conscientiously performed; a declaration of hope and courage; a vision into the future that is radiant and inspiring.

Speaking to the delegates assembled in New Orleans, as the newly elected National Commander, I then committed the Legion under my leadership to four comprehensive principles of endeavor: Hospitalization, Rehabilitation, Adjusted Compensation and Americanism.

These terms have had a real and distinct meaning to our Legion this year, and the efforts of all of us, I believe, have been bent toward pushing forward to success the activities necessary to obtain results.

The separate reports of department heads are prepared and open for your reception and examination. They appear, to me, to speak of a consistent progress toward a better state for our sick and disabled comrades; a justifiable prediction of the passage of the Adjusted Compensation Bill by the next Congress and the inauguration of a patriotic American discussion and leadership on matters of national education, respect for our flag, veterans unemployment, permanent endowment for decoration of graves in foreign lands, an understanding of and a business conception of the Legion's opportunity of educating and protecting the orphan children of service men; the announcement and introduction to the nation and to the world of the Legion's advocacy of an international conference for the limitation of air armament—placing our position clearly before the world—America must either work for peace or prepare for war; adherence to and a liberal support of a conservative and adequate policy of national defense; the stamping of the Legion in its true light before the nation as its creation, whose creed and purpose are so truly expressed in the familiar term of "Service to God and Country."

It has been my honest endeavor this year as your National Commander clearly to outline and
declare a definite purpose, give to the Legionnaire a knowledge of what our Legion means to him and to America, and, in addition to this, a knowledge of those American men and women of the country, that all might hear the story of the Legion and understand the place that will necessarily be accorded for The American Legion—I desire you to know and remember me.

And now, my fellow Legionnaires, your Legion are as varied as the American family, as broad as human affairs. Not only has the force of the Legion been proclaimed throughout every state in the Union, and in Panama and on foreign soil at London, Paris, Brussels, and in Germany, in the Ruhr, wherever there was a listening ear, whenever time and a muchly overworked body and mind permitted, the presence of your National Commander was given. In this connection I must mention of the splendid efforts of your National Vice-Commanders, upon whom I have heavily depended, their loyalty and considerate loyalty and was enabled more easily to lead the way for us all by following their kindly counsel and words of sober judgment and timely wisdom. Individuals, departments, organizations, institutions too numerous to mention here have been sustaining to me this year. I should like to thank you, and feel this account to you incomplete if I failed to make mention of the outstanding assistance and friendly co-operation everywhere manifested by the patriotic men of the press—our helpers—the American newspapers, without whom our most strenuous efforts to proclaim the virtues and explain the hopes and ambitions of the Legion would have resulted in little. The boys of the press have been patient, kind, generous and considerate of me as your National Commander. They have always kept their word to and with the Legion and have been our strongest reliance to take the Legion to the people. To these gentlemen, in your name, I proffer this expression of highest appreciation for their unselfish service and extend my hand in affection that is genuine.

Thus far we have spoken of the past—now, what of the future? The voice of America rings out in strong appeal to you, my comrades, and to our legionnaires, as perhaps never before in all her history. At this hour, fraught with so many possibilities and laden with hopes of improvement and a future of everlasting and timeless wisdom. Individuals, departments, organizations, institutions too numerous to mention here have been sustaining to me this year. I should like to thank you, and feel this account to you incomplete if I failed to make mention of the outstanding assistance and friendly co-operation everywhere manifested by the patriotic men of the press—our helpers—the American newspapers, without whom our most strenuous efforts to proclaim the virtues and explain the hopes and ambitions of the Legion would have resulted in little. The boys of the press have been patient, kind, generous and considerate of me as your National Commander. They have always kept their word to and with the Legion and have been our strongest reliance to take the Legion to the people. To these gentlemen, in your name, I proffer this expression of highest appreciation for their unselfish service and extend my hand in affection that is genuine.

Our immense treasure of natural resources must not be wasted away in profligate expenditure. Our immense treasure of natural resources must not be wasted away in profligate expenditure. To my mind one other forward stride should now be our desire and will. That mighty pioneering race of people whose names have graced the monuments of the many whose deeds have blessed all mankind, made and have preserved for us, their sons, this, our country. “O, fateful Providence that gave us our America!” Let us, then, here and now re-dedicate and reconsecrate our lives to her service.

To the innumerable years of my life for the development and the education of children, especially that which pertains to vocational education. And so I was happy, too, when your committee who had charge of the work of making investigation into the children’s work of the organization for child care and development, invited me to send a representative to your meeting (It was impossible for me to be there) to help you build a program to take a more elevated and useful part in the lives of the children of The American Legion. It is a wonderful work. There is no more interesting work than that of the care of the children.

serve and give fullest protection to our national forest reserves and parks and the development of our waterways, rivers and canals. The wild animal so distinctly beloved to our children—ranging in scale that they are rarely to be seen; our streams, brooks, rivers and lakes, once filled with fish, are stagnant or fished out and empty. Attention wisely given to protection of forest and field—closed season for animals and birds—encouragement to the state and nation for their breeding and propagation must result in little. The memories of our sacrifices as comrades carefully conserved and the well being, happiness and prosperity of all sanctified by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

To the innumerable years of my life for the development and the education of children, especially that which pertains to vocational education. And so I was happy, too, when your committee who had charge of the work of making investigation into the children’s work of the organization for child care and development, invited me to send a representative to your meeting (It was impossible for me to be there) to help you build a program to take a more elevated and useful part in the lives of the children of The American Legion. It is a wonderful work. There is no more interesting work than that of the care of the children.
"In this country of ours, according to reports given us, there are five thousand neglected children in America, in whose presence criminals of America are recruited. In going into this subject, you will go to the very heart of the membership of your organization. Because, as was so ably said by our Chairman, you reach from the home of the poor to the leading and the richest of the people of our nation. And so I heartily commend you in this splendid work that you are about to do, or service that you are about to render for those dependent children of your comrades.

"My friends, I have been instrumental in creating an institute in America for the making of a survey of all of the poorhouses in America and the county orphans' homes supported by public funds. It is an interesting study, and I do hope that your Committee will go in and make an investigation of it or join in with the ten million fraternalists in America to make this national survey.

"We can issue it as a bulletin from the Department of Labor, to give official recognition, and I ask The American Legion, many of the representatives of the fraternal societies are here and also delegates, to take this matter into consideration when your Resolutions Committee meets, because you will find there is nothing so poor in America as the American poorhouse and the American orphan home. I have stood all my life in the separation of families. It is like trying to work in the mills when I was less than eight, seeing the children separated, seeing broken homes, seeing my state and the whole organization. We can bring about getting the children and bringing them into a central place where we can train them, where we can help them to become real, true, honest American citizens. And we can save forever, my friends, taking the children and putting them upon the block and auctioning them off.

"I heard them singing the song of Iowa over there and the thought came to my mind that these children are in that state. I don't know whether there are one hundred orphan homes supported by the counties or whether it is a combination of orphan homes or a combination of poorhouses and whether you have one hundred managers, but you have got the old and the young mixed together and in some places the criminal and the innocent. You have there one hundred superintendents; you have one hundred men fitting into the whole system, and you can bring about getting the children and bringing them into a central place where we can train them, where we can help them to become real, true, honest American citizens. And we can save forever, my friends, taking the children and putting them upon the block and auctioning them off.

"I look at every child, whether it is the helpless waif on the street or whether it is the richest son or daughter in our country, the helpless waif on the street or whether it is the richest son or daughter in our country, the helpless waif on the street or whether it is the richest son or daughter in our country.

"As you know, we now have a restrictive law known as the Cody law, and that bill expires on the first day of July unless there is some other legislation presented to take its place. I am not afraid to say that as there are many people in this country that are going to try to bemuse Congress in a way that no legislation on immigration will take place at this session. For the sole purpose that the old 1917 law will then spring into effect and we will have open immigration with the western states auctioning off for some one to give them food and clothing. The newspapers were full of the so-called treatment of people at Ellis Island. The government was the other side and the newspapers were interested in their nationals. They grant passports, I told them. I said, 'Why do you grant more than the quota the law provides for?' And they said, 'It is up to you, if you think so much of your nationals, to not grant them passports and let them be barred.'

"As the only solution there is the Cody law and that bill expires on the first day of July unless there is some other legislation presented to take its place. I am not afraid to say that as there are many people in this country that are going to try to bemuse Congress in a way that no legislation on immigration will take place at this session. For the sole purpose that the old 1917 law will then spring into effect and we will have open immigration with the western states auctioning off for some one to give them food and clothing. The newspapers were full of the so-called treatment of people at Ellis Island. The government was the other side and the newspapers were interested in their nationals. They grant passports, I told them. I said, 'Why do you grant more than the quota the law provides for?' And they said, 'It is up to you, if you think so much of your nationals, to not grant them passports and let them be barred.'

"If the counties and if the states and if the national governments won't do it themselves, to the American consul to say who shall or who shall not grant passports. It isn't American to do that, and so I propose to the American consul to say who shall or who shall not grant passports. It isn't American to do that, and so I propose to the American consul to say who shall or who shall not grant passports. It isn't American to do that, and so I propose to the American consul to say who shall or who shall not grant passports. It isn't American to do that, and so I propose to the American consul to say who shall or who shall not grant passports. It isn't American to do that, and so I propose to the American consul to say who shall or who shall not grant passports. It isn't American to do that, and so I propose to the American consul to say who shall or who shall not grant passports. It isn't American to do that, and so I propose to the American consul to say who shall or who shall not grant passports. It isn't American to do that, and so I propose to the American consul to say who shall or who shall not grant passports. It isn't American to do that, and so I propose to the American consul to say who shall or who shall not grant passports. It isn't American to do that, and so I propose to the American consul to say who shall or who shall not grant passports.
on the Pacific Coast. There is a great army
that is interested in this business that pay
retainers’ fees, many thousands of dollars every
year to the brains of America to find some
way to bore a hole into the immigration law.
Our Oriental law now is becoming as a sin,
that is interested in this business that pay
on the Pacific Coast. There is a great army
open immigration with Asia, four hundred mil-
lion Chinamen, seventy million Japs, three hun-
dred million Hindus. How long would you last
with the boat-carrying power a million a year
to this coast be and what would our country be?

There are many ways of smuggling the
aliens, and it is said on good au-
ecessory that more than a hundred a day are
coming in, and by some it is said there are
a thousand a day coming into America. If that
is so, there are more being smuggled into
America than what the restrictive law itself
allows should come from Europe.

What are we going to do about it? What is
the character of the man that are coming to
the border? We ought to give some atten-
tion to a survey that was made in the
draft of the American army. It represented
that the average man that came in, there
94,000, some 12,497 were foreign born. What
is the status of the alien in this country ac-
cording to this chart? Within the last twenty-
five years 14,000,000 foreign born have come
to this country. Nearly 8,000,000 of them are
citizens of the United States. I want to say
that nearly 8,000,000 that we have in this coun-
ty of the alien to register and enroll every alien in
America that is not a citizen of this country.

You say to the children of the alien, ‘You must
go to school to know something of the history
and tradition of this country.’ What do you
say to the adult? ‘Go and do whatever you
want to. We are not interested in you. We
are interested in your children.’ We have com-
pulsory education in America that compels
them to go to school, but we have nothing at
all for the alien himself. And so I have read
of organizations that are as the foreign,
papers, that are charging me with try-
ing to bring to America the espionage system
of Europe under the registration and they
charge your organization with the same thing
when you endorse the registration system, but
what harm does it do, if you are honest and
straightforward and want to be a part of this
citizenship, to register? I traveled from Wash-
ington to Pittsburgh to register to have my
right to vote. I go to the registration officer
and give my name; where I was born; the
color of my hair and eyes, and how many children I have and all about it for the right to vote. It is not
inconvenient to me.

‘You remember who raised the question about
legislative for the purification of the ballot.
It was the ballot-box stuffers, wasn’t it? We
now have the great army of boot-leggers and aliens hammering at this proposed
law saying that it is espionage. But I say if
it is good for our country for us to register, it
ought to be good for a lowly immigrant to
come to know something of the history and the
traditions of this country.

‘I say this to you, my friends, that there
are men in this country that say that this is
not a country of one language; that this is not
country of one race, but this is a country of
all races and all languages.

That wasn’t what my father taught me.
And so, my friends, by this registration, we
are kind and we can be helpful to the alien
that wants to be a part of us. In the last few
years since you have had the tax
ers have been targets for all of these radicals.
They even go so far as to haul down the flag
at these meetings and hoist the red one, trying
to teach that the red flag stands for more than
the Stars and Stripes.

‘The Government of the United States, by the
registration plan, would work with them, to tell them, if you please, or to
make comparisons between the land they came from and this country, and this country will never suffer by comparison. We can go and help many that are here that want to be citizens, and by that and by our powerful organizations, as yours interested in Americanization help in this work. We can bring the church and the school and the great fraternal organizations and patriotic organizations in. We can make this country ring with the spirit of America, as it ought, and then we can do a lot for those people that come to our shore. We can be helpful and we can be kind.

2. Let us then that want to hang up some other flag, to those who are preaching that this country is not a great place to live in, that there are other countries in the world, we will let them where we stand.

"As I said to one of them in discussing it with him one day, ‘You offer us a government better than ours, but what have you there? You have a dictator, and so have the other countries that you have had your way in. There is no freedom of speech or of the press. You point out to me these other countries that are so great. Just let me give you one of them that I have a picture of, the country that I came from, and it is very stable as the country itself is concerned. But there are 1,250,000 men out of work in the particular line I am engaged in. There are nearly 300,000 farms hands out of work. There are between 500,000 and 800,000 young men going for their first job that can’t find work. In all of these countries that they point to with such great pride there is unemployment, there is poverty and there is crises.’

“What can they offer to us? What can they do for us? Shall we follow their plan?

"I said to him, ‘No. What we ought to do with all you in America preaching this doctrine, what we ought to do with all of you, every one of you that is not a citizen of this country is concerned. But there are 1,250,000 men out of work in the particular line I am engaged in. There are nearly 300,000 farms hands out of work. There are between 500,000 and 800,000 young men going for their first job that can’t find work. In all of these countries that they point to with such great pride there is unemployment, there is poverty and there is crises.’

“For myself, I am happy that I have had this opportunity to speak a word to you on these important things that make up the work of the American Federation of Labor. For the workers in this country is a happy country; there is less turmoil in this country now than there has been. I am not afraid of any of the so-called radicals. The only thing I am afraid of is that they have been carrying on their propaganda long enough, and it is time for us to organize to fight them. We will always be safe in America, as long as we see the homes across this continent that you and I saw as we journeyed across these three thousand miles, and the happy, contented people in them. We will be safe against all these aliens as long as we have societies and organizations like yours interested in Americanization help in this work. We can bring the church and the school and the great fraternal organizations and patriotic organizations in. We can make this country ring with the spirit of America, as it ought, and then we can do a lot for those people that come to our shore. We can be helpful and we can be kind.

"Let’s buckle on the armor; let’s go to the Congress this year; let’s prepare a bill that will Americanize the alien that are here, and, as I said before, to go right into the meat in this next session of Congress to get this bill up. If I might use the term, that will Americanize the alien before the alien alienizes the American, to keep to the contrast of ours that we set, to improve the general conditions and the tone of things in America, to let only those come who are eligible and who are assistable.

"It is a dreadful spectacle, my friends, to see open immigration with Mexico and closed immigration with our country that gave us the best people in America. Seventy-two thousand Mexicans came into the country this year. How long does it take to Americanize them? You men in the Southwest know what it is doing to you. In the Southwest, they told me the other day that this is the only American city in this state that has to do with working people. How long and how patient have we been? How tolerant have we been?

"A great labor chief said in his convention that we have been tolerant that are boring from within our organization. What about the whole crowd of them, and they say there has been a quarter of a million of aliens in America boring in, that are against this Constitution and against these traditions of our country, how tolerant, and how long are you going to let it last?

“These are the things, my friends, that we have got to face, and I want to say that you fellows haven’t got a man on a committee in Washington that has the backbone to assert himself. Let’s buckle on the armor; let’s go to the Congress this year; let’s prepare a bill that will be for all of us, and for our children.

“I am not thinking about today, but I am thinking of these three youngsters of mine that are coming on. If there is sacrifice to be made, I want to make it. I am the one that is never fishing the bridge for those that have to travel over, and I want my part in the structure to be worth while so that they can point with pride to the fact that their father was a part of it.

“I know of no greater service for me to render to this government, alien born as I was, and coming here as a poor and unfortunate one. I was out of work, year in and year out struggling to get enough to keep a family going, raising six in the family besides myself, and I say to you, with all my heart, that there is no country in all the world that equals this country of ours, and as long as I live I shall be for this old flag of ours, flag of the United States of America.

“I never went to school much, and I have picked up my education from mingling with men like you. If my history tells me aright, though, this old flag of ours was born in the battle-storm of the Revolution, it was carried before Washington, it has flown from the mastheads of glorious ships, it has been shot-torn in the front of victorious columns, it has been there to lead always in the hour of the nation’s peril. Red, white and blue—red for the strength and splendor of the land we love, blue for the clear oceans and the lakes that surround us, white for the clear, unsullied heavens that roof us as American citizens, and we can be kind.

"That is my flag, that is the flag of freedom, that is the flag that has brought humanity in the last one hundred and fifty years to the highest degree of civilization, and it is your duty and it is your right to make it stand and protect it, and instead of letting them pull down this civilization, to raise it up and send it on and on, to make those that come afterwards enjoy this good old world of ours better than we ever did in our history.

“I am delighted to have had this opportunity to talk to you.”

Commander Owsley then introduced Admiral Robert E. Coontz, who addressed the Convention.

Commander Owsley then pinned upon the breast of Admiral Coontz the American Legion distinguished service medal, only worn by one other living American, General Pershing of the Army.

Commander Owsley then introduced General Joseph Haller, who spoke as follows:

Address of General Joseph Haller.

"Mr. President, Generals, members of The American Legion, Ladies and Gentlemen, Brothers in Arms, Comrades of the World War:

"Your invitation to attend the convention is the greatest honor I have ever received. The day of my presence with you will be recorded as the happiest of my life. I trust that you
will believe the words of a soldier who fought his way through the World War. My greetings to you are not empty words, but words that come from the bottom of my heart.

The invocation was pronounced by Chaplain Estelle A. Philleo. Miss Gladys Copeland of Kansas recited "Behold the Flag."

"WHEREAS, During his journey he became desperately ill and on arrival here was conveyed by ambulance to a hospital, where he died at one p. m., Monday, October 15th, from bronchial pneumonia; therefore, be it resolved:

"RESOLVED, That this convention express its deepest sympathy to the bereaved wife and those near and dear to him."

NATIONAL COMMANDER OWSLEY: "It has been traditional with The American Legion that at this time of our national convention, while we are engaged in laughter, in the joy of our comradeship, while we are attending the business of the Legion and undertaking to make a real contribution to the work of the world, we should not be unmindful of those who walk no longer with us here. Our minds must turn to that magnificent Legionnaire, that soldier, that patriot of Ohio, Fritz Gahrlaith, who led us so wonderfully well when he walked and stood as our National Commander. It is not only this but I think it well for us at this time to gather into our minds and into our hearts the recollection that here in this convention city of San Francisco only a very short time ago passed away all that was mortal of the then, his excellency, President of the United States, Warren G. Harding.

NATIONAL COMMANDER OWSLEY: "It may be of interest for the gentleman to know that this distinction at the hands of a president of the United States has only been accorded to Marshal Foch, Admial Beatty, Baron Jacques and Diaz."

"Out Where the West Begins" was sung by the Daniel J. Martin Post No. 8 band of Waukesha, Wis. The convention adjourned at one-thirty p. m. until the next day.
ADDRESS OF GEN. FRANK T. HINES.

GENERAL FRANK T. HINES: "Comrade Commander and fellow Legionnaires, Ladies and Gentlemen: I can not adequately express my appreciation of the opportunity of being able to speak to you today and to witness this reception. I hope that I may not be permitted at this time, to express to you, and to the public generally, the appreciation that the Bureau has for the hearty co-operation that has been indicated by several departments in their recent conventions. I also ask your indulgence while I expressed my ability to make those changes in such a way as not to in any way impair the relief to the disabled man.

In bringing about certain changes in administrative overhead by the consolidation of certain divisions and the elimination of others in the Central Office, not only have those changes resulted in economy, but they have tended to expedite the business of the Bureau.

These changes in administration tend in one direction. From time to time, as they have been made, there has been a tendency to fear a centralization. Let me assure you that none of those changes and no policy that I have so far made tends to centralization in the administrative affairs of the Veterans' Bureau.

In the matter of personnel, which is vital if we are to accomplish the results that we are seeking, I believe that I can safely say that since assuming the position of Director of the Veterans' Bureau, that none but ex-service men have been appointed to positions of importance in that Bureau.

In the matter of supplies. The Bureau had a large number of supply depots, duplicating activities, resulting in unnecessary expenditures for overhead, and further, there was great delay in the filling of requisitions, because inventory existed in the supply depots, so at the time the Bureau was purchasing supplies in the field the same stocks of supplies were found in various depots throughout the country. Since March 1st a complete inventory of the Bureau's supplies has been made, all depots except three large ones so located as to best cover the field of the Bureau's activities, have been organized and today, I believe you can verify the statement from your various activities in the field, you will find requisitions are being filled promptly, the government is saving billions of dollars in using supplies on hand, and in that way, too, the hands of the Director will be strengthened when he appears before Congress at its next session. But I can assure you that the budget system will be fully in effect before the expiration of the present fiscal year. It will give to district managers the authority to make promotions, the authority to select personnel, the authority to take immediate steps in matters relating to the care of the disabled man and avoid taking up with Washington problems that should be handled and can best be handled in the field.

It has been necessary to curtail certain field activities and you will be interested in learning the reasons for the curtailment of some of the subdistrict offices. I had a feeling that it would be necessary for the Director to go before Congress in a position that he could defend the Bureau in so far as the administrative overhead was concerned. With that in view, consolidation of certain activities has taken place. Some have been reduced in proportion to the load that they were carrying and in all something like forty odd district offices have been reduced or closed. I leave it to you, Legionnaires, if you can detect whereby in the elimination of that unnecessary overhead it has been done in any way inconsistent with the adequate relief for the disabled man.

In dollars and cents that means much. It means, too, that the Director of the Bureau can go before Congress and advocate a more liberal policy on the essential elements of the appropriations for the relief of the disabled man.

In the matter of space and rentals, closely associated with that economy that I have just mentioned of supplies, since the Bureau had a material reduction in the space occupied, without any impairment in the Bureau's activities in the field, a reduction of $500,000 for this year has been made. I know you are interested, as I am, in how this vast appropriation of the Veterans' Bureau is expended and for that purpose I have outlined how each dollar is spent in the various forms of relief, and I do this: For training, 28 cents; educational, 6 cents; administrative expense, 3 cents. That gives you an idea of how each dollar of the appropriation for the last year has been expended.

devered, keeping in mind the laws of the civil service, to give the ex-service man preference in that regard.

"One matter of importance that I know you are interested in is the policy of the Bureau to place all of its activities on a budget system, to give to district managers authority commensurate with their responsibilities and to avoid taking up with Washington details which should be handled efficiently by the district managers and subdistricts. Since July 1st all Bureau activities, including the smallest activity in the field has been placed upon a budget system. Necessary, we must go slowly in the legitimate order that the accounts of disbursing officers may not be complicated and result in greater delay later on. But I can assure you that the budget system will be fully in effect before the expiration of the present fiscal year. It will give to district managers the authority to make promotions, the authority to select personnel, the authority to take immediate steps in matters relating to the care of the disabled man and avoid taking up with Washington problems that should be handled and can best be handled in the field."
I have found it necessary in order to get prompt and efficient action on the matter of compensation to reorganize the Central Board of Appeals. That reorganization has only recently gone into effect. The new Board will consist of five or seven members, with a recorder, the two additional members representing the two important disabilities that we are constantly dealing with, that is, tuberculosis and the mental disease of neuropsychiatry. The policy of procedure before that Board will enable these claims to be carried through by persons who are best qualified to handle disability of the claimant and present the matter to the entire Board of seven.

"Further than that, when a claimant appears in person before that Board, it will be the duty of the claimant to call in the services of the legal staff of the Veterans' Bureau if he so desires. In other words, it is the policy of the Bureau, and all of its employees from the Director down, to act as attorneys for the claimants and not attorneys against the claimants.

"On March 1st 4,000 cases were on hand in the Central Board of Appeals. By July 1st that Board had disposed of 20,000 cases. The policy of prompt action on the matter of claims to compensation, one of the things that we are constantly dealing with, will be established in the Veterans' Bureau. One was organized as expeditiously as possible and is now functioning.

"The object of that service is to keep the Director and his assistant informed at all times as to the field activities, how well the personnel, how sufficient the equipment is to meet the great problem.

"These inspectors do not go out for the purpose of looking after where we can safely claim that it is permanent rather than a little bit less, but we have installed a system which requires every communication to that office to be promptly replied to. If they are unable to give a complete answer to the problem presented, the instructions require an acknowledgment and the preparation of a reply in the promptest manner. I feel, and I am sure that you do, that if you can succeed in once having the correspondence of the Veterans' Bureau and its several activities brought up to date, that one-third of the load of that Bureau will disappear, because one-third of the load is follow-up correspondence.

"Now, as for the matter of hospitalization, I did not have the good fortune to go into the Bureau at the commencement of the hospitalization program. I stepped into it at a time when practically all of the funds had been allocated to various projects, and it only remained for me to speed up those projects under way and to take action on those that were still pending.

"You will be interested in learning that if a study had been made of the United States with a view of establishing hospitals at only the necessary points, distributing them according to the military load, that you would have constructed as many hospitals. But I appreciate that a great deal of money was necessary to purchase and to commence building at once. Therefore, they went ahead, and I am not questioning the motives in the building of those hospitals. But I do believe that if a study had been made, we could have saved half of the appropriation for those hospitals.

"There is one thing, though, in regard to hospitals that I wish to emphasize more than anything else, and that is this, that instructions to the personnel of the Veterans' Bureau today contemplate that ex-service men needing hospitalization, who have a chance of being bureau beneficiaries, will be given hospitals without waiting to find out whether their claim has been decided upon or not.

"In other words, I believe that it is proper, and it is the duty of all employees of the Veterans' Bureau coming in contact with a case requiring hospitalization, to direct the claimant to the proper hospital, and then we will argue his case afterward.

"During the last six months it has been possible to put into service additional hospitals at Tuskegee, Muskogee, Jefferson Barracks, Kerrville and Rutland. Recorders contrived long ago to have one at American Lake, which, let me remind you, is one of the finest hospitals, I believe, anywhere in the world;"
Tupper Lake, New York: Chelsea, New York; Northampton, Mass.; Chillicothe, Ohio; Campbell, Custer, Mich.; Knoxville, St. Cloud, Gulfport and Excelsior Springs, Mo. These hospitals are under contract for that amount of time according to the contracts and every effort is being made to put them into service, the last of them in the next year.

"At Livermore, Cal., a 256-bed hospital will be constructed immediately. The plans for that hospital are 98 per cent completed and bids will be called in within thirty days. Another hospital for this great state will be located somewhere in the vicinity of Los Angeles for that hospital is sixty per cent completed, although the site has not been definitely decided upon. A hospital has been promised and will be constructed on the site of Aspinwall, Pa. These additional hospitals will give 5,600 additional beds.

="Let me invite your attention to the situation regarding beds in our hospitals as it exists today. The bed capacity of government hospitals is 26,115; beds occupied, 16,586; beds vacant, 9,529. The additional beds promised under construction will give a grand total of approximately 28,800 beds.

"In that connection, may I invite your attention to the fact that we have some 6,200 men in contract hospitals. I fully agree with you that it is a great mystery in some of the cases that these men be hospitalized near their homes and their friends, but I do feel that I should ask you to remember that the men who are in contract hospitals not as good as the government hospitals and where it will work to the detriment of the patient. Therefore, I am in favor of turning over to the Veterans' Bureau, in seeing that that man is persuaded to go into a government hospital.

"That brings me to a subject that is being discussed a great deal at the present time, and what is known as home treatment. Let me say to you that that term is really a misnomer. It is with some hesitation that I attempt to bring that subject up, but I feel that it is my duty to do so simply to sound a warning that I believe is essential. I may find myself very much in the same position that I did shortly after becoming Director of the Bureau, when I was speaking from the heart and probably not the head, when I said we had 95,000 spigots leading from the treasury, referring to men in vocational training, and suggested some of them might be closed. Within a week I received a letter which read something like this: 'Dear Sir: You have made a great error when you state that 95,000 spigots are leading from the treasury. You should have stated that the number is 95,950 and 1 since you joined the payroll.' (Signed) A. A. Beall.

"But, gentlemen, the policy of home treatment or the policy under that misnomer, must be clearly understood. I believe that the records of the Veterans' Bureau will show that many men are in tuberculosis hospitals today who have committed the error of leaving those institutions too soon. There is only one way to recover from tuberculosis and that is to play the rules of the game. I strongly urge you to give the most careful consideration to any proposition that will result in a man leaving the tuberculosis hospital until his case becomes arrested. I am willing to go a long way in giving adequate compensation to the arrested under tuberculosis; and to that every opportunity when he has reached that point to go home or go where he can best progress and fully recover, but I am opposed to any proposition that will result in the.gg of those men out of the institutions that are giving them proper treatment and care until they have reached the point where these rules or the regulations of the Veterans' Bureau will give 5,900 additional beds.

"It is difficult for some of these men to understand that some of their buddies, who served probably in the same condition and in the same trench in France, should receive hospital treatment, and he can not, simply because his disability arose three years and two days instead of three years from that date. The subject of rehabilitation is one that I believe the Bureau can feel strongly about, that we are progressing along the course in a satisfactory manner.

"On the first of this year we had 95,000 men in training. On October 1st we had 70,000 men in training; 23,000 men had overcome their service handicap, and I am gratified in being able to tell you that 98 per cent of those men have gone into employment. Not only does that spell a great relief in the way of the load that we are carrying in the Veterans' Bureau, but it means a great deal more than that. It means that these men have made good, that they are again going forward on their own account, they have regained that very essential quality in civil life, of having confidence in themselves to earn their own living, and in that way, they will become, as you would have them, better citizens in the community in which they reside.

"We have received in this work of rehabilitation the hearty co-operation of the largest companies and associations in the United States. As an example, let me cite the work accomplished by the Merchants' Associations in New York and Boston, and in some of the other large centers, where business men have taken their time to spend as much as fifteen hundred working hours with these men. In New York City alone, the Merchants' Association, through its various committees, interviewed five hundred men in training and found new places of training which offered them better opportunities for permanent positions.

"It means little to a man in training to hand him a certificate of rehabilitation. He can not live on that certificate of rehabilitation. Therefore, it will be the policy of the Bureau to consider its task done in training only when it has placed these men in permanent employment.

"We have endeavored to re-adviser and assist those men who made a wrong start, and I can say to you today that I will not hesitate to advocate for men who have been in training for four years in training, if it is necessary, to again place them in such a position that they are able to go forward on their own account.

"I had an opportunity recently to appear before the American Federation of Labor in its national convention at Portland, Oregon. It is gratifying to me, and it may be to you, to know that that convention has endorsed the present policies of the Veterans' Bureau in the matter of training, that it has offered to cooperate to the fullest extent, that these men may be able to join the unions and go ahead in training; 23,000 men had overcome their service handicap, and I am gratified in being able to tell you that 98 per cent of those men have gone into employment. Not only does that spell a great relief in the way of the load that we are carrying in the Veterans' Bureau, but it means a great deal more than that. It means that these men have made good, that they are again going forward on their own account, they have regained that very essential quality in civil life, of having confidence in themselves to earn their own living, and in that way, they will become, as you would have them, better citizens in the community in which they reside.

"Some time ago, realizing that the various laws under which we are operating in the Veterans' Bureau, had been more or less complicated, due to the fact that they are of a gradual growth, a committee, composed of representatives from all ex-service organizations dealing with representatives of the Veterans' Bureau, have been endeavoring to codify the existing laws and regulations. I believe it is a relief, that spell a great relief in the way of the load that we are carrying in the Veterans' Bureau, but it means a great deal more than that. It means that these men have made good, that they are again going forward on their own account, they have regained that very essential quality in civil life, of having confidence in themselves to earn their own living, and in that way, they will become, as you would have them, better citizens in the community in which they reside.

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"I know that you will expect me to say something with reference to the investigation of the Veterans' Bureau. I wish to say this, for the will be satisfied that they have thoroughly in- committee that is investigating the Bureau, in following the completion of the hospitalization of the disabled man.

"It has resulted in an increased load on the Bureau, but it has been fully justified by the committee is pointing out to me and to my assistants where deficiencies exist and enabling us to correct them before waiting until the Congress could convene and this report be issued.

"Therefore, I am glad to say to you that the Bureau is being investigated, that that investigation will lead to modifications that will be helpful, that will give more efficient administration of that Bureau and give what we are all aiming at, prompt and adequate relief to the disabled man.

"May I predict by June 30th of next year, if we proceed along the line that we are now following the completion of the hospitalization process. I am told that all disabilities have reached the point that they can be handled administratively and that there will turn to gainful employment of 76,000 men, and in all, a net saving in administrative overhead of over $20,000,000.

"I know that you have a great deal to do at this convention. You have been very patient in giving me this time to appeal to you, but I know of nothing that indicates that we are getting to the point where we are understanding the problem correctly more than the man- by authority of resolution of the National Ex- committee pointing out to me and to my assist- and in giving me this time to appear before you,

"In these words, let me say in closing, that I am only repeating what is the code, so far as the disabled man goes, of the President of the United States, Calvin Coolidge.

"In every constructive measure that I have had occasion to bring to his attention he has indicated clearly that nothing will be more gratifying to him than to have the time come when there will never be leveled at the Veter- and admiration for the way in which you con- of the Republic, which I will read:

"The members of The American Legion represent those who had the true embodiment of the American spirit, and valiantly with hardi- the Grand Army of the Republic. I extend to you their greetings and their love and admiration for the way in which you con- and they sent me to represent the Grand Army of the Republic, which I will read:

"Greetings from the Grand Army of the Republic.

"MR. PETER H. MABB: "Commander in Chief, My Comrades of The American Legion: The Department Commander of California, who lives in the beautiful village of Los Angeles, a suburb of San Francisco, is being prevented from coming up here to enjoy your convention and they sent me to represent the Grand Army of the Republic, the oldest organization of its kind in existence. Your daddies and your granddaddies organized it and composed it, and on behalf of the Grand Army of the Republic I extend to you their greetings and their love and admiration for the way in which you conducted yourselves in the late war.

"I have received a telegram during the day from the Commander in Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, which I will read:

"Mr. Alvin Owsley, National Commander, The American Legion, San Francisco, California. The member of The American Legion, representing those who had the true embodiment of the American spirit, and valiantly with hardi-
world. There is no place so remote but what your deeds of fortitude and valor are well known.

"The members of the Grand Army of the Republic, who in the sixties cemented anew the bonds which hold together the states of our glorious Union, send you our cordial greetings and wish for you a harmonious and enjoyable time in your national encampment.

NATIONAL COMMANDER M. SALTZGABER.

"The Grand Army of the Republic has a certain sentence. It says: Let us live and indulge in the spirit for which we fought on the land and on the sea, uncomplainingly through hardships and privations that we may have peace, and may it prove a glorious incentive to our young men to the day that they cease not to uphold the destiny of this republic.

Since Lee surrendered at Appomattox in 1865 this great republic has called twice upon the patriotic sons to step forward under the banner which he carried with him to the field of battle. They came back victorious each time. At Gettysburg, where Pleckett made his famous charge, was the turning point in the Civil War; so was Chateau Thierry, St. Mihiel, Belleau Woods, where you were present, a turning point in the World War. You are impressed upon your enemies at that time the idea that Americans will not retreat; they may be forced to stand still, but they will not run.

"Now, in conclusion, standing here as I do in the presence of this vast patriotic assembly, looking as I do today on the country as I do for my life, ready to defend its sacred institutions to the best of my ability even at the risk of my life, will you show yourselves to me as I do to them, my country, may she ever be right. But right or wrong, my country."

"Your very cordial invitation, presented by Mrs. Sarah Cuprick, president of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, and from the George H. Thomas Circle No. 32, Department of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Message from the White House.

NATIONAL COMMANDER OWSELY: "A message from the White House, addressed to the National Commander of The American Legion."

"Our very cordial invitation, presented by you and your associates in person, to attend the National Convention of The American Legion at the City of San Francisco, has been carefully considered. I can not forget that your gathering is to be held in a city so recently hallowed by the memories which gather around the last days of a President who spent his life for his country. It would certainly be a great privilege for me to be able to respond favorably. You will, however, I am just taking up the administration of an office which will require all of my time and attention, so that I feel certain that I can better serve the interests of your great organization by remaining on duty here, rather than undertaking so long a journey at this time.

"It will be a great help to me to have the benefit of the advice and counsel of the Legion as to how the government may best carry out its policy of giving adequate relief to those who are disabled as a result of the war; caring for the dependents; providing vocational training and education for those who have lost their natural opportunity for such advantages by being in the service; establishing a system of hospitalization, so that every veteran afflicted by the war may be in a government hospital; and meeting the obligations that the people of America have to their service men and women promptly and generously.

It has been a great satisfaction to me to mark the patriotism of our country which is sending the patriotic efforts of The American Legion, and to feel that there is in existence so large a body of our citizens associated with the purpose of promulgating, protecting and defending American ideals. Such a condition has not only been an encouragement to me personally, but an additional warrant of the soundness and success of our institutions. You men who have placed so high a value on your country that you have been willing to defend it by the sacrifice of your lives have shown that you will never fail it in any crisis. While your influence remains America will be secure.

"With most cordial greetings, I am

"Sincerely yours,

"CALVIN COOLIDGE."

National Commander Alvin Owsley then introduced Antonio P. Entenza, Past National Commander of the United Veterans, who conveyed the greetings of his organization to the Legion. Other speakers were Leon E. Shirth, Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Charles McFarland, Commander of the Disabled American Veterans. There will be Col. Van Alstyne of New York, and L. B. Butzer, representing the Disabled Veterans of the World War.

NATIONAL COMMANDER OWSELY: "Is Kendrick of California in the convention hall at this time? Will he come to the stage?"

"Gentlemen of the convention, it is my pleasure at this time to announce that Major Charles H. Kendrick (we call him, of course, Legionnaire Kendrick), Commander of a San Francisco Post of The American Legion, has been made a Knight of the Legion of Honor by the President of the French Republic for his distinguished services.

"It is the tribute of sympathy of France to the Fifth Annual National Convention of The American Legion.

"The communication is signed by J. Neltner, Consul-General of France.

"My comrades, certainly no occasion is more pleasing to you and to me than when it can be announced that the services, the deeds, of our comrades have been recognized by those who are capable of judging. Certainly, at this time you and I can rejoice, and we claim no small share in this honor that comes to Kendricks, because he has been close to the heart of this Legion since we have known the Legion.

"Kendrick, I want you to know that by the authority vested in me as National Commander, it is with pleasure that I express the united sentiment of this convention and your comrades of the Legion. We are rejoicing with you at this time in the honor that is yours and know that every day you will prove worthy of this distinction.

"Will you stand with me while I present the medal?"

Presentation of the medal.

MR. CHARLES H. KENDRICK: "I can only say to every Legionnaire in this hall that he must realize how deeply moved I am by this most unexpected honor that has been bestowed upon me, and I only wish that I can so conduct my life in the future as to prove worthy of it.

"I thank you!"

Galbraith Memorial Services.

The audience arose as representatives of the Department of Ohio came forward carrying a wreath.

NATIONAL COMMANDER OWSELY: "Gentlemen of the Convention, it is a beautiful thing that you and every day can be mindful of the services of a great Legionnaire. The Department of Ohio at this time comes forward to place a wreath in loving remembrance over the photograph, the likeness, of their comrade, Fritz Galbraith, your own and my 12th Pennsylvania, that was taken in San Francisco.

"The life of Galbraith was an inspiration to every man who knew him. He was a true patriot, he was a valiant soldier, he was a true patriot, he was a valiant friend, and at times like these, let us never forget that lives of great men do not go out, but they will never go out.

"Will you bow with me in silent, retrospective reverence for Galbraith?"

The audience joined in silent prayer.

President Harding Memorial Service.

NATIONAL COMMANDER OWSELY: "My comrades, the great State of Ohio has given to
The meeting convened at nine-forty o'clock, National Commander Owsley, presiding. The invocation was pronounced by Chaplain Joseph MacQuaide of California. The colors were advanced, followed by salute to the colors and the national anthem was played.

Messages of greetings were read from A. E. Heus, Adjutant, for Jack Henry Post No. 1, of Anchorage, Alaska; J. W. Crabtree, Secretary, for The National Educational Association. A telegram from a number of Legionnaires of Boise, Idaho, read at this time, commended the services of Fred Mast, service officer of the Legion in the Department of Washington.

National Commander Owsley then announced the names of the bands present at the session, including the Thos. Hopkins Post Band of Wichita, Kansas, and the navy band from the U. S. S. New Mexico.

Address of Robert E. Bondy.

National Commander Owsley then introduced Robert E. Bondy, of the American Red Cross, who addressed the convention.

Mr. Bondy said in part:

"Mr. Commander and Fellow Legionnaires: I am proud indeed of this opportunity to be present at the Fifth Annual Convention of The American Legion, to represent my organization, the American Red Cross, because of the singular unity of purpose of our two great organizations, the Red Cross, "the greatest mother of them all," and the American Legion, "the big brother of them all."

"Helpful and friendly relations have existed between The American Red Cross and The American Legion during the past year. It has been a real gratification to the Red Cross to work with the American Legion toward the attainment of our common ends. The joy of service in a great cause has been part of my community again. I can stand on my own. I need no special attention except by reason of my service and the honor due me."

"That is rehabilitation. It is an attainment that requires the co-operation of all, not the exclusive attention of a few. It means not only getting a claim adjusted, but getting a man a job. And it means something more. It means that the man must be given understanding, help to attain that mental attitude, that feeling that means independence, self-respect, the feeling that will enable him to say, "I am one hundred per cent a part of my community again." I can stand on my own. I need no special attention except such as my community and my country shall always give me by reason of my service and the honor due me."

"The relations of the American Red Cross and The American Legion typify this sort of co-operation that we speak of. Nationally, through the Supreme Law, the Constitution of our nation, the Red Cross has been able to continue its activities, the Red Cross Chapters are giving that personal and friendly service to the men and their families that means self-respect, initiative and self-support."

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"In 130 government hospitals today Red Cross staffs are providing recreation and are furnishing the medical social service that assists the medical staff of the hospitals to secure full recovery of the men who are there. I might mention other activities.

"In all $6,800,000 was expended by the Red Cross during the past year in service to the disabled.

"Rehabilitation is not a simple work or task, it requires the best in us. It means not only getting a claim adjusted, but getting a man a job, vocational training, the care of the family; it means all that, but it means more. It means that the man must be given understanding, help to attain that mental attitude, that feeling that means independence, self-respect, the feeling that will enable him to say, "I am one hundred per cent a part of my community again." I can stand on my own. I need no special attention except such as my community and my country shall always give me by reason of my service and the honor due me."

Greetings were read from the Alliance of Polish-American Veterans, extended through John Ciagle, Commander in Chief.

Greetings were received from the British Empire Service League from headquarters in London, England.

Other greetings read were from the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Los Angeles, California, through John H. Whicher, secretary; from the Native Sons and Daughters of California; from the San Francisco Chapter of American War Veterans, through Roland Gold- man; from The American Legion in London, England, through Donald Smith, Adjutant; from Cynthia J. Shaw, representing Gold Star Mothers of California.

Telegrams were read from Dubuque, Iowa, Post No. 6, Mason Street Lodge, and the Legion, urging holding of the convention in Paris.

Invitations from John Oliver, Premier of British Columbia, the Victoria Chapter of Commerce, the Victoria and Island Publicity Bureau, Mayor Reginald Hayward and the Victoria Post of the Great War Veterans Association, to hold the next annual convention of the Legion in that city were received.

Invitations were also extended to Legionnaires to visit Seattle, Wash., on the return trip, and to pay a visit to the Stanford University War Library, near the convention city.

The convention adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1923

In 2,700 counties in the United States today Red Cross Chapters are giving that personal and friendly service to the men and their families that means self-respect, initiative and self-support.

"That is rehabilitation. It is an attainment that requires the co-operation of all, not the exclusive attention of a few. No person or organization has a corner on service to the disabled and an organization or person must team play, team play with the government."

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children, believing that there is found the most fertile soil for planting the seeds of service and good citizenship and the attainment of those ideals of patriotism that all seek."

"I trust that you shall always place the disabled first, and if we do place the disabled first, or last, or in any other order, can any one refuse the support due a great cause?"

"I know of no better way, in summing up this expression of friendship and good will from the American Red Cross to The American Legion, than to lead you to a telegram that I have received from the Secretary of the Central Committee of the American Red Cross, Judge John Barton Payne. Judge Payne says:

"I am glad to regret that I find it impossible to be with you in person, to assure your great organization that the American Red Cross finds pleasure in working in co-operation with The American Legion for the ex-service men, and to say that this will continue while the need exists. The Red Cross is proud to assume its share of the nation's duty to the men who fought for us."

"I thank you!"

Several announcements were read at this time by National Adjutant Bolles.

"Commander Owsley then introduced William J. McGlinchey, National Commander of the Knights of Columbus, who said in part: "Commander Owsley, Ladies and Gentlemen, Members of The American Legion: I bring you greetings from three-quarters of a million of patriotic fellow American citizens, the Knights of Columbus, charged by the chief officer of that organization, Mr. James A. Flaherty, the Supreme Knight, to express, first, his regret at his inability to be present in person; and, secondly, to convey to the officers and the members of this great society, his best wishes for its continued success and his cordial congratulations for the splendid record already accomplished by your great society." The Knights of Columbus were entrusted, by way of contributions in the first instance from our membership exclusively which raised the initial million dollars, with the sum altogether in round figures of forty-three millions of dollars. From the beginning of our war service work, June 16, 1917, to October 1, 1923, there have been expended in this work all told thirty-seven and one-quarter millions of dollars. We had on hand in the war fund of the Knights of Columbus or Columbus, 1923, therefore, about five and three-quarters millions of dollars. Of this sum there has been set aside for the support of our secretaries and workers, $500,000, or 1.3 per cent of the expenses of the educational activities was 19.5 per cent, the percentage of the expenses of overseas service was 40.3 per cent; for departmental regional direction and supervision, $1,000,000, equivalent to 2.7 per cent; for general administration, expenses, overhead, $1,500,000, equivalent to 4 per cent. That makes up the 100 per cent."

"I congratulate you and I bid you in your work Godspeed. I earnestly trust that the day is drawing closer when all the objects, both of The American Legion and the aims and ideals of the great society which I represent, that these two great bodies of American citizenry in common with the citizens of the country generally, not only side by side in the purpose of promoting a purer citizenry of a more loyal allegiance to that Flag and of a better land for all the country and all its people but to all mankind may ultimately prevail and triumph."

"Commander Owsley then introduced Dr. Kate Waller Barrett, President of the Legion's Auxiliary. Dr. Barrett in part:

"Ms. Commander, Members of The American Legion and Guests: I can not tell you how I thank you, in the name of the Auxiliary, for the wonderful welcome that you have given to me as their representative. I do not catch a personal note in this wonderful greeting, but I see in it an expression of affection and appreciation of the members of the Auxiliary that I have the honor to represent today, and I bring you from them, as a small token of our loyalty and a devotion second to none. We are yours to command and serve you, as the highest expression of the womanhood of America."

"In order that you may not misunderstand anything that I have to say to you today, I must tell you a little story on myself. During the period of the war, I was selected by the Governor of Virginia to represent a group that had to do with the 11,125 civilian population around the camps in Virginia, and, as an order, we might know, we in the hightioned South, we wanted to go to the north and west and east and ask you to come down to Virginia and tell us what we should do to prepare for this great army of boys who were coming to us to prepare for the greatest period in the history of our country, our part in the great World War. "I don't know who the individual was that ever coined the expression, 'the lure of the uniform,' but it was such a comfortable sort of thing to slip from one's tongue. And so these speakers that came down would, one after another, tell us of the terrific influence on the heart of womanhood of 'the lure of the uniform,' and how we must protect our girls against this insidious influence that was going to be injected into our social life.

Well, it was an interesting thing—a few months afterward these same people were down in Virginia telling us how we had to protect the boys from the girls."

"I never hear any one anything with the expression, because I happened to get off the car every day in front of Meyer's wonderful display of military uniforms on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, and I never saw women looking in that window and admiring uniforms in my life, and I never saw a schoolmistress make a mistake, that it was the man in the uniform and not the uniform."

"And the other night, after I had listened to three speakers on this subject, and I had to close the program, and all of them had impressed the fact of 'the lure of the uniform' upon the young woman, I got up and I said,
Why do you say "young woman"? I am a grandmother and if I get through this war without making a fool of myself over some small thing, it is going to be because my guardian angel is on the job twenty-four hours in the day.

"I want to say that what I felt for the soldiers was not inspired by what I feel for you Legionnaires, because you not only did your duty as soldiers in the uniform, but you are here today to do the same loyal service to the United States of America in time of peace as you did in time of war.

"Now, I want to tell you something about the Auxiliary.

"From past performance the Auxiliary is today the largest organization of women for the period of its existence that was ever created in any country. In addition to that, the enabling act was passed by the Legion convention bringing into being this Auxiliary, and that is one of the clearest pieces of English that I ever saw written. I want to find out who wrote it. It is a marvel. First and foremost, the enabling act, as I call it, is our birth certificate. It brought into being the Auxiliary and it says an Auxiliary shall be organized under certain conditions. Then in the same sentence it is our death warrant.

"Now, any man who can draw up a paper that certifies a birth and a death warrant in one sentence and satisfy, for heaven's sake, and I say that the hardworking and wise women's talks are a very clever person. The Auxiliary is to be auxiliary so long as it carries out the purposes and policies of the Legion, and furthermore, I stand here as their representative to say to you that I hope you will execute the death warrant whenever you see fit.

"The Legion's Auxiliary stands behind you, we understand that we are auxiliary, every unity is the moment and the National Auxiliary are here to do just the things that women have always done for men. I want to tell you it is my proud boast wherever I go I sit through the Ship Subsidy Bill and I heard a talkfest of men and ever since then I think it is wrong when people talk about women fussing and women talking. The best of it is when you men talk it is so expensive and women's talk is cheap. It costs, in this country, about $25,000 a day to report what you say. Now I can see some of you laugh when I say peace in a women's organization, but I want to tell you that women don't know peace.

"So I feel that in inaugurating this Auxiliary you have organized an enormous force for peace. Now I can see some of you laugh when I say peace in a women's organization, but I want to tell you that women don't know peace.

"It is impossible for us to do our work unless we have the loyal support of the Legion, because how can we go to men that are not now members of the Legion and ask them to become members of the Legion if you do not respect us? How can the Legion function when we are absolutely tied up to you for growth in membership? We can't go to the rank and file of the men in the service (we don't want to go to them) and ask them to come into this Auxiliary. We can only get them into the Auxiliary because they are your kin, and how can we influence the women of your family if the men in the family and in the Legion are not our friends? And so I ask you to give to the Auxiliary the loyal support that they have given to you.

"In closing, may I ask you to remember the sacred bond of eligibility through which we enter this great organization. Our eligibility to The American Legion Auxiliary is written in blood. It is the only organization in the world that takes no blood on the lintel of the doorway in which we enter this great scheme of civilization that they haven't recognized the part that they had taken or the heartache or sorrow that was theirs. The purpose of the Legion was to win. I do not believe there is any more potent force for peace than a recognition of what women have so nobly done in time of war.

"If I may use such an expression, the Legion represents the head and the Auxiliary represents the heart. Now, if there is any woman or man that thinks the function of the heart is inferior to that of the brain, let him get a little irregularity of the heart and see how quickly he has his headache. But that really differentiates the work. The thing is this: that you men have always depended upon the women of your family to do, we are the women of this great family. The Auxiliary demands and we desire to serve you just as your women have served you in the home.

"May I say that the Auxiliary is with you heart and soul, that there is not one of us who does not pledge to you our loyal support, and in return we ask from you the protection, the advice and the inspiration that we give to you. Is it too much for us to ask of you men? Is it too much to ask of you that you look upon an Auxiliary member as a Mason looks upon the women of his family?"
The convention was called to order at nine-thirty o'clock by National Commander Alvin Owsey. Advancement of the colors was followed by adjournment of the Executive Committee and a prayer by Chaplain William F. Patrick, Post 47, Department of California. "The Star-Spangled Banner" was played by the Brownwood Texas Band. A message from Judge Kenesaw M. Landis to the convention was read by National Adjutant Dolles. A message from Albuquerque was read inviting Legionnaires who pass through that city on the eastward trip to be the guests of the Legion men and of the Chamber of Commerce of that city.

PARTIAL REPORT OF CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE.

MR. ERSKINE (Oregon): "Your Committee on Constitutional Amendments met for three days. Several suggested changes were presented to us. We have only, however, approved two of the changes of the constitutional amendments which came before us, and two of the by-laws. Pursuant to the provisions of our constitution, it states that these amendments shall be read twenty-four hours before being finally acted upon, I will give you the gist of the changes.

"Amendment to Article 4, Section 1, of the Constitution of The American Legion: "Passed. The Article 4, Section 1, of the Constitution of The American Legion, be amended to read as follows:

"Any person shall be eligible for membership in The American Legion who was regularly enlisted, drafted, or inducted or commissioned and who was accepted for and assigned to active duty in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps of the United States, at some time during the period between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918, by order of the President of the United States, and at the time of his entry therein served on active duty in the Naval, Military or Air Forces of the United States, and provided that no person shall be entitled to membership (a) who, being in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps of the United States during said period, refused on conscientious, political or other grounds, to subject himself to military discipline or unqualified service, or (b) who, being in such service, was separated therefrom under circumstances amounting to dis-honorably discharge and has not subsequently been officially restored to an honorable status."

"The only change in that is making eligible any person who has become citizens of this country.

"Amendment to Article VIII, Section 2, of the Constitution of The American Legion: "Passed. The Article VIII, Section 2, of the Constitution, be amended to read as follows:

"Each Department shall have a Department Commander, one or more Department Vice-Commanders, a Department Adjutant and a Department Executive Committee, and may have a Chaplain and such other officers as the Department shall determine."

"The change there is making the tenure of office of National Executive Committeemen two years instead of one year.

"Amendment to Article IV, Section 4, of the By-Laws of The American Legion: "Passed. The Article IV, Section 4, of the National By-Laws of The American Legion, be amended to read as follows:

"Section 4. Members in arrears four months in payment of dues shall be classed as delinquent, and such delinquents shall automatically forfeit membership in The American Legion. Any member who delinquent or suspended who is not in arrears for as much as one year may be reinstated by vote of the Post upon payment of all amounts due by such member to the Post for arrears in addition to the dues for the current year in which the reinstatement occurs, and any member whose membership has been forfeited for nonpayment of dues for one year may be reinstated by vote of the Post upon payment of all amounts due by such member to the Post for arrears in addition to the dues for the current year in which such reinstatement occurs."

"The change there is making membership automatically forfeited if he is one year in arrears.

Commander Owsey introduced President Samuel Gompers of the American Federation of Labor.

ADDRESS OF SAMUEL GOMPERS.

"Honorable Commander, My Fellow Citizens, Comrades of the great struggle for human freedom: Permit me to acknowledge most gratefully this cordial reception with which you have greeted me this morning. I speak to you not alone on my own behalf but on behalf of the American Legion. The message of good will, comradeship in the great struggle for justice of the millions of organized workers of America, who journeymen, mechanics and your convention and your organization as one
of the stabilizing and constructive forces for the perpetuation of this the great Republic of America.

There are in the American Legion the men, the boys who have given this sacrifice to our country and to the world. No debt of gratitude has yet been met by our country nor is the liability fully felt and understood. There has not yet come to those who represent us, you and us, in our governmental affairs to pay some part of this obligation so long belated.

"The convention of the American Federation of Labor just closed at Portland declared, as did the convention last year declare, that the time has arrived when the thought of consciousness and the demand of the people of our country this adjusted compensation shall be paid to the men and the women in the service of our great country.

To say that such a compensation will involve a tax upon our resources and upon our accounts is to beg the question. I agree quite with the declaration made by one of the foremost officers in our army appearing before a committee of Congress who declared that he didn't give a damn how much the cost was that was necessary to win the war, regardless of one of the features of the obligations which our government owes to men who went to the front, most of them now sleeping on Flanders fields, many of them were good and very, very severely, and the others who have gone to work in the service of peace. This belated compensation of the obligations which our government owes to the fighting boys of America.

"But it is true that these great American organization, there is even more than that impelled in common by us. The American Legion and the American Federation of Labor, I was proud to hear your Commander and our friend speak of, and the fraternal and good relations existing between the American Legion and the Federation.

"It was my great pleasure to welcome the Commander to our convention, and the message which he brought of good will, the message of your former Commander Brother MacNider, and I want to say just now that I was very much perturbed, it caused me considerable feeling, that Mr. Owseley was unable to attend in person our convention. You know, after all, there are only a few of us left, Commander. It is hard for me to think of President of the United States to die, but when it comes to a Commander or President of the American Federation of Labor, well, it must not be, that is all.

"Captain Plummer, who Brother Owseley associated with because of his forcible presence, came to us; it was an unfortunate thing for the Commander to be indisposed, but it afforded him the opportunity of conveying the message of The American Legion to the convention of the American Federation of Labor, and he did a good job.

"The conditions existing between The American Legion and the trade unions of America are in common, and you will observe that both our organizations are known by that one word meaning somewhat to us all, 'American.' American Legion, American Federation of Labor. It has been a source of satisfaction and comfort to see of us to know the differences which arose in the beginning when the Legion formed, our young men in the army with all the enthusiasm and vigor coming home, newly organized, why no wonder the errors were made; I am prone to all of this to err, particularly when we are young. The organized labor movement has erred; it doesn't err as did in the beginning, and so with your organization of The American Legion and its various posts.

"I have never had occasion to communicate with the organized labor movement for some cause for complaint but what it was given immediate attention in the kindliest of spirit, and were it to be rectified it was done promptly and cordially.

"All that for which The American Legion stands the American Federation of Labor stands side by side with you. We want first of all to maintain the integrity of the Republic of the United States.

"A man who would not defend his country against injustice, oppression or invasion, would stand by and see others fight his battles and be destroyed, and he is not fit to have the privilege and the honor of American citizenship. "No man is more opposed to war than I am. Before the war I think that I was one of the outstanding pacifists in America. I belonged to every peace society in the city in which I lived, the State to which I owe my obligation and our country, and international peace organizations.

"When the war started I want to confess to you that I had a devil of a time in trying to be neutral. I know this, that when we entered the war, my pacifism was thrown to the winds and I became some decent sort of a fighting man. I didn't have guns and sabers and the like, but there was some other fighting which had to be done, the stabilization of our people at home, to unite them in support of the men at the front and on guard, to help encourage the boys at the front, to help maintain the spirit of the more weary people of our allied countries was also a bit of a fight, to keep the home fires burning, to maintain that unity of action and spirit.

"I have said before and I want to repeat that in my opinion the boys of fifteen to twenty years of age added ten years to their lives when the war broke out and during its continuance, and so the men who became ten or twenty years younger in that war and that struggle.

"I don't like to take your time in attempting to deal with the war situation, but I can't help relating this little incident. As my four associates and I were moving through the tangled wilds of the Hindenberg line, following close after our boys who had gone ahead, I remember one morning on that rush that we had come to a place where there were about a hundred mounds, and we learned that a hundred of our boys who had died that morning were laid away there.

"It was the first incident of the war that I encountered. One of our associates had memorized that wonderful poem, 'On Flanders Field,' and I asked my comrades to bare their heads and stand before the new-made mounds and graves of the fallen boys, and we learned that a hundred boys who had died that morning were laid away there.

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"The Congress of the United States, upon the demand of this developed consciousness of our people, passed a law. The Supreme Court declared that law was unconstitutional. Still determined to make the effort to save the children brought to the test of the Supreme Court, in view of the decisions and opinions rendered.

"Discussing these two decisions with some of the most eminent lawyers of America, they have informed us that no law which Congress could pass to uphold the laws of the United States would do to save the children of America. The Supreme Court declared that the law must be set aside.

"Now, my friends, isn't it a sad commentary upon our intelligence and upon our concept of civilization that we are impotent, incapable of passing a law to do the thing that the savages would do to prevent their young being brought up in wealth for profiteers?

"Well, we have started upon a campaign. Inasmuch as we are unable to secure the passage of a law upon this question that would safeguard the children and that would stand the test of the courts, we are engaged in a movement that the Americanism Commission and the Americanism Commission, adopted, submitted to the several States, become a part of that document of guaranteed rights that the Congress of the United States may have the power to pass law to save our children.

"After all, you and I will pass away—I, in all probability, much earlier than most of you men—but the first thing that I believe is most essential to be done is to see to it that our children shall be physically, mentally, morally, and socially better than we were when we entered in the struggle of life. Upon them devolves the responsibility for the perpetuation of the civilization of the world.

"I do hope that before this great gathering of the Legionnaires of America shall have adjourned you may, either in your convention here or in your local posts, make some determined effort for co-operation in this work to save our children.

"Your declaration, your stand upon this question of America, America first, we believe as you do. We believe in thorough Americanizing. I think we are in absolute accord when we say that this continuous performance of Americanizing is getting very, very hard upon our nerves. It is about time that the people who are born, who know nothing of our institutions, whose report and work are considered, among other things, in this report, is a permanent commission for co-operation in this work to save our children.

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"Men of America, I greet you."

Commander Owsley then introduced Miss Louise Wells, President of the American Women's Overseas Service League, who spoke to the delegates.

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Mr. Withington (Texas): "First, one or two definitions. Understand, this is the report of a young and energetic movement on Americanism. The National Americanism Commission, whose report and work are considered, among other things, in this report, is a permanent commission for co-operation in this work to save our children.

"Second, nearly one-fourth of the five hundred resolutions submitted for your consideration were by this committee. In respect to your nerves, your feelings, this committee has taken the spirit of liberty and asks the unanimous consent of the convention to present, in its report this morning only the 'Resolved,' or enacting clauses, of the resolutions recommended by it, the complete original copy of the resolutions, including all the oratorical 'whereases' being filed with the committee's report.

REPORT OF CONVENTION COMMITTEE ON AMERICANISM.

"To the Fifth National Convention, The American Legion, San Francisco, Cal., October 15-19, 1923: Forty members of your Committee on Americanism met at two p. m., October 18, 1923, at Committee Room F, and agreed on the following report which is respectfully submitted for your consideration:

"I. BE IT RESOLVED, that the report of Garland R. Brown, Director of the National Americanism Commission, be referred to the report of the National Director of the National Americanism Commission, which should be preserved by every delegate. All posts are requested to give immediate attention to the following subheads:

"a. Flag conference and flag code.

b. American Education Week, November 18 to 24, 1923.


d. The American Legion History.

e. National Holidays—Memorial Day—'We should guard their graves with sacred vigilance.'

f. The American Legion and Organized Labor.

'g. Immigration and Naturalization.

'h. Radicalism.'

'i. Dope.'

'j. Ballot and Jury Service.'

'k. Speakers' Bureau.'

'l. Boy Scouts.'

'm. Naval Ordeal Visit.'

'n. Oriental Committee.'

"II. RESOLVED, that the report of Garland R. Powell, National Director of the Americanism Commission and the Americanism Commission is hereby adopted in full, and that The American Legion in National Convention assembled, hereby presents its wholehearted thanks for his loyal and self-sacrificing work,

"The Congress of the United States, upon the demand of this developed consciousness of our people, passed a law. The Supreme Court declared that law was unconstitutional. Still determined to make the effort to save the children brought to the test of the Supreme Court, in view of the decisions and opinions rendered.

"Discussing these two decisions with some of the most eminent lawyers of America, they have informed us that no law which Congress could pass to uphold the laws of the United States would do to save the children of America. The Supreme Court declared that the law must be set aside.

"Now, my friends, isn't it a sad commentary upon our intelligence and upon our concept of civilization that we are impotent, incapable of passing a law to do the thing that the savages would do to prevent their young being brought up in wealth for profiteers?

"Well, we have started upon a campaign. Inasmuch as we are unable to secure the passage of a law upon this question that would safeguard the children and that would stand the test of the courts, we are engaged in a movement that the Americanism Commission and the Americanism Commission, adopted, submitted to the several States, become a part of that document of guaranteed rights that the Congress of the United States may have the power to pass law to save our children.

"After all, you and I will pass away—I, in all probability, much earlier than most of you men—but the first thing that I believe is most essential to be done is to see to it that our children shall be physically, mentally, morally, and socially better than we were when we entered in the struggle of life. Upon them devolves the responsibility for the perpetuation of the civilization of the world.

"I do hope that before this great gathering of the Legionnaires of America shall have adjourned you may, either in your convention here or in your local posts, make some determined effort for co-operation in this work to save our children.

"Your declaration, your stand upon this question of America, America first, we believe as you do. We believe in thorough Americanizing. I think we are in absolute accord when we say that this continuous performance of Americanizing is getting very, very hard upon our nerves. It is about time that the people who are born, who know nothing of our institutions, whose report and work are considered, among other things, in this report, is a permanent commission for co-operation in this work to save our children"
together with the convention’s congratulations on the accomplishments of the year.

III. RESOLVED, by The American Legion, in National Convention assembled, that the resolutions creating the National Americanism Commission and providing a method for its appointment and operation, be amended so as to provide that the National Commander shall be the ex-officio chairman of the Commission with vote in addition to the fifteen members now constituting the Commission, and that the National Director of Americanism shall be the executive officer of the Commission. The National Director shall be named by the National Convention, and the term of office shall be for the term of the National Commander. It is hereby directed that the several departments with similar Advisory Council which may include other than Legionnaires be chosen by the National Commander with the advice and consent of the National Americanism Commission and such with such cooperation as can be obtained from all other public-spirited local organizations, a forward-looking program for their communities which may well include:

1. Betterment of schools, recreation, park and playground facilities; furtherance of Boy Scout work and active participation in Scout Troop organization and management; medical clinics, municipal music concerts, public libraries, community city planning, all forms of better citizenship movements—in fact, after due survey of local needs, every enterprise which may further the cause of service and the happiness of the community.

The National Americanism Commission shall upon request from the posts, provide for definite instruction as to the means and manner to be used in organizing such a program for their communities which may well include:

2. Supply of educational and boys’ books for service schools.
3. The promotion of the National Essay Contest start at the beginning of each school year and that the contest close immediately following the close of the 1923 National Convention.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That each of the states best typifying the qualities of courage, honor, service, leadership and scholarship be urged to participate in the American Legion’s plan and program and recommendations with the least possible delay and at the meeting of the next Congress. (410)

II. RESOLVED, That we urge co-operation by all local, state and federal administrative authorities in establishing universal physical education for school children. (15)

IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION.

I. RESOLVED, That it is the sense of this convention that the program and recommendations on immigration in all of its phases adopted by it as contained in the several resolutions on this subject be the special concern of The American Legion, and that the national officers charged with the duty exert every possible means and endeavor to secure immediate legislative action thereon; and that the national convention urging the enactment without delay of laws, and the negotiation of treaties if required, for the exclusion as immigrants or permanent residents of the United States of all whose action in all of its phases adopted by it as contained in the several resolutions on this subject be the special concern of The American Legion, and that the national officers charged with the duty exert every possible means and endeavor to secure immediate legislative action thereon; and that the national convention urging the enactment without delay of laws, and the negotiation of treaties if required, for the exclusion as immigrants or permanent residents of the United States of all

To travel members of Commission and Director
Printing and stationery
Telephone and telegraph
Postage
Special Meeting
Miscellaneous

Total

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Finance Committee is hereby strongly urged to appropriate the following money for the work of the National Americanism Commission during the coming year:

EDUCATION.

I. RESOLVED, That The American Legion does most unqualifiedly endorse and approve the work that is being done by the American Field Service Fellowship for French Universities in the founding of scholarships for American students in French Universities in memory of each of the one hundred and twenty-seven volunteer American ambulance (ambulance) drivers who lost their lives while serving with the French armies in France.

II. RESOLVED, That we renew and emphasize the action of the Fourth National Convention urging the enactment without delay of laws, and the negotiation of treaties if required, for the exclusion as immigrants or permanent residents of the United States of all

III. RESOLVED, That it is the sense of this convention to create similar bureaus as a function within the departments with similar Advisory Councils—the chairmanship of which shall be tendered to the Governor of the State.

TO TRAVEL MEMBERS OF COMMISSION AND DIRECTOR

Printed and stationery
Telephone and telegraph
Postage
Special Meeting
Miscellaneous

Total

$33,500

$43,500

ECONOMY.

I. RESOLVED, That The American Legion, in national convention assembled, hereby tenders its thanks and appreciation to those organizations which have co-operated with us during the year. Posts are requested to get in touch individually with the local representatives of the organizations listed on pages 47 and 48 of the Convention’s report.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That each of the state departments of The American Legion be urged to take similar action by recommending to and urging upon each Senator and Representative in Congress from such states the enactment of laws in accordance with said program and recommendations with the least possible delay and at the meeting of the next Congress. (410)

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persons ineligible to citizenship under the laws thereof. (394)

"I. RESOLVED, That we urge upon the legislatures of the several States, and of the several States the necessity of stopping the smuggling into the United States of aliens not entitled by law to admission or entry. If these men are insufficient we urge the enactment of new and effective legislation. (411)

FURTHER RESOLVED, That it is the sense of this convention that Congress should enact laws as follows:

"First, entirely suspending immigration for a period of twenty years or for such period of time as will enable the formation of a definite and constructive plan for the protection of our people and our nation from the present dangerous influx of aliens;

"Second, that if, and when immigration is allowed to resume a restriction be placed thereupon in a manner that will lead to immigration only from nations having ideals kindred to those of the American people;

"Third, that for the purpose of controlling immigration at its source immigration commissioners or other suitable agents of the government be established in foreign countries for the purpose of examining into the qualifications of all aliens seeking admission into the United States, and to prevent all those who are unqualified from reaching our shores;

"Fourth, that a suitable system of registration and identification of all aliens be put into effect prior to their leaving their own countries, such system to be continued while they are residents in the United States;

"Fifth, that the standards of admission for aliens entering this country be materially raised as to personal and mental qualifications;

"Sixth, that among other salutary regulations there should be preference given by law under reasonable immigration to the immediate families of those of the United States, and secondly to the immediate families of persons resident in the United States, its territories and possessions, who are citizens thereof, provided they are otherwise qualified and eligible for citizenship. (47)

"V. RESOLVED, That it is the sense of this convention that all incoming aliens should be required to procure some form of registration certificate before leaving for the United States, this to be used as a basis for their legal entry and to insures their immediate registration the moment they enter the United States;

"FURTHER RESOLVED, That as a prerequisite to naturalization, proficiency in the reading and writing of English and a knowledge of Christian and American history as well as a true comprehension of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States be required, all evidenced by a certificate granted after examination conducted by lawfully constituted authorities of public instruction; and

"FURTHER RESOLVED, That no person who has asked for, or sought exemption from military service in the United States armed forces in any of the wars in which this country has been engaged, on the grounds of his conscientious objection or enemy or neutral alienage shall be permitted to be naturalized; and

"FURTHER RESOLVED, That the naturalization laws be so amended as to make it impossible hereafter for aliens to procure citizenship through fraudulent claim of army service; and

"FURTHER RESOLVED, That the technicalities of the naturalization laws be eliminated, and the process simplified, and that there should be uniform and dignified naturalization ceremonies which shall impress upon new citizens and their children the responsibilities and privileges of American citizenship; and

"FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be forwarded to the appropriate officers of the National Government. (413)

NATIONAL ORIENTAL COMMITTEE.

"I. RESOLVED, That the report of the National Oriental Committee of The American Legion, Thomas N. Swale, chairman, represents a valuable service, and that the report is hereby approved and adopted by this convention, and the National Legislative Committee is directed to use the same in urging the national administration and Congress to perfect treaties and enact laws conformable to the recommendations thereof and the printing of said report is hereby authorized and the continuance of said Committee directed. (395)

RADICALISM.

"I. RESOLVED, That we stand unalterably opposed to the purposes of the Third (Communist) Internationale; that we denounce astraitorous any and all abetting the aims or actions of the same; and

"FURTHER RESOLVED, That the National Americanism Commission is instructed to continue its vigorous campaign against these revolutionary radical groups and persons. (391)

"II. RESOLVED, That we highly commend the American Federation of Labor upon its stand taken at its national convention at Portland, Oregon, against 'Reds,' revolutionary radicals, communists, bolsheviks, Soviet government and I. W. W.'s, and its condemnation of these groups. (389)

MISCELLANEOUS.

"I. RESOLVED, That the National Americanism Commission, in addition to its present work, be instructed to create a Committee on Americanism in foreign departments, to have direction over departmental work aim to inform the natives of such foreign countries as Mexico, Panama, Cuba and other Latin American countries, as to the real feeling of the American people toward the peoples of all other countries, especially those of Latin America, and the desire of the citizens of the United States to aid in any manner possible the advancement of those countries. (392)

"II. RESOLVED, That we recommend to the several courts in the United States now charged with the naturalization of aliens, that copies of this resolution be sent to the appropriate officers of the National Government. (413)
tary from among its numbers; the work of this committee to be self-supporting. (396)

"WHEREAS, many of these are being exploited far beyond their years, with a consequent weakening of the stamina of our entire country; and

WHEREAS, the recent decision of the Supreme Court against the Federal Child Labor Law reopens the child labor problem in the mills, factories, and mines of the country, which were below the standard of this federal law; and

WHEREAS, child labor is inhuman, unjust, unnecessary, and a waste of the nation's future citizens; and

WHEREAS, we, the ex-soldiers of the United States, feel the Congress should be given power to make a direct child labor law to protect the children of the nation; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That The American Legion approves and recommends such amendment to the Constitution of the United States as will give to the Congress power concurrent with that of all the States to limit and to prohibit the labor for hire of children under fifteen years of age.

"WHEREAS, a special committee was appointed by resolution of the Third National Convention of the Legion, to draft legislation which would provide for the conscripting in time of war of all the resources of the country, including capital, labor, industry and transportation, as well as manpower, so that the sacrifices of war in the future may be equallyized as possible among all elements of our population, and the profit taken out of war so far as is humanly possible.

"WHEREAS, the Legion believes that a law of this character would not only be a bulwark of national defense in time of emergency, but would also lessen the enthusiasm for war among certain elements of our population; and

WHEREAS, this special committee, after a year of study, reported its findings to the Fourth National Convention of the Legion in the form of proposed legislation which received the approval of the convention and of the General Staff of the Army; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with this action, legislation was introduced in the House during the last session of the Congress by Representatives John J. McSwain of South Carolina and Royal C. Johnson of South Dakota, both Legionnaires; and

WHEREAS, this legislation was submitted to the late President Harding and received his unqualified endorsement, which he voiced in his address on last Memorial Day before the tomb of the unknown soldier at Arlington; and

WHEREAS, this legislation was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary of the House, but this committee failed to report it to the House for action; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Fifth National Convention of the Legion reaffirms its endorsement of this constructive and equitable principle and instructs the Legislative Committee to secure the introduction in the Congress of measures designed to accomplish this end and to press for their enactment by Congress.

WHEREAS, during the World War there were nine classes of officers, viz., regular officers of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps, and provisional and emergency officers of these three branches of the service, one of which was created as a result of the emergency of war and which was organized for the purpose of meeting the needs of the country; and

WHEREAS, the officers of these nine general classes were accorded classes on the field and in the face of the enemy and eight of these nine classes have received the privileges of honorable retirement for wounds and disability incurred as a result of their services, and disabled emergency officers of the same rank have failed to receive this just recognition at the hands of the Congress; and

WHEREAS, legislation designed to correct this discrimination has been in the hands of the War Department, but the
Legion now has the assurance of the Secretary of War that this opposition has been withdrawn; and

"WHEREAS, since the introduction of this legislation the House Committees more than thirty of those disabled officers have died, although the Veterans' Bureau estimates that less than one third of these veterans have been affected by the legislation; and

"WHEREAS, National Conventions of The American Legion have for four successive years approved the enactment of this legislation, and a resolution of the Senate, communicating these provisions, was passed by the Senate by a vote of fifty to fourteen on February 21, 1922, and was immediately referred to the lower House of Congress, where it was referred to the House Committee on Military Affairs; and

WHEREAS, the House Committee on Military Affairs, because of the personal opposition of a few of its leaders, refused to report this measure to the House of Representatives for action, although these members of the committee knew that 334 of the 435 members of the House of Representatives had signed a petition signing their approval of this measure and their desire to vote upon it; and

WHEREAS, this opposition by the leaders of the Military Affairs Committee of the House resulted in legislation designating with the Sixty-seventh Congress, as their action had prevented the House from voting upon it; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the opposition of this just mentioned majority of the Military Affairs Committee is hereby condemned by the Fifth National Convention of the Legion, and the Legislation Committee is instructed to prepare legislation to this end and press for the early enactment of legislation designed to right the discrimination existing at present against the disabled emergency army officers."

WHEREAS, the enactment by Congress during the past year of many beneficial laws in the interest of veterans of the World War was due in great measure to the vigilance and energy of the National Legislative Committee of the Legion located at Washington, D. C.; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this convention ratifies and approves the work carried on by the National Legislative Committee since the New Orleans convention, and recommends that the new Commander continue this committee at Washington, whose duty it shall be to represent the Legion in the legislative and departmental matters there. We heartily commend the economy practiced by the committee during the past year, and recommend that it receive an appropriation sufficient to enable it successfully carry out its work during the coming year, which promises to be one of great importance in the lives of men and women, and especially the records of the World War, as a suitable depository for all national archives and especially the records of the World War, so that the priceless records may not be jeopardized thereby; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Fifth National Convention of The American Legion urges upon the Congress to immediately enact a law providing for the erection of a suitable Archives Building, and instructs the National Legislative Committee to prepare legislation to this end and press for its enactment."

WHEREAS, the Panama Canal and land adjacent thereto, known as the Canal Zone, is a possession of the United States, governed by the laws of the United States of America, under the office of the Secretary of War; and

WHEREAS, it is within the province of the President of the United States of America to make such an appropriation to the Canal Zone by executive order; be it therefore

RESOLVED, That the Fifth National Convention of The American Legion urges upon the Congress to immediately enact a law providing for the construction of a suitable Archives Building, and instructs the National Legislative Committee to prepare legislation to this end and press for its enactment."

WHEREAS, the Panama Canal and land adjacent thereto, known as the Canal Zone, is a possession of the United States, governed by the laws of the United States of America, under the office of the Secretary of War; and

WHEREAS, it is within the province of the President of the United States of America to make such an appropriation to the Canal Zone by executive order; be it therefore

RESOLVED, That the Fifth National Convention of The American Legion urges upon the Congress to immediately enact a law providing for the erection of a suitable Archives Building, and instructs the National Legislative Committee to prepare legislation to this end and press for its enactment."

WHEREAS, there exists a nation-wide demand that Sgt. Samuel Woodfill, a hero of the
World War, be retired from the United States Army with the commission of Captain, because of his outstanding and exceptional war service and record.

"WHEREAS, this demand resulted in the introduction of S. 2218 in the Senate by Senator Ernst and H. R. 9133 in the House by Congressman Osdorff; and

"WHEREAS, these bills, having been referred to the Committees on Military Affairs in the upper and lower houses, were not reported by these committees for the passage of this legislation, it is hereby resolved that this legislation died with the Sixty-seventh Congress; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Fifth National Convention of The American Legion, that the National Legislative Committee be instructed to use every possible means to obtain the enactment of this just legislation."

Considerable discussion over the adoption of the resolution referring to Sgt. Samuel Woodfill was indulged in by the delegates, but the partial report of the committee was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CONVENTION ON MILITARY AFFAIRS.

MR. LOGAN (Massachusetts): "Mr. Commander, the Military Affairs Committee begs leave to submit unanimously its final report, as follows:

"1. We reaffirm the action of our previous conventions on military policy.

"2. The National Defense Act of June 4, 1920, as amended, came into existence through the united effort of the ex-service men. The principle of the one army contained in the act must be continued in practice as well as in theory and we oppose any radical departure from the principles and obligations enunciated in this act.

"3. We have all witnessed the disastrous results that have followed inadequate preparations when the demands of the country were made known. We who follow shall not suffer a like experience, we recommend and strongly urge upon Congress appropriations sufficient to adequately maintain a regular army prepared at all times to properly carry out the mission of the regular army as outlined in the National Defense Act.

"4. We urge the support by Federal and State governments of the organization and maintenance of National Guard and organized reserves as outlined in the plans approved by the War Department and we pledge the continued assistance of the Legion in securing the prompt enactment of the legislation required to provide for the equitable distribution of the captured war trophies of the World War to the respective states, territories and cities of the Nation.

"5. We urge the appointment of an adequate number of qualified representatives on the general staff from the citizen soldier components of the Army of the United States.

"6. We believe that in order to obtain the proper enlisted personnel in our regular army more satisfactory inducement should be offered and to this end we recommend that the pay of the private soldier be increased to thirty ($30.00) dollars a month and that provision be made for his voluntary retirement after twenty-five (25) years of honorable service.

"7. We urge that the citizen soldier components of the Army of the United States which are the chief reliance of our country in times of national emergency be officered in peace and in war as far as practicable by qualified men from their own ranks and to this end we urge the enactment of legislation to provide that these officers may be commissioned in the Army of the United States, under the terms of the act they will function in peace and in war.

"8. We believe that sufficient time was not granted the committee for the presentation of recommendations for award of medals and citations for the acts of heroism of the veterans of the World War. As a result manifest injustice has occurred and we, therefore, strongly recommend that the time for the presentation of recommendations for decorations for our comrades be extended for an additional period of five (5) years and that provision be made that proportional representation of the Board of Awards be given to all component parts of the Army of the United States.

"9. We regard the Certificate of Citation as an inadequate expression of appreciation of the heroism that it records. We therefore recommend that Congress provide for the presentation of a suitable medal for acts of bravery, for which silver stars have been awarded.

"10. We urge the enactment of legislation to provide for the equitable distribution of the captured war trophies of the World War to the respective states, territories and cities of the Nation."

"11. We are mindful of the splendid fraternity which our service in the war developed. It inspired youth to useful and militant citizenship. That those who follow us may likewise be benefited, we strongly endorse the civil-military training camps and recommend that the Legion offer its services as a recruiting agency for these camps.

"12. We deplore the failure of Congress to properly provide for disabled officers of the World War. We unqualifiedly endorse the legislation recently drafted for those disabled veterans by all the national veterans' organizations of the World War, and the National Guard Associations, Reserve Officers' Association and Adjutant General's Office.

"We pledge the active and sincere support of the Legion in securing the prompt enactment of this legislation.

"13. We specifically reiterate the declaration of approval given by the New Orleans convention of the Universal Service Law drafted by the Military Policy Committee of The American Legion. We urge the enactment of this legislation, which will provide that in time of war there shall be equal service for all and special profit for none.

"14. We recommend the continuance of the Standing Committee on Military Affairs to consist of seven (7) persons to be named by the National Commander.

"15. Other matters of importance, which were referred to this committee by various departments, were not recommended for consideration by this convention because of failure of opportunity for investigation. The committee, therefore, recommends that they be submitted to the Standing Committee on Military Affairs when appointed for prompt investigation and action."

The report was unanimously adopted.

National Commander Owley resumed the chair and T. W. Miller of Delaware reported that the Committee on Resolutions was ready to report.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

"The Committee on Resolutions of the Fifth Annual Convention of The American Legion begs to submit the following resolutions, which have been ordered favorably reported to the convention by the Committee on Resolutions, for the consideration of the convention:

"Resolution No. 13, on the death of President Harding:

"WHEREAS, Divine Providence, in the dispensation of its infinite wisdom, has seen fit to lay the hand of death upon our beloved Commander-in-Chief President, the late Warren G. Harding; be it

"RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled:

"1. That with a life full and a death great, the late President the best elements of Americanism were exemplified, and that in his death the Nation lost a valued citizen, the government an official of tried worth and unimpeachable character, the people an honest and upright man.

"2. That his career is one in which all Americans may take a just pride and in which
every citizen may find something worthy of emulation and that we pledge ourselves anew to the high standard of American ideals left as our heritage by our late Commander-in-Chief, who gave his life in service to his country even as our comrades died upon the field of battle.

"3. That these resolutions be spread upon our permanent records in acknowledgment of the charity and uprightness of our late President and the great loss occasioned by his death."

"The Commander, I was requested to move the adoption of this resolution by a standing vote in silence."

The audience arose and stood in silence.

"WHEREAS, no fitting national recognition has ever been extended commemorating the services, sacrifices and patriotism of the American War Women; and"

"WHEREAS, it is now proposed that such a memorial shall be built, in the nature of a National Memorial Hospital for the Treatment and Cure of Tuberculosis; therefore, be it"

"RESOLVED, That the American Legion, in convention assembled, at San Francisco, California, on the 13th day of October, 1923, instruct the incoming officers to take such action as they deem proper to further the movement."

"WHEREAS, an appalling calamity has befallen the people of Japan, a nation whose sons fought and died as our allies in the World War; be it"

"RESOLVED, That this resolution expresses the unanimous sentiment of our organization and of every official, delegate, alternate and visitor."

"WHEREAS, the journey of delegates and visitors to the Fifth National Convention of The American Legion was made most enjoyable by the courtesy of the railway mail service and entertainment and sight-seeing tours at various communities on the routes traveled; and"

"WHEREAS, on all such occasions local American Legion Posts, local official and citizens generally by their hospitality and entertainment contributed greatly to the pleasure of our delegates and guests; be it"

"RESOLVED, That the American Legion, in National Convention assembled, thanks most heartily the local American Legion Posts, municipal officials, civic organizations and citizens of the various communities visited by our delegates and guests for their consideration, thoughtfulness, hospitality and entertainment; be it further"

"RESOLVED, That this resolution be given the widest possible publicity in all communities along routes traveled by our delegates and guests."

"WHEREAS, the loyal support and hearty co-operation of thousands of newspapers throughout the country has been of great assistance to The American Legion in carrying out its many local, state and national programs; be it"

"RESOLVED, That we express at this time the appreciation of our organization to the newspapers of the United States."

"WHEREAS, the redwoods belong to the Nation, and"

"WHEREAS, the matchless redwood forests of Humboldt county are, in our opinion, an asset of incalculable value to the Nation; and"

"WHEREAS, the citizens of Humboldt county have been foresighted enough to lead the fight against their destruction; therefore, be it"

"RESOLVED, That we, The American Legion, do hereby urge that the people of the United States support the program for saving these monarchs of the forest and pledge their support to this end."

"WHEREAS, it has been called to the attention of this convention that former soldiers, sailors and marines, now employed in the railway mail service, and who entered such service after the termination of the war with Germany, have not been given credit toward seniority and promotion according to their service rendered during said war; and"

"WHEREAS, it is the understanding of this convention that certain other employees of the civil service of the United States have been granted such credit; now, therefore, be it"

"RESOLVED, by The American Legion, in convention assembled, that this convention go on record as favoring the uniformity of credit for service in the armed forces of the United States during the war with Germany to such employees of the railway mail service who served in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps without regard to the date of appointment to the railway mail service."

"RESOLVED, That paragraph 109 of the regulations governing National Cemeteries be amended to include the words "Spanish-American War or World War." Said paragraph then reading as follows:

"1. In cases where there can be no reasonable doubt that the husband will eventually be interred in the same grave, the wife of an enlisted man, if he be a veteran of the Civil War, Spanish-American War or World War, may be interred in a National Cemetery prior to the death of her husband, and then only after the authority of the Quartermaster-General has first been obtained."

"WHEREAS, the respect, affection and love of the uniform he wore is essential to the true tradition and loyalty of the soldier and conducive to true patriotism and Americanism; be it"

"RESOLVED, That The American Legion be watchful to foster, encourage and increase the same in the service men as the years pass, and to that end recommends:

"1. That every service man be urged to cherish and save from loss the uniform he wore, and if the same has been worn out or lost, that he obtain another.

"2. That the uniform be worn at functions and ceremonials where Legionnaires or posts are invited as such."

"WHEREAS, Pueblo Post No. 2, Pueblo, Colorado, American Legion, and the Pueblo
sary to safeguard the lives and property of ex-service men and women will be given the same right to acquire homes and farms by entry upon several hundred thousand acres of public lands in Arizona, Nevada and California now arid and worthless, but which by this project will be made intensely productive and valuable; now, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That the said offer be and it is hereby accepted."

"BE IT RESOLVED, That the National Commander of The American Legion be authorized to take up with the proper government official the matter of determining the place of The American Legion in the future in conferences and meetings where representatives of The American Legion, both State and National, are officially invited to participate."

"BE IT RESOLVED, That The American Legion in national convention assembled in the City of San Francisco this 15th day of October, 1923, hereby expresses its approval of the plan known as the American Peace Award, which is in effect an effort to find a practicable plan by which the United States may co-operate with other nations looking toward the prevention of war."

"WHEREAS, the maintenance of cordial friendship and good will among the English-speaking peoples is one of the most important factors in the establishment of lasting peace; and

WHEREAS, this friendship and good will can be fostered, encouraged, and strengthened by co-operation between The American Legion and the British Empire Service League, an organization of ex-service men of the British Empire; now, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That a special committee be appointed to act as a liaison committee between The American Legion and the British Empire Service League."

"WHEREAS, a movement has been initiated in Tennessee by certain employers of sending their Legionnaires to national conventions of The American Legion at the expense of the employers; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That The American Legion, in national convention assembled, commend this action and thank the employers of Tennessee and other states who have inaugurated this practice; and be it further

"RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be given publicity through The American Legion Weekly and other news sources."

"WHEREAS, the undeveloped resources of the Colorado River constitute one of our nation’s greatest assets; and

WHEREAS, the life-giving waters and potential energy of said river, equivalent in value to millions of dollars, is annually running to waste in the flood waters of the river and constituting a menace to life and property while it runs to waste; and a practicable plan by which the United States may co-operate with other nations looking toward the prevention of war."

"WHEREAS, the Department of Interior of the United States has recommended to Congress the construction of a project for the protection and development of the Lower Colorado River, commonly known as the “Boulder Dam and All-American Canal Project,” as the first step in the complete development of the resources of said river; and

WHEREAS, this project is vitally necessary to safeguard the lives and property of millions of people, now or living in the Lower Colorado River Basin, now constantly threatened with devastation and destruction from annual floods of that river; and

WHEREAS, under said project thousands of ex-service men and women will be given the privilege of acquiring homes and farms by entry upon several hundred thousand acres of public lands in Arizona, Nevada and California now arid and worthless, but which by this project will be made intensely productive and valuable; now, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That The American Legion, in national convention assembled, does hereby favor the adoption by Congress of a program for the ultimate complete development of the Colorado River, and favors as the first unit of that program the passage of legislation that will carry out the recommendation made by the Interior Department providing for the construction of said Boulder Dam and All-American Canal, and that the National Legislative Committee of The American Legion be directed to use all legitimate means to secure the passage of such legislation."

"WHEREAS, the National Convention of The American Legion recognizes that there is no more solemn obligation than that owing to those who foresaw and fought the World War the American people are more than ever alive to the necessity of successfully curbing strife and hatred, the cause of war, by thought-ful arbitration of international disputes; and

WHEREAS, especially since the World War the American people are more than ever alive to the necessity of successfully curbing strife and hatred, the cause of war, by thought-ful arbitration of international disputes; and

WHEREAS, the National Convention of the American Legion insists that the sacrifice made by these, our comrades, shall not have been in vain; and be it further

"RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States and to the Secretary of State of the United States.

WHEREAS, war is an outlaw and its horrors constitute an indictment upon our civilization, resulting in the destruction of the best of humanity; and

WHEREAS, because of the participation of its members in the World War, it is the high purpose of The American Legion to foster and preserve itself in the promotion of peace and good will among men everywhere; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, by The American Legion, in fifth annual convention assembled, that we heartily commend the thoughtful consideration of peace, and actively urge the alleviation and development of worthy plans and means for permanent peace; and further, that while we do not commit ourselves to any particular partisan or political plan for the promotion of permanent peace and further, that to this end a committee upon permanent peace be appointed by the National Commander to investigate and promote this important phase of world endeavor and to bring to the next annual convention of The American Legion some plan that may be helpful and practicable in effectuating the sincere desire of The American Legion to discourage war and secure permanent world peace."

"WHEREAS, the National Executive Committee of The American Legion, in session in the City of Indianapolis on the 15th day of January, 1923, approved the action of France in the occupation of the Ruhr; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, By The American Legion, in national convention assembled, that the action of said Executive Committee relative to the French occupation of the Ruhr be and the same is hereby approved and confirmed."

"WHEREAS, the fundamental law of our country guarantees to all peoples equal rights and equal opportunities and the right to worship their God as they see fit; and
"WHEREAS, it is provided that our laws shall be made and enforced by representatives of our people, chosen under the law so to do; and

"WHEREAS, membership of The American Legion is made up of those who served our country in time of great national stress, without distinction as to race, color, creed or class; and

"WHEREAS, The American Legion is pledged to the orderly enforcement of our laws through its agencies; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, By The American Legion, in national convention assembled this 17th day of October, 1923, that we desire to see any individual, group of individuals, or organizations, which create, or fosters racial, religious or class strife among our people, or which takes into their own hands the enforcement of law, determination of guilt, or infliction of punishment, to be un-American, a menace to our liberties, and anathema to our fundamental law; and be it further

"RESOLVED, That we consider such action by any individual, groups, or organizations, to be inconsistent with the ideals and purposes of The American Legion."

Miller of Delaware then moved the previous question on the motion to adopt Resolution No. 407, as reported from the Committee on Resolutions, and the motion was carried, and when vote was taken on the original resolution it was also declared carried.

MR. MILLER (Delaware): "Mr. Commander, I am instructed by the Resolutions Committee to recommend that Resolution No. 431, Future Convention Parades; Resolution 418, Committee Day Radio Program; Resolution 415, Registration at Conventions, and Resolution 409, Railway Rates, be referred to the next meeting of the National Executive Committee for their action, and I make such a motion."

The motion was carried.

On notice that the Rehabilitation Committee and other committees were ready to report, it was ordered by the convention that an afternoon session be held, and adjournment taken until 2:30. Adjournment of morning session at 1:15.

THURSDAY P. M., OCTOBER 15, 1923

The adjourned session of the convention was called to order at two forty-five o'clock by Vice-Commander Edward J. Barrett.

The report of the Convention Committee on Finance was presented by Chairman Dunlap of Georgia.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

"Mr. Commander, Gentlemen of the Convention: Thirty-nine members of your Committee on Finance met at one-thirty p. m. each day for the three past consecutive days in Committee Room E, Civic Auditorium, and agreed on the following report, which is respectfully submitted for your consideration:

"WHEREAS, the reports of the National Treasurer and the National Finance Committee have been received by this Committee and approved by it; now, therefore be it resolved, the Committee desires to congratulate the present administration upon the good showing made by the said reports, and the fact that the organization has lived within its budget during the present year.

"1. We recommend that the annual dues for the calendar year of 1924 shall be in the sum of one dollar ($1.00) per member.

"2. We recommend the passage of the following resolution:

"That the poppy is the memorial flower of The American Legion; that we advocate its use by all citizens as the memorial flower, and in remembrance of our dead we advocate the distribution of the flower by handling in such manner as to avoid commercialism.

"We recommend that all departments and posts handling poppies secure same from National Headquarters. We have examined the samples of poppies submitted to this Committee, and we recommend that the poppies such as submitted by Rusche Artificial Flower Company, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, be adopted as the official poppy of The American Legion, the purchase price to be $10.00 per thousand, less 2 percent ten days, selling price to departments to be $12 per thousand.

"We further recommend that no post or department be permitted to use the name or emblem of The American Legion in connection with the sale of poppies, unless secured in conformity with the resolutions of this convention, except those poppies already on hand by the state departments.

"We further recommend that before any poppies are purchased from any source that any quantity manufactured exclusively by disabled men in hospitals of the United States be purchased.

"We further recommend that any poppies now on hand at National Headquarters shall be disposed of at cost.

"We recommend that in all transactions surrounding the distribution of poppies, all posts, departments and national officials exercise the utmost care to avoid loss or misuse of funds in any way, shape or manner, in order that nothing may occur to mar the sentiment surrounding the use of the memorial flower.

"We recommend that these poppies be handled through the Emblem Division, so as to save duplication of organization expense.

"3. We recommend the passage of the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, the practice of indiscriminately lending the name of The American Legion to commercial ventures for the sake of obtaining profit is not consonant with our principles; and

"WHEREAS, however, the necessity may arise for giving to a worthwhile, reputable cause the use of the name of The American Legion; be it

"RESOLVED, in convention assembled, That The American Legion, National Headquarters, Department Headquarters, Post or any branch organization of The American Legion shall not give official sanction to any outside commercial enterprise, which offers in return therefor a share of its receipts or profits except under the following conditions:

"First—If originating in National Headquarters, it shall be forwarded to each department headquarters for decision within its own department.

"Second—If originating in department headquarters, it shall be forwarded to National Headquarters for decision.

"Third—If originating in any post or branch organization of The American Legion it shall be forwarded to department headquarters for decision.

"4. We recommend the passage of the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED, That the Emblem Division be instructed to set a price of twenty cents per button to departments in lots of one hundred or over, and a price of twenty-five cents to individuals or posts.

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"S. We recommend the passage of the following resolution:

"RESOLVED, That the leaflet on the flag, as compiled by the joint committee of The American Legion and the representatives of the National Government, be distributed by National Headquarters at cost."

"S. We recommend the passage of the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, a large proportion of the income of National Headquarters is made available for administration, executive and publicity departments, and a large proportion of the work done in these departments must be carried on by the state departments at the posts; and as it is the thought of the convention that the expenditures of National Headquarters be curtailed, it is, therefore, recommended that the newly elected Commander and the National Finance Committee effect every possible reduction in the Headquarters personnel and expense; and it is further

Recommended that the expenditures of National Headquarters be limited to eighty percent (80%) of the ordinary receipts of the preceding calendar year, and the savings thus effected be placed in a trust fund which can be expended only by action of the National Convention.

7. We recommend the passage of the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, organization and membership is one of the most vital problems affecting The American Legion today, and is a problem which requires a capable and well trained personnel, a definite policy founded on organization principles and an opportunity to apply that policy and enable the post officials and persons to administer successfully the new and development of interest in the activities and the education of post officials and personnel, a definite policy founded on organization principles and an opportunity to apply that policy and enable the post officials and 5. We recommend the passage of the following resolution:

"RESOLVED, That the departments shall give greater attention to the creation of new units and to the reorganization and development of active and inactive posts."

The motion was seconded and carried.

Telegrams from Past National Commanders John W. Emery of Michigan and Franklin D'Olier of Illinois, telegrams from Edmund F. Arras, International President of the Knights of Columbus; from Herman H. Buseman, Committee on Pennsylvania; Mrs. Elizabeth C. Bomer, Department President of the Ladies of the G. A. R. in Illinois, and from Elwood E. Wright, Past Department President of the Ladies of the G. A. R. in Illinois, were also presented.

REPORT OF THE CONVENTION REHABILITATION COMMITTEE.

MR. J. M. DICKINSON (Illinois): "Your Committee on Rehabilitation begs to report as follows:

"WHEREAS, the first and paramount duty of The American Legion is the proper care of our disabled comrades; and

"WHEREAS, it is the fundamental duty of The American Legion to fulfill the obligations of The American Legion, there must be a sound organization; and

"WHEREAS, the rehabilitation activities of The American Legion must all be done in an intimate contact with the United States Veterans' Bureau; and

"WHEREAS, it is indispensable that the organization set up by The American Legion to deal with rehabilitation shall parallel as nearly as possible the organization of the Veterans' Bureau; and

"WHEREAS, there now exists a National Rehabilitation Committee of The American Legion which parallels in organization the Veterans' Bureau; now, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That the National Rehabilitation Committee of The American Legion as now organized shall be continued subject to any changes which may become necessary to make it conform to any alterations in the organization of the Veterans' Bureau; and

"That the Chairman of the National Rehabilitation Committee shall be the man best qualified by character, experience and experience to direct this work; that he shall be directly responsible to the National Commander, and, through him, to The American Legion, for carrying forward the activities laid down by National Conventions; and

"That there shall be established for the National Rehabilitation Committee separate department of ample and liberal proportions, and that in making up the general budget of The American Legion, rehabilitation shall be given first consideration, because no other activity of The American Legion is so important; and

"That the office of the National Rehabilitation Committee shall be in Washington, D. C., and all national rehabilitation activities shall be conducted and directed from and in that office, and that the secure the proper attitude of decentralization, nothing shall be handled in the National Rehabilitation Office which can be taken care of in the district offices; and

"That there shall be provided such paid assistants and employees to assist the chairman of the National Rehabilitation Committee as are necessary; and

"That it is imperative that the National Rehabilitation Committee and the liaison representatives be assembled to attend to important point not less than twice in each year; and

"That it is of vital importance to establish and maintain the most intimate and cordial relations between all branches of the Veterans' Bureau and all national rehabilitation activities of The American Legion, and that the National Rehabilitation Committee continue to show the same disposition to cooperate; but should the attitude of the Veterans' Bureau change in this respect the National Rehabilitation Committee must be prepared to take issue with the Veterans' Bureau and insist upon cooperation with all the strength at the command of The American Legion; and

"That every effort shall be made to acquaint all members of The American Legion of the work that is being done through the rehabilitation service for our disabled comrades, and how each and every member can do his part to help them; and

"In addition to the foregoing resolution, your Committee has had submitted to it approximately 150 resolutions from the various departments and other authoritative sources, which have been carefully considered.

"With the exception of the foregoing, no resolution will be read in full unless especially desired by you. It is requested, however, that all of the resolutions accepted, and upon which recommendations are based, be attached here to and made a part of this report. Your Committee felt it necessary to reject 89 of the resolutions submitted to it for various reasons. Although a large proportion of them have much merit, many of them are duplications of those which were accepted. In a limited number of cases your Committee corresponds to the principles laid down in resolutions which have been rejected.

"We recommend the endorsement of the activities of both the National Rehabilitation Committee and the District Rehabilitation Committees and most strongly urge that the committee members and liaison representatives for the very efficient work which they have done and are doing.

"We further recommend that the convention record its especial appreciation of the devotion to duty shown by National Chairman Joe Sparks.

"We further recommend that the convention record its grateful thanks to National Commander Owsley, his fellow officers, and the
committees for support given to the rehabilitation program.

We recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

"RESOLVED, That, as an American institution which has answered the calls of the distressed in every emergency, the American Red Cross may be honored by the consolidation of The American Legion as deserving of the loyal and generous support of all citizens and as worthy of the support of every Legionnaire in making its every appeal in behalf of humanity certain of nation-wide response;"

"RESOLVED, That a vote of thanks be extended by the present Board of Directors of the United States Veterans' Bureau and to his assistant directors, for their very material assistance to this Committee in the discharge of its duties.

"Your Committee makes the following special recommendations:

1. Revocation of Regulation 12-A in order that patients with service connected disabilities of less than ten per cent can be given hospital pay when receiving treatment in hospital by direction of competent authority for service connected disabilities.

2. Revision of Regulation 35, which tends to retard the establishment of total disability initial power from District Board of Appeal.

3. Amendment of the War Risk Insurance Act by striking from Section 8, on page 8 of the consolidated War Risk Insurance Act, the words 'Provided further, that application for such care and treatment and appliances provided by this section shall be made in one year from date of separation from service or from the date this Act goes into effect, whichever is later.' This to the end that no time limit may prevent a man from at any time obtaining treatment for a disability attributable to service.

4. Repeal of Section 309 of the War Risk Insurance Act, thus removing the time limit for filing claims for disability compensation.

5. Amend the War Risk Insurance Act by changing the presumption of service connection from three to five years with respect to tuberculosis and neuropsychiatric diseases and by eliminating the provision that the presence of the disease within the limited period be disclosed by an examination within said period by a Veterans' Bureau examiner or a duly qualified physician.

6. Legislation creating a presumption of service connection of disabilities developing within five years after discharge from organic origin or compounding service disability, and some intervening injury or disease be not the direct cause of disability.

7. Legislation creating a presumption of service connection of disabilities developing within five years after discharge from amoebic dysentery.

8. Change in law or regulations to allow for consideration of the particular industrial handicap of claimant whose rating of disability is being determined.

9. Regulation providing that vocational trainees incapacitated during their training and who are considered temporarily nonfeasible for continuous training be continued on their training pay during the period of such incapacity.

10. Permanent disability rating for complete deafness in both ears with loss of bone conduction.

11. Promotion of an order preventing the decrease of compensation to a claimant until after ninety days' notice in writing, excepting in case of fraud.

12. Legislation providing for the abolition of the present Medical Rating Board and for the establishment in lieu thereof of one or more boards, composed of three members—one doctor, one representative of the Rehabilitation Division and one representative of the Combined Executive office—shall rate cases in the field, preferably in the sub-district offices.

13. Amendment of Paragraph A, Section 37 of the consolidated Veterans' Bureau Act as amended by law June 25, 1918, to provide for awards of monthly compensation to dependents of deceased service persons, as follows:

'"a. If there be a widower and no child, $50.00.
"b. If there be a widow and one child, $60.00.
"c. If there be a widow and two children, $70.00, $10.00 for each additional child.'"

14. Legislation provided:

'"a. That any claimant found to be suffering from tuberculosis in any stage other than that of arrest for twelve consecutive months, from the diseases within the limited period be disallowance of permanent total disability, which shall not thereafter be cut except as hereinafter provided.
"b. Any claimant who shall have been rated permanently and totally disabled as above provided, and whose condition shall become arrested, and who shall continue in a condition of arrest for twelve consecutive months, shall then be rated as totally and temporarily disabled, provided his condition shall appear to the best tuberculosis experts of the Bureau to show no evidence of probable reactivity.
"c. If such condition of arrest shall continue without improvement or complete cure of twelve years, and at the end of that period shall show no evidence of probable reactivity under favorable conditions of living, such rating may be reduced in proportion as the claimant may be able to resume activity in some gainful occupation, other than one which may be acquired through vocational training, and such compensation shall not in any event be reduced below $50.00 per month during the remainder of his life.

'd. In the event such malady shall at any time become reactivated in any manner, so that the condition is no longer one of complete arrest, the claimant shall again automatically come under the provisions of Paragraph B hereof, and shall thereafter be considered in accordance with the principles laid down in Paragraphs B and C hereof.

'e. That no such claimant shall be compelled or coerced in any manner into taking vocational training, but opportunity for receiving the benefit of occupational therapy in connection with his treatment shall be accorded him, as well as vocational training in the event the same may be considered by him and can be taken consistently with his proper treatment and ultimate cure.'"

15. Legislation or regulation providing that where a claimant whose disability is of organic origin, it cannot at a later date, and upon the same evidence, be held to be not of service origin except it be upon new examination or improvement of claimant's condition, excepting in case of fraud.

16. Legislation to the effect that whenever any beneficiary under the War Risk Insurance Act has been rated temporarily totally disabled and has been or shall be continuously so rated and so disabled for a period of twelve months, and has been thereafter found upon examination to be unable to successfully follow any material gainful occupation, such beneficiary shall be rated permanently and totally disabled.

17. Legislation providing that in all awards of compensation, both prior and subsequent to the amendment of December 24, 1919, of the War Risk Insurance Act that compensation payable from the first day of rated disability shall be the maximum amount payable under the provisions of said amendment.

18. "A section of Section 20 of the War Risk Insurance Act in order that compensation may be commensurate to any existing service connected disability in the same condition and ultimate cure in all cases in which the claimant was not in receipt of pension or retirement pay, and in order that a man may not lose all of his pension and his rights under the War Risk Insurance Act.

19. Regulation empowering District Board of Appeals to award and compensation to any claimants who in their opinion on the facts of the
case and under the law are entitled thereto, and shall be granted in the disbursement of funds under the budget of the United States Veterans' Bureau, and also to examine and copy extracts of the disbursements under the budget of the United States on an action involving the War Risk Insurance Act.

33. Legislation to provide that no claim for misconduct or for a disability not received in the line of duty shall bar a claimant from any benefit of compensation, vocational training or hospitalization or other provisions of the rehabilitation laws, unless a conviction by a court martial can be shown; and in case of such court martial conviction, if the Board of Appeals of the Veterans' Bureau shall consider that an injustice has been done in spite of such conviction, award any of the above benefits, provided the proof otherwise shows that the disability was incurred during the service.

34. Amendment to Section 501 of the War Risk Insurance Act to read as follows: "Where the disabled person and his wife or dependent parent are not living together, or where the children are not in the custody of the disabled person, the amount of the compensation shall be apportioned as may be prescribed by regulation, and when the disabled person is in a penal institution or hospital, public or private, under domiciliary care, the Director of the Veterans' Bureau may apportion compensation as he may prescribe by regulation. It shall be granted to the man, his wife, children, parents, or all or any of them collectively or separately."

35. The Director of the United States Bureau be authorized to order the Dental Section to issue certificates of insanity and to personally represent claimants before the District Board of Appeals along the following lines:

The personnel shall be increased from three to five members.

The members shall be retired in rotation—one, every six months, and immediately replaced by a new member.

All members of Boards of Appeals shall be ex-service persons, "special experts," as determined by the Civil Service regulations, of wide experience, keen discernment and sympathy, thoroughly versed in the laws of the Veterans' Bureau, an expert in his particular line, and provided that one shall be a specialist in industrial matters.

That Boards of Appeals encourage the personal appearance of claimants, require full presentation of their claims by a representative of the Dental Section of the Veterans' Bureau, or a representative of some veteran organization, and that the spirit of Boards of Appeals shall be that of endeavoring to ascertain how to connect a claimant's disability with service and to ascertain his just deserts and that Boards of Appeal shall not attempt to confuse or prejudice them as to show they are not entitled to compensation.

22. Creation in the Veterans' Bureau of a separate division, to be known as a Contact Division, whose chief shall be directly responsible to the District Manager. This division shall be intended solely and exclusively of persons with a thorough knowledge of the work of the Bureau and the provisions of the law, and who are in sympathy with and understand the ex-service men. They shall be well trained and sufficiently paid to attract the high type of personnel and shall, in all cases be ex-service persons. The functions of the Contact Division shall be:

To receive all claimants; go over their cases with them, and advise them fully and in detail as to their rights and as to the methods of procedure.

To assist claimants in the preparation of their claims and in the securing of necessary evidence, and that it be empowered to request affidavits from such persons as they deem proper.

To accompany claimants to medical examination, and to prevent the event that this is impracticable, to send to such examiners full and detailed reports of all claims.

To follow the case through the Rating Section and to secure any additional evidence or examinations which may be necessary.

To secure just ratings and in all cases secure explicit reasons where ratings are obtained which in the opinion of the said division are insufficient.

To prepare and assist in the presentation of claims before the District Board of Appeals and to personally represent claimants before such boards.

23. Amendment to the War Risk Insurance Act to increase the minimum attendant allowance for all pension cases requiring such attendants from $20.00 to $50.00 per month.

24. Discontinuance of orders and instructions which prevent the Dental Section from performing adjunct dental work when such is authorized or recommended by competent authority as necessary or recommended in connection with service-connected disability and from replacement of teeth when their extraction has been authorized or recommended.

25. Effecting a practical method of checking up on guardians of insane ex-service men, to the end that such ex-service men may actually receive the benefits of compensation being paid, and that such dishonest and dishonest guardians may be identified and undesirable practices corrected.

26. Amendment of the War Risk Insurance Act so as to permit the Director of the Veterans' Bureau to pay out of funds appropriated for the use of the Veterans' Bureau any judgment secured against the Government of the United States on an action involving the War Risk Insurance Act.

27. Complete decentralization to district offices of all total permanent claims, allowing the district offices to make awards, including death and insurance claims.

28. Centralization to district offices of making all compensation payments.

29. Centralization of jurisdiction of hospitals to district offices.

30. Legislation or regulation providing for any additional clothing expense made necessary because of artificial appliances used by ex-service persons who have suffered the loss of limbs.

31. Regulation providing that tuberculosis men and women who have been in hospitals for one year or more, and who it appears will not attain arrestment by a Board of Claims, shall be granted an extension in years in which to rehabilitate themselves in such manner as suits their condition, and shall be granted during this time compensation for permanent and total disability in the amount of $100.00 per month with insurance benefits, as now provided by law. That at the end of five years they be brought before a medical board to determine their actual disability for life, dependent upon their physical condition at that time.

32. In cases of overpayment by the Government, to beneficiaries under the War Risk Insurance Act, no monthly reductions shall be made sufficient to void insurance, if insurance is in force, and no monthly reductions shall be made in excess of twenty-five per cent of the total monthly compensation benefits paid.

33. Legislation to provide that no claim for compensation, vocational training or hospitalization or other provisions of the Rehabilitation laws, unless a conviction by a court martial can be shown; and in case of such court martial conviction, if the Board of Appeals of the Veterans' Bureau shall consider that an injustice has been done in spite of such conviction, award any of the above benefits, provided the proof otherwise shows that the disability was incurred during the service.

34. Amendment to Section 501 of the War Risk Insurance Act to read as follows: "Where the disabled person and his wife or dependent parent are not living together, or where the children are not in the custody of the disabled person, the amount of the compensation shall be apportioned as may be prescribed by regulation, and when the disabled person is in a penal institution or hospital, public or private, under domiciliary care, the Director of the Veterans' Bureau may apportion compensation as he may prescribe by regulation. It shall be granted to the man, his wife, children, parents, or all or any of them collectively or separately."

35. The Director of the United States Bureau be allowed to order the Dental Section to make awards in the disbursement of funds under the budget
system, together with the selection of employees, and the increase of their salaries, with due regard for the needs of particular districts.

37. That the regulations governing the Board of Discipline and Morale, and its duties, be re-written by the National Rehabilitation Commission, containing suggestions for improvement from the several boards, so that the matter may be presented to Congress.

38. That the placing in the district folders of claimants' reports of home treatment, out-patient treatment, et cetera, so that treatment given is permanent, and may be given consideration in the rating of the case by the Veterans' Bureau.

39. That in the question of vocational training in the Department of Veterans' Affairs, there may be presented to Congress a plan whereby the several boards may be given the power of increasing the folders of claimants' reports of home treatment, out-patient treatment, et cetera, so that the medical problems of disabled veterans, so that the trainees may be promptly and efficiently rehabilitated vocationally.

40. That the district offices be permitted at their discretion to grant extensions in courses of vocational training over four years.

41. The immediate re-classification of trainees not adapted for the objective in which they have been placed, the discontinuance of contracts with the training institutions which do not adhere to the lines of his chosen objective, the placing of trainees on a probationary period of from 30 to 60 days to determine the physical and mental fitness of each trainee to pursue his chosen objective.

42. That the decisions of the District Board of Appeals be accepted as final by the State and Federal boards, when the same are within the limits of the law, subject only to review by the District Manager, with the right of appeal by the claimant to the Central Office in Washington for further adjudication.

43. That the Veterans' Bureau inaugurate a publicity and personnel campaign throughout the territory of Hawaii so that the ex-service men of that territory may be informed as to the benefits of the War Risk Act.

44. That the Comptroller General of the Treasury reconsider his Interpretation of Section 300 of the War Risk Act, as amended, and reverse his recent decision that claimants suffering from venereal disease are guilty of willful misconduct even though said venereal disease was not contracted during military service, and refusing to pay compensation for aggravation of said condition when the official records show that the claimant did not receive any treatment therefor while in the military or naval service.

45. That the United States Veterans' Bureau in the near future make a complete check against the death records of men in the Army, Navy and Marine Corps, for the purpose of determining whether the relatives of such deceased ex-service men are receiving the compensation and insurance to which they are entitled under the existing laws. The Bureau to undertake to locate the missing relatives of all deceased ex-service men.

46. Legislation providing that compensation be payable to dependents of ex-service persons regardless of whether such dependents may be receiving compensation because of the loss of other relatives and regardless of whether they are receiving pensions from the United States.

47. The change of paragraph 92, Regulations for the Government of National Cemeteries, War Department, Office of the Quartermaster-General, to authorize superintendents to accept in lieu of honorable discharges or pension certificates, orders for interment from the District Manager of the Veterans' Bureau.

48. Amendment of the law to provide the allowance of $265.00 to cover the funeral expenses of deceased ex-service men and women, to be paid by the government without deviation whether or not the deceased died while undergoing training or hospitalization by the government or whether or not he or she died in indigent circumstances.

49. That all facilities of the Veterans' Bureau for the treatment and hospitalization of disabled veterans of the Army or naval forces of the United States, without regard to service connections.

50. Occupational therapy, under the United States Veterans' Bureau, is recommended that the state veteran hospitals at Yakima, S. D., and Warm Springs, Montana.

51. That the Director of the Veterans' Bureau be urged to make necessary appropriations to provide for increases in salaries which may be necessary to fit those young men for the service to which they may be assigned.

52. That the Director of the Veterans' Bureau be urged to promulgate such orders as will immediately provide adequate nursing staffs to all Veterans' Bureau Hospitals, and will empower commanding officers of such hospitals, upon recommendation of doctors in charge of cases, to immediately employ special nurses outside the regular nursing staff.

53. Indorsement of the movement now under consideration by the War and Navy departments looking towards the establishment of a government home for incapacitated and disabled women of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps.

54. Hospitalization privileges now accorded employers of the States and Federal government be extended to include employees of the United States Veterans' Bureau.

55. That the Director of the United States Veterans' Bureau be urged by every means in his power to improve the efficiency of the professional personnel and that he be empowered to increase salaries wherever advisable.

56. Congress be petitioned to make necessary appropriations to provide for increases in salaries which may be necessary to fit those young men for the service of specialists in all government and contract institutions, caring for ex-service persons.

57. That proof required for claimants compensated under the act be the standard for trainees who have dependents, eliminating thereby the conflict between the War Risk Act and the Rehabilitation Act.

58. Promulgation of regulations suspending sentence in all cases of claimants ordered discharged for misconduct, when good medical judgment prescribes the treatment of the patient.

59. That the Board of Governors of the National Soldiers' Home be authorized and directed to make provision for proper diets when good medical judgment prescribes the same.

60. That the convention indorse the proposed Veterans' Code, which is being considered by the National Legislative and Rehabilitation Committee in cooperation with officials of other veterans' organizations and of the United States Veterans' Bureau, and instructs the National Legislative and Rehabilitation Committee to take appropriate action towards its enactment by Congress to the end that there may be eliminated all conflicts in existing laws affecting disabled veterans of the World War.

61. It is recommended that the Veterans' Bureau be urged to extend the provisions of Section 13, Article 1, page 9, of the Consolidated War Risk Act, providing a penalty for charging or accepting a fee of more than three dollars for assisting a claimant in prosecuting his or her claim.

62. The Director of the United States Veterans' Bureau be urged to detail a Chaplain to each Veterans' Bureau Hospital inaccessible to
ANCE be automatically applied to purchase ad-

insured, as an advance payment.

diately on satisfactory evidence of death of the

is in force, the name and address of the bene-

is made, to secure, if the policy of the deceased

status of insurance policy upon which claim

of the United States Veterans Board be au-

thorized to wire the Central Office regarding

World War.

existing so-called War Risk Insurance Term

bilities, veterans campaigns throughout the United States

veterans. This should be done by a board of

industrial experts, one of whom is a doctor.

providing that where the Veterans' Bureau does not begin proceedings on

an insurance claim within sixty days after the demand thereof, the insured or the beneficiary

may bring suit in any United States District

and obtain service in such suit by serving

process on the United States Attorney for said

district. In any such suit, if the claimant ob-
tains judgment, the Court shall allow, in addi-
tion to the amount of such insurance adjudged
to be due or payable, a reasonable attorney's

fee, not to exceed 30% of the total amount
judged to be due or payable. Said amount so
awarded shall be paid direct to the plaintiff's

attorney, and no such attorney shall receive or

charge the plaintiff any additional fee. Any
person charging a fee except as herein author-
ized shall be guilty of a felony and upon con-
viction shall be punished by imprisonment for

one year, or a fine of five thousand dollars, or
both, at the discretion of the court. The United States Veterans' Board shall not be

required to prosecute any violation of this provision.

provision.

Legislation providing that all ex-
service men and women who held War Risk Term Insurance and who kept such insurance in
force until their discharge or resignation and who are now or who hereafter shall be receiving
compensation from the United States Veterans' Board including those now rated as totally and
permanently disabled, shall be paid full insurance benefits from the date of their total and
permanent disability.

The Director of the United States Veterans' Board be urged to inaugurate insur-
cance campaigns throughout the United States by personal contact with veterans of the
World War.

That the Director of the United States Veterans' Board be requested to issue a five or

ten-year revertible term policy in lieu of the existing so-called War Risk Insurance Term
Policy.

That district and sub-district managers of the United States Veterans Board be au-

thorized to wire the Central Office regarding any insurance record or policy upon which
claim is made, to secure, if the policy of the deceased is in force, the name and address of the bene-

ficiary, and any other pertinent information. In the event of the face value of said policy be authorized imme-

diately on satisfactory evidence of death of the insured, as an advance payment.

That dividends on War Risk Insur-

be automatically applied to purchase ad-

ditional insurance but not in excess of ten
 thousand dollars, as provided by the present
law, or to pay premiums, or left to accumulate, at the option of the insured.

That reinstatement of Government In-

surance, upon payment of required premiums, and at the election of the insured, the

total rating has been made at the time of applica-
tion for reinstatement.

That a rating of permanent total disability or death, where a supposed lapse has occurred

and there is not sufficient accrued compensation
to make the claimant to equal the amount of the premiums due, then in that event the ac-

crued compensation should be applied to pur-

chase insurance pro rata in accordance with the

amounts due.

Because of a recent legal opinion, the

United States Veterans' Bureau is denying in-

surance in all cases in which the compensation

due at date of lapse was insufficient to entirely

cover the premiums, cutting off hundreds of

cases where insurance lapsed prior to the Act

of December 24, 1919, working great hardship

on permanent total cases and the widows and
dependents of deceased veterans, the Veterans' Bureau maintaining that it has no authority to

pro rate insurance in accordance with the

amount of compensation due to pay the pre-
miums of said insurance, it is requested that

the Legislative Committee of The American Legion be urged to select one case, coming un-
der the above conditions, and prosecute, or as-

sist in the prosecution of same, as a test case, in

order that the benefits of at least part of the

original insurance may be assured to any disabled veteran or his beneficiary in the event

that he has died.

The immediate coding of all regu-

lations, general orders, special orders, legal opin-

ions, et cetera, governing the rating of cases, and

the elimination of those that are con-

flicting.

The immediate rearrangement of all

papers contained in the claimants' folder in the

Veterans' Bureau with the material arranged in chronological order, with a cur-

rent brief containing a synopsis of the evi-
dence in the case attached to the inside of

the folder.

Your committee recommends that the

following resolution be adopted in full:

WHEREAS, in the various districts of the

Veterans' Bureau there is a demand for addi-
tional hospital facilities; and

WHEREAS, a statement expressing total

hospital accommodations as against number of

patients hospitalized does not take into con-

sideration individual needs or regional distribu-

tion; and

WHEREAS, in the districts listed below a

survey has shown a need for increased hospital
facilities:

District Classification Number of beds
1 T. B. 400
2 N. P. & T. B. (500) 1,200
3 T. B. 250
4 T. B. 500
5
6 T. B. 300
7 N. P. 500
8 N. P. 500
9 T. B. 500
10 T. B. 500 N. P., 250 increase 750
12 heretofore outlined, presented to
13 the Director General
14 Rush construction of Hospital 78

AND WHEREAS, the figures of the need as

presented by the several districts do not coincide with the figures given by the U. S., Vet-

erans' Bureau, and moreover it is insured he

RESOLVED, by the American Legion in

Fifth Annual National Convention assembled,

That the Director of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau be urged to give his immediate attention to

these pressing problems and take every step
within his power to cause the construction, enlargement or improvement of the hospitals herein proposed.

"RESOLVED, That the Congress of the United States be petitioned to make all appropriations necessary for the furtherance of this program."

"79. Your committee further recommends that sufficient copies of the report of this committee be directed to forthwith undertake a survey of all state and federal prisons and asylums, calling to its aid for this purpose all available expert assistance and existing organizations, within or without The American Legion, needed to make this survey complete, and that upon the acquisition of the required data the committee shall put into operation a suitable plan to secure this highly important result."

"81. WHEREAS, the appropriation for this position terminated on October 15, 1923; and "WHEREAS, this service is of paramount importance in the rehabilitation of a large number of ex-service men who by reason of mental disabilities incurred in our increased by their war service, are not actually criminal nor incurably insane; and "WHEREAS, the manifest duty of The American Legion in its efforts to rehabilitate disabled comrades and all and every one of these comrades wherever and whenever the Legion can discover them; and "WHEREAS, the first step in the direction of the rehabilitation of such unfortunate comrades is a nation-wide survey of all state and federal institutions; and "WHEREAS, The American Legion through which to put forth this effort; therefore, be it "RESOLVED, That the National Rehabilitation Committee appoint a property committee of The American Legion to survey all state and federal prisons and asylums, calling to its aid for this purpose all available expert assistance and existing organizations, within or without The American Legion, needed to make this survey complete, and that upon the acquisition of the required data the committee shall put into operation a suitable plan to secure this highly important result."

"82. WHEREAS, National Headquarters of The American Legion has seen fit to employ a Secretary to Chester L. Thompson Post 23, at the U. S. Veterans' Hospital No. 55, Fort Bayard, New Mexico; and "WHEREAS, such privileges include courtesies such as: Reduced railway fares, educational advantages, the right to obtain special apparatus for the mutilated in the allied country where they are sojourning, similarly to the veterans of that country; now, therefore, be it "RESOLVED, That the American Legion undertake to spare no effort to secure similar privileges and reciprocal arrangements for the benefit of all comrades traveling or residing abroad and for all veterans traveling or residing in the United States."

"83. WHEREAS, the American Legion in its efforts to rehabilitate disabled comrades and all and every one of these comrades wherever and whenever the Legion can discover them; and "WHEREAS, the appropriation for this position terminated on October 15, 1923; and "WHEREAS, the American Legion has seen fit to employ a Secretary to Chester L. Thompson Post 23, at Fort Bayard, New Mexico; and "WHEREAS, National Headquarters of The American Legion has seen fit to employ a Secretary to Chester L. Thompson Post 23, at the U. S. Veterans' Hospital No. 55, Fort Bayard, New Mexico; and "WHEREAS, the appropriation for this position terminated on October 15, 1923; and "WHEREAS, the American Legion through which to put forth this effort; therefore, be it "RESOLVED, That the National Rehabilitation Committee appoint a property committee of The American Legion to survey all state and federal prisons and asylums, calling to its aid for this purpose all available expert assistance and existing organizations, within or without The American Legion, needed to make this survey complete, and that upon the acquisition of the required data the committee shall put into operation a suitable plan to secure this highly important result."

"85. WHEREAS, the application for this position terminated on October 15, 1923; and "WHEREAS, this service is of paramount importance in the rehabilitation of a large number of ex-service men who by reason of mental disabilities incurred in our increased by their war service, are not actually criminal nor incurably insane; and "WHEREAS, the manifest duty of The American Legion in its efforts to rehabilitate disabled comrades and all and every one of these comrades wherever and whenever the Legion can discover them; and "WHEREAS, the first step in the direction of the rehabilitation of such unfortunate comrades is a nation-wide survey of all state and federal institutions; and "WHEREAS, The American Legion through which to put forth this effort; therefore, be it "RESOLVED, That the National Rehabilitation Committee appoint a property committee of The American Legion to survey all state and federal prisons and asylums, calling to its aid for this purpose all available expert assistance and existing organizations, within or without The American Legion, needed to make this survey complete, and that upon the acquisition of the required data the committee shall put into operation a suitable plan to secure this highly important result."

"89. WHEREAS, we recognize the urgent need of a more complete, dignified and popular official National Legion publication, and consider the policy now existing which compels a distribution of the prints from advertising and sale of the magazine, pro rata, to the various state departments, as a deplorable restriction on the development and progress of the weekly; therefore, be it "RESOLVED, That the action taken at the Third Annual National Convention of The American Legion at Kansas City, Missouri, directing a distribution of profits earned by the Legion Weekly, pro rata to the various state departments be rescinded, and that henceforth the Legion Weekly be conducted on a non-profit basis and that moneys earned be expended in the improvement of the magazine." "92. WHEREAS, the American Legion and its official publication, The American Legion Weekly, have often suffered greatly from ill-advised, discriminatory, ill-advised and destructive criticisms emanating from individual members, as well as from state and federal departments, such criticisms being due in most cases to lack of proper investigation and to ignorance of the real facts, which criticisms have been given wide publicity in the press by their authors, before and without having presented the same to The American Legion itself for its consideration; now, therefore, be it "RESOLVED, by the American Legion in National Convention assembled, that we hereby condemn and deplore the publication of such destructive criticisms, particularly when the same are not coupled with constructive suggestions for the improvement of the Legion Weekly."

"RESOLVED, That the Congress of the United States be petitioned to make all appropriations necessary for the furtherance of this program."
members of The American Legion to refrain from such public criticisms until the facts have been carefully ascertained and unless conscientious efforts within our own organization, have failed to remedy the condition complained of.'

1. Resolution No. 447—American Legion Weekly.

WHEREAS, The American Legion Weekly has inaugurated and is efficiently operating a magazine subscription bureau through which any and all periodicals may be subscribed for at the lowest possible rate; and

WHEREAS, all magazine subscriptions placed with the said bureau result in financial profit to The American Legion posts through which the subscriptions are obtained; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That The American Legion, in Convention assembled, commend The American Legion Weekly magazine subscription bureau and urge upon all American Legion posts the advisability of having their members place their magazine subscriptions through the said bureau.

5. Resolution No. 448—American Legion Weekly.

WHEREAS, we believe that The American Legion Weekly subscription bureau will greatly strengthen the activities of the Auxiliary; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this convention recommends that The American Legion Weekly devote to the affairs of The American Legion Auxiliary, even more space in the future than it has in the past.


BE IT RESOLVED, by The American Legion in convention assembled in San Francisco, That The American Legion Weekly devote a column of space to those who have answered the call of the Great Commander; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all posts be called upon to furnish the date of death and location of those served in, also service in Legion.


WHEREAS, one of the greatest factors in the development and growth of The American Legion is the publicity obtained through newspapers and other periodicals; and

WHEREAS, state and local contact with such publications is desirable as a means of promoting publicity and obtaining copy; be it, therefore, resolved

RESOLVED, as the sense of this convention, That it is advisable that state branches of the News Service be established in all departments and that post officials should deem it a duty to call upon the editors of local newspapers and ask them to publish Legion national and state news, as well as local copy; and be it further

RESOLVED, That it is also desirable that a publicity officer be appointed in each post and county and department, whose duty it shall be not only to insure proper publication of all local news, but to report promptly any stories of national interest which may break in his vicinity.


WHEREAS, from practical experience by the Department of the District of Columbia with respect to the National Capital pertaining to our heroic dead who come to us from every part of the United States for interment in Arlington Cemetery; and

WHEREAS, we have witnessed the treatment accorded to the hero of the Maine, Admiral Sigsbee, whose body lay for forty-eight hours in the streets; and

WHEREAS, the bodies of our dead comrades who lay for days at Union Station, Washington, D. C, for want of a proper receiving place, while awaiting burial; and

WHEREAS, when the families of our heroic dead come to the National Capital from every part of the country, local undertakers and their establishments within our own organization, have failed to remedy the condition complained of; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled at San Francisco, That we call upon our National Legislative Committee to bring introduced into Congress a bill to erect at Arlington National Cemetery an interdenominational chapel, where all races and creeds can conduct services and the bodies of our dead heroes may rest peacefully and respectfully before they are interred in our national shrine; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this memorial be erected and dedicated to "Mother" in honor of the mothers of the heroic dead of our country.


WHEREAS, disgraceful conditions are existing at Arlington National Cemetery, where grass and weeds are growing wild because of a policy of economy; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the most hallowed spot in America shall be fittingly and properly kept; and be it further

RESOLVED, That The World War Section be named to commemorate events of the World War; and further be it

RESOLVED, That we petition Congress to beautifully these hallowed spots, insuring memory of those who paid the supreme price for our greatness.

10. Resolution No. 2—Grave Markers.

RESOLVED, That the National Legislative Committee be instructed to take steps as in their opinion seem desirable or expedient to secure authority for the purchase of American Legion grave markers in national cemeteries.


WHEREAS, the annual conferences of Department Adjutants and state adjutants have proved of invaluable assistance to departments in providing cooperation, greater efficiency and in sustaining the membership and organization efforts through education of post officials; and

WHEREAS, the cost of having these conferences is an investment advantage to the entire membership; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we recommend that such conferences be held annually during the month of November or December, and that the National Finance Committee provide, if possible, for such conference for this and ensuing years.


RESOLVED, That the ceremonial for regular meetings of The American Legion, as set forth in the Manual of Ceremonies adopted by the Third Annual Convention of The American Legion in 1921, be amended as follows:

1. That under the "opening" and after the sentence "The Commander shall then give three taps of the gavel and the membership shall stand attention," the following shall be inserted: Post Commander: The color bearers will advance the Flag of Our Country. (The membership shall be brought to attention and stand to salute while the flags are advancing and placed in position.)

2. That the following paragraphs be accordingly eliminated:

"Post Commander: "Comrades, you will join me in saluting the flag. Salute."

"The membership, together with the Commander, shall stand to salute while the colors and flag are advanced.

"3. That under the "Closing," and after the sentence, "The Commander shall give three taps of the gavel and the membership shall rise," the following shall be inserted:

"Post Commander: "The Color Bearer will retire the Flag of Our Country and the membership will stand to salute."

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"RESOLVED, by The American Legion in convention assembled at San Francisco, That we extend to our newly-elected National Commander to take immediate steps with the railroad lines of the United States for half-fare privileges for veterans of the World War and their wives and children, and the same consideration now granted to other veterans of the Armies and Navies be accorded to the Legion, when wives and children are considered."


"WHEREAS, The American Legion, committed to the fostering of clean and healthful sports, the building of sound bodies and sound minds, and the development of universal physical education, not only approves of the present athletic program, but believes that the holding of such a program in connection with future conventions and a program of athletics to be known as "The American Legion National Olympic Games," should be provided for; and

"WHEREAS, The American Legion, committed to the fostering of clean and healthful sports, the building of sound bodies and sound minds, and the development of universal physical education, not only approves of the present athletic program, but believes that the holding of such a program in connection with future conventions and a program of athletics to be known as "The American Legion National Olympic Games," should be provided for; and

"WHEREAS, it is believed that a definite program for the development and encouragement of athletics is one of our essential needs; now, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That the National Executive Committee be directed to take such steps as may be necessary and proper to foster and provide such future programs, both nationally and locally; and be it further

"RESOLVED, That the National Finance Committee be directed to make provision in their annual budget for the co-ordination of athletic work at National Headquarters, and the building up of a definite athletic program."

15. Resolution No. 1—Protection of American Legion Emblems.

"WHEREAS, several states have passed laws making it a criminal offense for any person not a member to wear the insignia of The American Legion; and the existence of such statutes cannot be overestimated; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That the necessity for such legislation be called to the attention of all state departments so that those not having such laws may make strenuous efforts to secure proper enactments at the first session of their Legislatures."

16. Resolution No. 16—Creation of Special Committees.

"WHEREAS, The American Legion has a National Executive Committee, which meets four times a year, and a National Headquarters, with an experienced and experienced staff; and

"WHEREAS, the creation of special committees to consider special subjects tends to divide the responsibility and divide responsibility; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That a special committee shall hereafter be appointed as far as is possible from the personnel of the National Executive Committee only and that ordinary matters of administration shall be handled by National Headquarters."

17. Resolution No. 3—Aid to Transient Ex-Service Men.

"WHEREAS, the problem of the transient ex-service men and transient Legionnaires is becoming serious and many of our posts are being continually besieged by requests for aid; and

"WHEREAS, The giving of financial assistance without proper investigation tends to promote idleness and to encourage the unworthy individual in attempting to commercialize his Legion membership; be it

"RESOLVED, That as a matter of general policy such practice should be discouraged, cases properly investigated; the giving of financial assistance given only upon the telegraphic authority and guarantee of the applicant's own post.'"


"WHEREAS, the American Legion has not only been of service to those who have served, but to their families, and to their wives and children, and the giving of financial assistance has not only been of service to those who have served, but to their families, and to their wives and children, and the American Legion may have some manner of designation of their former service, we recommend that they be authorized to wear a rosette % inch in diameter upon the barette or ribbon worn upon the service uniform, as follows:

- Post Commander, a rosette of blue.
- State Commander, a rosette of white.
- National Commander, a rosette of red.
- National Committeeman, a rosette of red and white.

"We further recommend that the National Emblem Division be authorized to obtain and hold for sale, the different rosettes above mentioned.

"AND WHEREAS, careful investigation by the National Emblem Division has disclosed that a solid red rosette has been adopted by the Legion of Honor of France and the red and white rosette by the Society of Colonial Wars; and

"WHEREAS, the plain blue and white rosettes do not conflict with the decorations of other organizations; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That the National Emblem Division be authorized to obtain and hold for sale rosettes of the size specified, but with the following distinctive colors: National Commander, blue (gold color); Department Commander, white; Post Commander, blue; National Committeeman, green.'"

Your committee also received the following reports:

1. Committee on Mutual Aid and Benefit Division, The American Legion. Your committee recommends that this report be referred to the National Executive Committee for attention and handling.

2. Report of the National Memorials Committee, The American Legion. The committee recommends that this report be referred to the National Executive Committee for attention and handling.

3. Report of Graves Registration Committee. The committee recommends that this report be referred to the National Executive Committee for attention and handling.

4. Report of the National Children's Welfare Committee, The American Legion. After carefully considering this report, your committee adopted the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, by mandate of the Fourth National Convention of The American Legion, there was appointed a National Children's Welfare Committee, which has made thorough investigation into this subject during the past year, and after full consideration have made certain recommendations; and

"WHEREAS, The American Legion since its inception has been working for better citizenship and to that end desires to cooperate with all approved public and private agencies engaged in child welfare work; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED: First. That the National American Legion formally acknowledge its duty and responsibility toward the care, education and training of the dependent orphan children of all service men.

"Second. That the National Children's Welfare Committee, which has been investigating this subject for the past year, be continued for the coming year for the purpose of completing their investigation and carrying on this work under the direction of the National Executive Committee.

"Third. That there be organized in each state department a committee to be known as
was the most difficult to build in emergency.

This program, carried out over a number of years, has left our Navy unbalanced in that it has not been properly balanced our Navy and maintain our 5-5-3 ratio in every branch.

"4. We recommend that Congress make liberal appropriations and support in every practicable way the development of naval aviation. We recommend that provision be made in the appropriation act for the next year a precedent in making reductions depending on the treatment of the children to be served.

View of the Children's Welfare Committee." which shall co-operate with the National Children's Welfare Committee.

"Fourth. Whenever conditions permit, the integrity of the home be maintained in order that the children of the smart set be kept together and left in the care of their own mother, and to this end we recommend the enactment of adequate laws.

"Fifth. Where it is impossible for children to be maintained in their own homes, and after the children have reached the age of 12, the state in the care of certain families who desire to care for them, such children shall be placed in foster homes. This shall be done only when the Legion is in a position, through local posts or otherwise, to effectively and carefully follow up such children and families and thus safeguard their welfare.

"Sixth. That provision be made for the construction, maintenance and operation of regional homes schools that may be used as clearing houses to take care of children who cannot be cared for in their own homes and foster homes. It is estimated that the establishment of such regional homes schools to be fostered by the Legion and carried on either by the Legion or in cooperation with the respective departments as the needs develop and funds are made available. That such regional home schools be organized on what is generally known as the "cottage plan" and in line with the best practice and experience governing the organization and construction of such cottage homes.

"Seventh. The National Children's Welfare Committee be empowered to accept and use all contributions, money, land, service and other gifts for these purposes: provided, however, that the acceptance of such gifts and contributions does not limit the American Legion and the use thereof against the best interests of the children to be served.

"Eighth. The offer of co-operation made by La Societe des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux be accepted, the details of such co-operation to be worked out jointly." Respectfully submitted, INTERNAL ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE.

The report was adopted.

Telegrams were read from Evangelie Booth, Commander, the Salvation Army, and Mrs. Livingston Rowe, President-General of the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NAVAL AFFAIRS.

MR. WM. H. CREAMER, JR.: "Your Naval Affairs Committee met on Monday and subsequently and submits to you the following report. It is recommended that:

"1. We believe that the United States Navy should be maintained on the 5-5-3 ratio adopted at the Washington Conference. It is not generally realized that this conference established a precedent in making reductions depending on the number and strength of the capital ships possessed or in commission at the time of the conference. Any further conference will undoubtedly follow this same policy. In all branches of our navy, the United States Government must maintain a place so that future conferences will not find us in inferior power.

"2. Owing to the limited appropriations granted by Congress in past years the Navy Department wisely spent most of the money for new construction on battle ships only. This type was the most difficult to build in emergency. This program, carried out over a number of years, has left our Navy unbalanced in that it has a totally inadequate number of cruisers and other types. As battleship-building has now been completed, it is recommended that Congress appropriate money for cruisers, submarines and other smaller fighting craft to properly balance our Navy and maintain our 5-5-3 ratio in every branch.

"3. We feel that any attempt to economize in Navy expenses to a point where the treaty requirements of the Washington Conference are reduced by our share of the 5-5-3 ratio, is deceiving the people of our country and should not be tolerated.

"4. We recommend that Congress make liberal appropriations and support in every practicable way the development of naval aviation. We recommend that provision be made in the appropriation act for the next year with the best and practice and experience governing the organization and construction of such cottage homes.

"5. We favor the maintenance of the Marine Corps at its historical efficiency and its continued development as an integral part of the naval establishment.

"6. We believe that all combatant first line ships should be concentrated in one fleet for purposes of better training and administration.

"7. If all navies were sunk by treaty, merchant marine would then be the principal source of naval power. On this basis Great Britain would, at present, have as much power as all of the larger nations combined. While it is unlikely that nations will ever come to complete elimination of navies, we recommend that all practicable steps be taken to build up the American merchant marine to meet events, and to train regular Navy personnel on combatant ships, we recommend that auxiliary vessels required for naval purposes in time of peace be chartered from well-established merchant marine companies.

"8. We desire to see at least fifty per cent of the trade of this country carried in American-built ships, owned by American shipowners, and manned by American officers and men, all of whom shall live like Americans. To this end we again solemnly pledge our best efforts.

"In addition to the above recommendations, the following resolutions were adopted:

"RESOLVED, That we request our representatives in Congress to appropriate sufficient funds adequate and properly to maintain our Navy, both in personnel and material, second to none, as allotted us by the treaty.

"RESOLVED, That the Legion in National Convention assembled, heartily endorses the aims and purposes and provisions
of the proposed bill "to provide for the creation, organization, administration, and maintenance of a Naval Reserve and a Marine Corps Reserve," and hereby respectfully petitions the Congress of the United States to enact into law the proposed bill appertaining to the Naval Reserve.

"RESOLVED, That The American Legion in New Orleans, the convention assembled, instruct its National Legislation Committee to initiate action for the introduction of a bill in Congress authorizing all executive departments of the Federal Government to grant military leave without loss of pay, time or efficiency rating to such of its employees who are members of the Naval Reserve force, while on training cruises.

"RESOLVED, That this Fifth Convention of The American Legion unreservedly supports the efforts of the Navy Department in keeping the United States fleet equal to that of Great Britain, including the establishment and maintenance of such shore bases and navy yards as may be necessary; and, be it further

"RESOLVED, That this convention urges the development of the bases on the Pacific Coast, as recommended by the Rodman Board, at the earliest time possible; and, be it further

"RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to all members of the Naval Affairs Committee of the United States Senate and the House of Representatives and to the Secretary of the Navy.

"WHEREAS, the 27th of October has again been designated as Navy Day by the Navy League of the United States, which action has the hearty support of the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Navy and the entire naval service, governors of states, and various civic and patriotic organizations; and

"WHEREAS, the purpose of such designation is for: (1) the calling to mind of the past service of the Navy during peace as well as in war, and (2) to fill the vital need that all the people of these United States be brought to a realization that our Navy today stands as a concrete expression of the power and authority which protects our seaborne commerce and their business ventures in foreign lands, by which our surplus products, our exports, are marketed; and

"WHEREAS, the United States has become a great producing nation and our domestic prosperity depends largely upon our strength and prestige abroad, which can only be assured by our possessing a Navy second to none in the world, namely, in personnel, tonnage, gunpower, material, general efficiency, etc.; and, further

"WHEREAS, our Presidents, from Washington to Harding, especially that great American, President Roosevelt, whose birthday is also celebrated on that day, October 27th, have constantly reiterated their belief that the Navy constitutes the best standing security of this, our beloved country; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That The American Legion endorses the action of the Navy League of the United States in designating Saturday, October 27th, 1923, as Navy Day, and the two laudable purposes above-stated, realizing that there exists a great need for our fellow citizens living at distances from our sea coasts to know the value of the Navy to each and every one of them during time of peace; and, further

"RESOLVED, That National and State Headquarters, and each and every post of The American Legion in convention assembled, and in the community and region, join heartily in the co-operation to the Navy League of the United States in its various activities for celebrating Navy Day at large, in the states, and in the communities; and, be it further

"RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Navy League of the United States, the President, the Secretary of the Navy, the Governor of each state, the National Headquarters of each and every patriotic fraternal organization, as well as to State Headquarters, and each and every post of The American Legion, and to the public press.

"WHEREAS, the Navy Department during the last session of Congress requested Congress to appropriate and authorize the expenditure of $6,500,000 for the purpose of increasing the elevations of guns of our older battleships, the ranges of which were inferior to those of similar ships in foreign navies; and

"WHEREAS, the highest officials of the Navy have held that such increase of gun elevations is necessary, that all capital ships of the United States Navy may fire their guns at ranges at which modern naval battles may and probably will begin, thus insuring that the offensive spirit, forbid the contemplated measures for increasing the efficiency of the guns of our old capital ships; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, by the officers and delegates of The American Legion in convention assembled, that the Navy Department be, and hereby is, commanded to utilize its original recommendation to Congress that such modernization be effected, and for its latter stand in refraining from using the money appropriated, pending further action by Congress; and be it further

"RESOLVED, That the Navy Department be urged to make to the next session of Congress new recommendations for the authorization and appropriation of funds for the purpose of modernizing our older battleships, and such other recommendations as will bring our Navy, in personnel, gunpower, gun range, gun power and general efficiency, and in all other respects, up to the status assigned to and required of the United States by the Treaty for the Limitation of Naval Armament—namely, absolute parity with the navy of the British Empire, and the ratio of five-thirds to the navy of Japan; and be it also

"RESOLVED, That this resolution be referred to each and every post of The American Legion throughout the nation, urging each comrade to use his influence to the utmost in every legitimate way, both individually and collectively, to the end that Congress shall favorably act upon the Navy Department's recommendations along this line; and be it lastly

"RESOLVED, That The American Legion transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Navy, the chairman of the Appropriations and Naval Affairs Committee of the Senate and of the House of Representatives, to all members of Congress, and to the public press.

"This completes the report of the Committee on Naval Affairs, and I move you, sir, its adoption.

MR. ARONOWITZ (New York): "I would ask the chairman of the committee, through you, if anything has been done by that committee
relative to the resolution requesting the Legislative Committee to take action to see that in the event of the employment of alien citizens or others by civilians to operate an aircraft, provision be given to American citizens over that to aliens, or those who have merely taken out temporary residence permits.

MR. CREAMER: “The chairman would answer you that, to the best of his recollection, no such resolution was ever presented to our committee. It has never been referred to another committee for action.”

MR. ARONOWITZ: “I move to amend the report of the Committee on National Affairs, as follows: instead of the words ‘resolution presented to the Legislative Committee,’ it makes the same as the New Orleans Convention in 1881, outlined at that time was approved by the American Legion Committee on Aeronautics with but one dissenting vote and was later approved by the National Executive Committee at Indianapolis on May 19 and 20, 1923. The policy is briefly as follows:

‘With the possible exception of a very few, the army and navy are strangers to aviation. They agree that control of the air is a practical necessity for a victorious result in combat on either land or sea. They believe that sufficient air strength could of itself keep our shores free from enemy landings. However, such an air service would be relatively expensive to support in time of peace—and there is a way to gain the desired result without such a large expenditure. That way is the development of an aeronautics service . . . shall serve without pay or expense. On the other hand, the very requirements for good passenger and freight carriers make them susceptible to conversion by the government into military types quickly. The freighter of tomorrow may easily be designed to receive bomb racks, sights, cameras and defensive armor. I believe . . . to be preferred over aliens for service in the merchant marine preference in employment.’

THE CHAIRMAN: “The chairman will be very glad to accept that amendment.”

The amendment was seconded.

The report, as amended, carried when put to a vote.

REPORT OF CONVENTION COMMITTEE ON AERONAUTICS.

“The members of your Committee on Aeronautics met at 1:30 p.m., October 18, 1923, at Committee Room ‘K’ and agreed on the following resolution, respectfully submitted for your consideration:

1. That the report of the National Aeronautics Committee of The American Legion, covering its many problems, be adopted.

2. That the resolution of the United States be strongly urged to pass the legislation required to place all members of the reserves and federalized militia on status identical to that of men in regular service in case of accident in the line of duty.

3. That Congress be urged to make available necessary funds each year to properly maintain and train the reserve forces of the nation.

4. That Congress be requested to convene at the earliest possible moment a joint committee of the House and Senate to consider carefully the entire question of national defense in its three phases—land, water and air— so as to give the country the benefit of the best lessons of the last war and developments since that time.

EXHIBIT.

Report of the Committee on National Aeronautics, American Legion, for the year 1922-1923...

‘Your committee was created by resolution adopted at the National Convention in New Orleans in 1922. It was instructed by the convention to “co-operate with the United States Army Air Service and other nationally recognized institutions, etc., devoted to the development of aeronautics and through the medium of laws and organizations devoted to the interests of aeronautics and, through the medium of our local posts, county and state organizations, to arouse the interest of the people in the development of commercial aviation . . . and that said Committee on Aeronautics . . . shall serve without pay or expense.’

The committee has served without pay or expense, and has, therefore, been unable to follow up the laws and instructions to work through the posts, county and state organizations. It has been impossible to hold every meeting of the committee or to attend meetings of the organizations with which we were instructed to cooperate.

Your committee found upon its formation that The American Legion had no policy regarding aviation and without the passing necessary to determine an aviation policy to serve as a plan of operations. Such a plan was submitted to the National Committee at the last meeting, and it was outlined at that time was approved by the
do so it must develop a merchant air marine comparable to those of the rest of the world. Such a service cannot be built at once. A gradual program must be put into effect—constructive and based on a vision of the future. Through close study of a program to procure proper government legislation to regulate and nourish flying. It must be national legislation, because it is a affair of the very nature of the activity to be regulated, and it must be legislation designed to regulate for the good of aviation; so a merchant air marine will grow on a sound foundation.

"Your committee feels that the bill entitled 'Civil Aeronautics Act of 1923,' introduced into the Congress by Representative John H. Tolan of Ohio, and sponsored by the chairman of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, is admirably drawn and worthy of the active support of The American Legion. Your committee so informed your National Legislative Committee, which therupon exerted its efforts in behalf of the bill at the last session of Congress.

"The bill provides for a Bureau of Civil Aeronautics in the Department of Commerce, to be administered by a Commissioner of Aeronautics. It directs the commissioner to promulgate regulations for a license and operation of aircraft and airports for inspection of both material and personnel. It is primarily interested in the safety of the public and your committee understands that it centers in the primary need of a merchant air marine. The bill also amends existing immigration, narcotic and criminal statutes to conform to the requirements of the new transport.

"True to the stress of other matters, the bill did not reach a final reading, and was 'unfinished business' when Congress adjourned. Your committee understands that the bill is to be introduced into the coming session of Congress and urges energetic support from the American Legion and from all other organizations and individuals interested in national progress and development.

"The second basic need of a merchant air marine is proper provision for land—'Airports'—if you please. Your Committee recommends that the various posts, county and state organizations of the Legion support actively and originate if necessary all legitimate efforts to secure the establishment at once of municipal landing fields.

"Your Committee feels that there is a great need for scientific research—and the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics is an agency with which it will continue to receive financial aid from Congress. The Army and Navy Aeronautical boards have such appropriations as will enable them to continue their building program. We believe the development of equipment and equipment should be increased to the point where they will have in peace all the strength they can carry in case of emergency from the merchant air marine.

"The aerial mail service should be maintained and increased. This service is the greatest practical air laboratory on earth—and has already made many contributions of estimable value. The requirements for air mail performance are such that they tend directly to develop equipment and knowledge of great value to a merchant air marine—and because of these developments and personnel and equipment it can do much more work per dollar of appropriation than any other government flying organization.

"We recommend the continuation of the air patrols of the great forest districts. This work not only assists in the suppression of forest fires, but it pays excellent dividends in the way of timber saved from destruction by fires. It is one of the services which says the military can pay part of its own way.

"One of the greatest needs of aviation is education. Members of the Legion and the citizens of the Nation do not appreciate the progress of the art in this country and abroad. It will be pleasure that we report a most satisfactory cooperation from The American Legion Weekly during the past year. We urge a continuation of their policy of publishing articles on the progress of aviation, both at home and abroad.

"Your Committee was not consulted by the officials of the Weekly before publication in August of the report of the National Conference for the limitation of air armament. We did not believe the nations of the world would enter into such an agreement, but we agree with such limitation if possible as desirable and so advised the Editorial Board of the Weekly. We feel that efforts to secure such limitations are in line with the policy of intelligent limitation of all types of armament as opposed to either militarism or complete pacifism. We believe such limitation would result in a valuable impetus for commercial aviation. We object emphatically to any program which tends to make our nation practically impotent in the air while other nations build up their offensive and defensive air power. Until an effective international air limitation agreement is completed the United States should energetically pursue an intelligent building policy.

"Your Committee has been of some service to individuals in settling disputes over the purchase of surplus war material and reports a prompt and satisfactory co-operation on the part of government departments involved.

"We have also begun efforts to secure payment of claims. The bill was finally enacted into law July 14, 1918, amounting to $50.00 per cadet. This claim is based on adjustments already made for the months of April, May and June, 1918, but because of recent decisions will require specific congressional appropriation. It is recommended that this effort be continued.

"Individual members of your Committee have given much of their time to aiding the progress of the aviation branch of the National Guard in various states. It is urged that local posts, county and state organizations cooperate wherever possible in forming and operating such organizations. They continue to aid national defense and in addition aid in familiarizing the public with aviation.

"Your Committee, through its vice-chairman, has secured permission from the railroads of the nation for the use without charge of necessary parts of their rights of way for the erection of national system of ground markers for the guidance of flyers.

"In order that the efforts of your National Committee on Aeronautics may be more intensive it is recommended that each department of The American Legion create and organize a Committee on Aeronautics to aid in furthering the national policies herein contained and to give such personal interest to individual posts, county and state organizations co-operate in forming such organizations. They continue to aid national defense and in addition aid in familiarizing the public with aviation.

"Your Committee recommends that sufficient moneys be made available in the Civil Aeronautics Act of 1923 to provide for the expense of at least one annual meeting of the Committee on Aeronautics between conventions, and to provide for reasonable expenses incurred in activities undertaken on the direction of the National Commander or the National Executive Committee.

"Your Committee presents the following resolution and moves its adoption:

"Whereas, the report of the Committee on Aeronautics was not adopted, and whereas the period 1922-1923 has been submitted; now, therefore,

"RESOLVED, by The American Legion assembled in its Fifth Annual Convention at San Francisco, California, on October 15, 1923, that the said bill not be and is hereby accepted and declared the sense of this body and that the proper officers of The American Legion are instructed to continue the program as outlined therein. (One member dissenting.)

The report was adopted.

REPORT OF TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT CONVENTION

MR. FRANK HOOKS (Montana): "To the Fifth National Convention of The American Legion, San Francisco, California: Your Com-
I. RESOLVED, That the time of the next National Convention of The American Legion be fixed by the National Executive Committee.

II. RESOLVED, That your Committee, realizing the large expenditure of money and labor involved in entertaining a National Convention of The American Legion, and feeling that it requires the best Legion and community spirit, respectfully states that such an undertaking, do, after careful consideration, recommend that the Sixth National Convention of The American Legion be held in St. Paul, Minnesota.

III. RESOLVED, That your Committee recommends that the National Adjutant, in the name of this convention, send proper and appropriate telegrams to our good friends in Victoria, British Columbia, and elsewhere, thanking them for their kind invitations to entertain our convention in 1924.

IV. Further, your Committee recommends that the National Executive Committee examine into the feasibility of the proposal of Continental Europe that the National Convention of The American Legion during the year of 1923, the 10th Anniversary of the signing of the Armistice, be held in Paris, France.

REPORT OF LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE.

(Complete.)

MR. BETTMAN (Ohio): "Resolution on the subject of the Recognition of Hawaii in Federal Regulations.

"RESOLVED, That the American Legion in National Convention assembled, view of the efforts of the Territory of Hawaii for Americanization and its need for aid in internal problems, urges Congress to make applicable to Hawaii and the territories all educational measures for the promotion of Americanism, which are now applicable to the states.

Resolution With Respect to Hospitalization of Veterans of All Wars.

"WHEREAS, the director of the United States Veterans' Bureau has given expression to the National Legislature Committee that the American Legion has for years actively opposed the civil service anti-bonus leagues; and

"WHEREAS, the release of said report by the National Legislative Committee has in-duced to us to study the act of Congress with regard to the civil service eligible lists, and to the amendment of the act by Congress on the recommendation of the National Executive Committee of The American Legion to secure the passage of legislation to carry into effect all of the foregoing reclamation projects,

WHEREAS, prior to March 4, 1923, the veterans of all wars had been placed upon the civil service eligible lists were automatically placed at the head of these eligible lists above all other eligible lists, and in the order of their earned rating; and

WHEREAS, by the executive order of March 4, 1923, this just privilege was rescinded; now, be it

RESOLVED, That The American Legion, in National Convention assembled at San Francisco, October, 1923, requests the President of the United States by executive order to request the Civil Service Commission to restore this priority formerly accorded veterans; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a certificate of graduation from a course of study under the Veterans' Bureau shall, upon application, entitle such graduate to definite and absolute preference in civil service eligible lists; and

RESOLVED, That The American Legion be instructed to use all legitimate means to secure the enactment by Congress of the necessary legislation to carry into effect all of the foregoing reclamation projects.

Resolution With Respect to Land Reclamation.

"RESOLVED, That The American Legion in National Convention assembled, approves and approves the plans submitted to Congress for the lending of Federal aid to the reclamation of arid lands, the drainage of swamps and other similar projects, and urges that Congress speedily enact legislation whereby the vast amount of land included therein may soon be fit for use; and

"RESOLVED, That such legislation provide, as has been the policy in the past, that the ex-servicemen who have been given preferential rights in the settlement of such lands when they have been reclaimed; be it further

RESOLVED, That this convention especially endorses what is commonly known as the Colorado River Basin Reclamation Project and the Boulder Dam and All-American Canal.

"And it being necessary, in order to carry out the Colorado River Basin Reclamation Project, and as incidental thereto, the construction of the Boulder Dam and All-American Canal,

"WHEREAS, certain national commercial organizations have for years actively opposed the efforts of the National Legislative Committee of The American Legion to secure the passage of the said adjusted compensation measure by means of an organized campaign of propaganda, and by sponsoring and promoting organizations of so-called ex-service anti-bonus leagues; and

WHEREAS, the National Legislative Committee of The American Legion has in its report to the National Convention of The American Legion, in view of the facts as stated, and as incidental thereto, the construction of the Boulder Dam and All-American Canal,

WHEREAS, the release of said report by the National Legislative Committee has occasioned the displeasure of said national com-
mercial organization, which has demanded of our National Commander the repudiation of salaried journalism, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, by the Fifth Annual Convention of The American Legion, That we do most heartily repudiate the unfair propaganda of such national commercial organizations, and that our attack upon our National Legislative Committee; and be it further,

"RESOLVED, We hereby express our utmost confidence in the members of our National Legislative Committee, and do ratify, confirm and approve the report above referred to.

**Adjusted Compensation.**

"Last year, gentlemen of the convention, the resolution of the Convention Committee on the subject of Adjusted Compensation:

"For the fifth year The American Legion, in national convention assembled, expresses its belief that the United States of America has an obligation to relieve the financial disadvantages of all ex-service men and women incident to their military service, and pursuant to that belief, hereby reiterates its demand that Congress recognize this obligation by the passage of the Adjusted Compensation Measure.

"The unanimity of The American Legion on the subject of Adjusted Compensation is shown by its action at every previous convention, as follows:

"At the first national convention of The American Legion, at Minneapolis, the following resolution was unanimously adopted.

"WHEREAS, The American Legion was re-elected to its second National Legislative Committee, and do ratify, endorse and approve the action of the National Executive Committee to take such national commercial organizations and such national legislative committees, provisions for co-operation; and be it further,

"RESOLVED, That The American Legion, in national convention here assembled, com-
mands and approves the action of the National Executive Committee and the National Benefi-
cial Legislative Committee, in formulating and presenting this adjusted compensation legisla-
tion to Congress; and be it further,

"RESOLVED, That The American Legion, in national convention assembled, hereby directs the National Executive Committee to take such action in Congress as may be deemed necessary to insure the prompt passage of this bill.

"At the third national convention of The American Legion, at Kansas City, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

"WHEREAS, there is pending in Congress H. R. 1 and S. 506, a measure to provide ad-
justed compensation to the soldiers, sailors and marines of the Great War; and

"WHEREAS, this adjusted compensation measure provides for the payment of the na-
tion's just obligations to the service men and women, for the financial and economic handi-
caps suffered by them incident to their service; and

"WHEREAS, the nation should and is paying all of its other war debts and obligations; and

"WHEREAS, the obligation of the nation to its soldiers arises by reason of economic handi-
cap suffered by them because of their service, which economic disadvantage is peculiar to

With especial severity because of widespread general unemployment; and

"WHEREAS, after consideration of all the arguments advanced in opposition to the meas-
ure, including the letter of the Secretary of the Treasury and the address of the President to Congress, we still firmly believe in the jus-
tice, fairness and immediate necessity of the adjusted compensation measure; now, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That The American Legion, in national convention assembled, reaffirms its
stand upon adjusted compensation and asks that the Congress of the United States pass this
measure without further equivocation or delay.

"At the fourth national convention of The American Legion, at New Orleans, the follow-

"WHEREAS, there was introduced in the Congress of the United States immediately follow-
ing the Armistice, November 11, 1918, a bill, known as the President's Bill, comprising more than fifty separate and distinct bills providing for the payment of an adjustment of compensa-
tion in various forms to the service men and women of America who served during the Great War, practically without pay, while the work-
ers at home were receiving unusually high wages with many bonus features; and

"WHEREAS, The American Legion, in national convention assembled, at Minneapolis in 1919, at Cleveland in 1920 and at Kansas City in 1921, endorsed the justice in principle of such adjusted compensation, realizing the great financial and economic handicap suffered by our service men and women; and

"WHEREAS, adjusted compensation for mil-
itary service, in the practice is based upon historic precedents; and

"WHEREAS, the nation should pay and is paying all of its other war debts and obligations,
and this obligation to its defenders is of supreme importance; and

"WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States is to be commended for the careful con-
sideration it has given this legislation, and has affirmed its belief in its justness by passing it
upon every occasion that it has come before it by increased majorities; and

"WHEREAS, after careful consideration by this convention of all the arguments advanced in opposition to this measure, including the let-
ters of the Secretary of the Treasury, the ad-

dress of the President to Congress in 1921, and the message of the President to Congress ac-
companies his veto after this legislation had been passed by the Congress. The veto would have delayed the payment of foreign loans. Four billions six hundred million dollars of these loans have now been funded, the annual payment thereon will be more than sufficient to meet the cost of this measure.

The argument was made that the adjusted compensation measure will now be a tremendous strain on our resources is completely refuted; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in San Francisco, California, October 18, 1923, that these official actions have solely tried the faith of the veterans in the government's sincerity of purpose.

That the time has arrived for the acid test of the government's intentions to make effective the mandate of the people.

We do hereby reiterate and repeat each of the resolutions hereinbefore set forth.

We hereby appeal to the representatives of the state compensation acts, that we do not believe it is necessary at this time to restate the reasons for its inherent justice.

That the vast majority of the American people are convinced that the justice due the veterans who have served is no longer debatable and that remains to make the mandate of the people.

That we do hereby reiterate and repeat each of the resolutions hereinbefore set forth.

We hereby call upon the 68th Congress to redeem its obligation by enacting this, the adjusted compensation measure will now be a tremendous strain on our resources is completely refuted; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by The American Legion in...
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1923

The convention was called to order by Na
nional Commander Owsley at nine-fifty o'clock. During the advance of the colors, the Monahan Post band of Sioux City, Iowa, played "Arms
"the ranks of the World War Legion march. The salute to the colors followed. The invoca

tion was pronounced by National Chaplain William P. O'Connor, after which the Brown

wood-Tammany Post band played the national anthem. Vice-Commander Cooke, Georgia, took the chair.

Chairman Erskine of the Convention Com

mittee on Constitutional Amendments re-read the proposed constitutional amendments, as made to the convention during Thursday's ses

sion, in accordance with constitutional provi

sion.

Announcement that the Galbraith Memorial in Cincinnati would be dedicated on the after

noon of November 10th was read, extending an invitation to all Legionnaires to attend the ceremony.

Senator Keye Pittman of Nevada then ad

ressed the convention.

The Department of North Carolina tendered a trophy to be awarded in membership to posts outside the continental limits of the United States.

Hyrd Stryker, Commander of Douglas County Post, Omaha, Neb., was introduced as heading the Legion's largest post.

Band Contest Awards.

National Adjutant Bolles then announced results of the band contest, as selected by a committee of judges appointed by the San Francisco Convention Committee:

First prize of $1,000 and cup to Zane Irwin Post, San Francisco.

Second place to the Monahan Post band of Sioux City, Iowa, receiving one gold saxophone, one gold trumpet, one gold trombone, one snare drum and one gold drum-major's baton, donated by the C. G. Conn Co., Ltd., one King trumpet, donated by the H. N. White Co., and one mallet donated to this post.

The Racine, Wis., drum corps, was awarded first prize of $1,000 cash, with honorable mention of the drum corps from Miami, Fla., Pas

dena, Cal., Klamath Falls, Ore., and Everett, Wash. The prize for the greatest number of "man miles" was awarded to the Department of Wisconsin. Representatives of the organization received the respective awards from National Commander Owsley.

Rifle Match Awards.

Winners of the rifle match were announced as follows: First, 10th Infantry, Legionnaires, the Milton J. Foreman cup, presented by the Department of Illinois, and gold medals; sec

don, the rifle team of San Pedro, Cal., silver medals; and, third, San Diego, Cal., Post of the Legion bronze medals.

Commander Owsley then called on the con

vention to give a standing vote of thanks for the entertainment afforded by San Francisco and the convention hall authorities.

National Adjutant Bolles then read messages to the convention from Henry W. Lawton Camp 1, United Spanish War Veterans, of Vallejo, Cal.; from General Frank B. Gumpf, Commander of the Ramsey County (Minn.) County Council of The American Legion, who spoke of plans for the entertainment of the next convention; from Kate E. Hutcheson, National President of the Ladies' Auxiliaries of the Veterans of Foreign Wars; and, third, San Diego, Cal., Post of the Legion bronze medals.

The announcement was read by Adjutant Bolles concern

ing the Galbraith trophy, presented by the Department of Ohio in honor of Past National Commander Frederick W. Galbraith, for the winning athletic team in the national Legion competition. This was awarded to Cali

fornia.

Chief of Police Daniel O'Brien of San Fran

cisco then addressed the convention.

Election of Officers.

The convention then proceeded to the nomi

nation of officers, and the following were placed in nomination: William S. Haines, of Kansas; John R. Quinn, of California; Clarence R. Edwards, of Massachusetts; James A. Drain, of the District of Columbia; William B. Healey, of Pennsylvania.

On the eleventh ballot taken by the conven

tion John R. Quinn, of California, was elected National Commander, and his election was later made unanimous.

Mr. Quinn was escorted to the platform by his friends and was introduced to the convention by the retiring commander, Alvin Owsley, the ideals and principles of The American Legion: I can say little except that my heart and soul are dedicated to your service and to the ideals and principles of The American Legion, and I want you to stand with me for a moment in silence and pray to God that he will give me wisdom, counsel and judgment to lead The American Legion along the path that it should be led.

The convention proceeded with the election of five National Vice-Commanders, Vice-Com


The following Vice-Commanders were elected: Thurman Mann of North Carolina, F. Ryan Duffy of Wisconsin, William B. Healey of Pennsylvania, Lester Albert of Idaho, and Celora M. Stoddard of Arizona.

Galbraith Memorial Resolution.

The following resolution was introduced by Gilbert Bettman of Ohio of the Galbraith Memorial Committee:

"RESOLVED, That the President of the United States be requested to appoint a repre

sentative to attend and receive at the dedicatory exercises of the Galbraith Memorial, that memorial on behalf of the people of the United States, and that the National Adjutant send by wire to the President a copy of this resolution.

The resolution was adopted.

Exra Clemans, Past State Chaplain of Minnes

toa, was elected National Chaplain, unani

mously.

Presentation of the stand of colors used dur

ing the past year was made to Past National Commander Alvin Owsley of Texas by Past National Commander Hanford MacNider of Iowa. The stand of colors to be used by the new National Officers was presented to John R. Quinn of California by Past National Com

mander Henry D. Lindsey of New York.

The colors were retired while the convention stood in salute. The retiring National Chap

lain, William F. O'Connor, pronounced the benediction and National Commander Owsley ad

journed the meeting in form at four-forty-five o'clock.

The National Executive Committee met at 5:00 p. m., Friday, October 19. National of

ficers selected were:

National Adjutant: Lemuel Bolles, Seattle, Wash.

National Treasurer: Robert H. Tyndall, Indianap

olis, Ind.

National Judge Advocate: Robert A. Adams, Indianap

olis, Ind.


Assistant National Adjutant: R. G. Creviston, Marion, Ind.