Summary of

PROCEEDINGS

THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL
NATIONAL CONVENTION

of

THE AMERICAN LEGION

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

October 9, 10, 11 and 12, 1950
FOREWORD

THIS booklet has been prepared for the information of members of The American Legion. It has come to be known as the Summary of Proceedings of the National Convention for the current year.

It is a comprehensive résumé, in as small space as possible, of what officially took place at the Thirty-Second Annual National Convention in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11 and 12, 1950.

The financial report of the National Organization for the period ending December 31, 1949, Balance Sheet as of June 30, 1950, and Surplus Analysis, January 1, 1950, to June 30, 1950, are included in the summary.

To make a quick distribution, speed has been necessary. Every precaution has been taken to avoid errors, but some may have occurred in the rush of convention happenings and the haste of printing.

Henry H. Bradford
National Adjutant.
The Thirty-second Annual National Convention of The American Legion convened at 11 a.m. at the Shrine Auditorium, Los Angeles, California, October 9, 1950, National Commander George N. Craig presiding.

Before the meeting convened, the National Championship Band from Harwood Post No. 5, Joliet, Illinois, gave a half-hour concert.

The Colors were advanced by the National Championship Color Guard of the James DeArmond Golliday Post No. 8, Kokomo, Indiana, after which “The Star-Spangled Banner” was sung by Morton Downey.

Commander Craig called upon Archbishop J. Francis A. McIntyre to deliver the invocation.

On a motion from the floor, the reading of the minutes of the previous convention was suspended.

COMMANDER GEORGE N. CRAIG: I take pleasure at this time in introducing to you, for a word of welcome, a grand Legionnaire, the Honorable Fletcher Bowron, Mayor of Los Angeles.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME

By Fletcher Bowron, Mayor of Los Angeles

Comrade National Commander, and Comrades:

Los Angeles welcomes you. In behalf of the city and all of the people of this community, I bring greetings and express the great pride we feel that this metropolis was chosen for the place of the 32nd Annual National Convention, which bids fair to be the most significant and far-reaching in importance and effect in the entire glorious history of The American Legion.

In the light of the international situation and conditions throughout this country—with particular reference to the threat of Soviet aggression abroad and the menace of communism at home—this, we verily believe, was a happy choice for a place of meeting and deliberations and action; sufficiently far away from Washington so that the facts may be viewed objectively; close enough to be the most significant and far-reaching in impact, in all of the intendments of revolution on a small scale; carping criticism of police departments and other law enforcement agencies because they represent law and order and stability; efforts to set class against class, undermine established government at every opportunity.

In the larger cities we see the work, day after day, of those who would undermine the very foundation of the constitutional government.

Here in your convention city, we have—regrettably—a disproportionate number of those who embrace false ideologies that are un-American in every respect, those of every shade of red. Speaking for my own as well as other American cities, I call for the drastic and effective steps toward stamping out communism, and all that goes with it, in our centers of population; the larger the city, the greater the need for counteractions. Loyalty oaths, such as we have required here, of city employees, and registration of communists, are not enough. Though every good American should be proud to say that he is one, such measures do not reach the really dangerous ones in the center—those who pose as good Americans but who, with inspired and trained cunning, are willing at the opportune time to sacrifice their birthright, to betray their fellow citizens, even to the point of committing treason, in the fanatical aid of a cause that, if it should prevail, would sweep from them, their families, and their neighbors, and their fellow citizens, every vestige of freedom and personal dignity.

This city is the center of a population of approximately five million within and surrounding Los Angeles. Here we have the greatest aircraft production and allied industries, the means of carrying our atomic bombs to our enemy on other continents, and for defending this continent against our enemy’s attack. Here, too close together in comfort, are oil refineries producing high octane aviation gasoline; and here is a center for the dispensing of mass information, of vital importance to good Americans everywhere, through motion pictures, radio, and television. These, and other things, establish this as a potential target area high on the list. And here we have many of those who have embraced communism—possible purveyors of valuable and scientific information to our enemy—possible saboteurs.

So the city, the community, the metropolitan area of the place of this convention represents strength and weakness in our American cities—the good and the bad—any bad is far too much—and a place that can at once be an object lesson to you and the recipient of much good from what will come from this convention.

It is a very good place to meet, and we trust from your experience it is a good place to meet because of those things that we trust you and your local officials to do to make it so. We ask as many of you as are able to do so to tarry after
the deliberations of this convention have been completed, and we invite you to come again and again.

The 32nd Annual National Convention of The American Legion will long have its influence in Los Angeles, and we hope that Los Angeles will live long and pleasantly in the memory of each of you.

NATIONAL COMMANDER CRAIG: At this time, your immediate past commander of our host department, Lewis K. Gough, a great department commander, a great friend of all of us!

ADDRESS OF WELCOME

By Past Department Commander Lewis K. Gough of California

The Department of California enthusiastically bids you welcome. We are proud that you have chosen to return to our Golden State so soon, and our reception will show you how much we have looked forward to your coming.

As the California delegation chairman, representative of our great department, I have honor and pride in extending to you, each and every Legionnaire, the hand of welcome and comradeship.

We keenly realize that this will be a working convention as these are fateful days, but it will be a playing convention as well, for Legionnaires are famous for fighting hard, for working hard, for playing hard, as the occasion may demand.

To many of you, I say, welcome back to California as you have or perhaps back in 1923, 1938 or 1946 when we had the honor of serving as your host at three previous national conventions, and many more of you were here between 1942 and 1945 preparatory to leaving for the Far Eastern theater and others, or in training for service in both theaters. This latter group knows the great consideration that California made to this last global war, as you saw at first hand our tremendous production and training program. California trained over 5,000,000 men for service in the ETO and the Pacific theaters in this last war.

It is appropriate that we gather again at this time on the west coast of our great country, facing as we do, the Far East, where communist aggression is again rampant. We recently heard from General Douglas MacArthur, that our Pacific Coast is the last western frontier, but one for defense.

As we meet here this morning in convention assembled, our country is the recognized leader of the world of today—a world torn by dissension and misunderstanding, and aggression and subjugation of freedom-loving peoples through communist domination. The responsibility that we face is a tremendous one.

As veterans we have the experience and the knowledge and the prestige to mould public opinion in America— and through America’s leadership, in the world. And let it be said, that informed public opinion is the No. 1 weapon for world peace.

No longer is ours the voice crying in the wilderness. The events of recent history have demonstrated emphatically the soundness of our past judgment, and an aroused people are more receptive to our recommendations for a proper strategy for peace, and the realistic implementation of such a strategy for peace, than ever before.

"Decision plus strength" has long been advocated by The American Legion as the only realistic course for America to follow in winning the peace. In the next few days we must make our present estimate of the situation and recommend anew the feasible courses of action for correct decision and proper strength. We must insist that never again through our policy for peace outrun our ability to enforce it, or in the words of Winston Churchill—"Never again should we let the weakness of the virtuous permit the malice of the wicked.

I am confident that as we squarely meet these challenges that face us that we will again use our power and our influence for peace and good will and understanding throughout the world.

I am confident also that we shall reiterate our determination to provide adequate care for our disabled and sick comrades of our fighting forces, past and present.

We ask our God to give us strength and guidance and inspiration as we meet these challenges in our convention that at present seem almost to be above human achievement, and, in so doing, we urge a spiritual rearmament throughout our entire country as having top priority for any strategy for peace.

We should be proud of the shining armor that we are wearing as Christ’s crusaders, Who was the first to show us the way of peace against which the communists fight, a philosophy in which they deny the very existence of Christ in all of their teachings. The road ahead is harder and a more difficult road than we have ever traveled before, beset with many sacrifices, sacrifices of time, energy, of money and blood and dangers, including the possibility of a global searing atomic World War III.

We must find courage within us anew, the same type of courage displayed by those among us at the Argonne and Belleau Wood and the beaches of Normandy and Tulagi. We must build and maintain the necessary strength and might to halt aggression, whether directly or indirectly inspired by our communist enemies, wherever it may come, and we must have the courage to use it. We must be willing to give all we have to win. We must accept the responsibility, if human freedom and Christianity are to survive in this world.

This last year has been one of many challenges for The American Legion, and I would like to pay my tribute to our great national commander, George Craig, who gave us the inspiration and guidance we needed to meet the issues so squarely and effectively. Speaking for the so-called young veterans we are most gratified that our first national commander from our ranks was so capable and so successful.

Just one thing more, in a lighter vein, as you relax from your arduous duties, you will find that every arrangement has been made for your comfort and the full enjoyment of your family and yourself. Our Legionnaire Governor, Earl Warren, has even issued a proclamation that our weather will be “usual” for a change. We will give you the weather Miami promised you two years ago before the convention there was inundated in the deluge that followed. In case I am saying this too soon, to those from Miami and the great state and the Department of Florida, let me say if we do have our own little rain before this convention is over, it is merely that we are endeavoring to demonstrate that Californians will not be undone in anythin by a little rain!

We have planned long and carefully to make the 1950 National Convention the most memorable in history and we welcome you personally and cordially, sincerely and enthusiastically in the Fiesta spirit of the Old West.
NATIONAL COMMANDER CRAIG: Commander Lewis, I know there are many of us from the Middle West who would love to stay in Southern California. However, the duty of feeding this part of the nation requires that we return at an early date, so that we may raise plenty of corn that you may have plenty to eat.

At this time, my comrades, I would like to introduce to you one who has given most unspARINGLY of his time the past six months for the convenience, the facility of this convention, the city comptroller of the city of Los Angeles and the president of your American Legion Convention Corporation, Leon V. McCardle.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME
By Leon V. McCardle, President American Legion 1950 National Convention Corporation

It is a real pleasure, on behalf of the 1950 Convention Corporation, to welcome you to Los Angeles. Shortly after the convention was awarded to this city at the November Executive Committee meeting, the necessary committees were appointed and their duties assigned immediately. A great deal of hard work has been put in by those committees. We hope the results are satisfactory from your viewpoint and that you have a most enjoyable time during your stay in Los Angeles.

In addition to the activities of the local members of The American Legion, we have had excellent cooperation from others: the city government, the county government, the motion picture industry, the Chamber of Commerce and other business interests—all for the purpose of making your visit more enjoyable.

Those of you who saw the memorial service last evening in the Hollywood Bowl have already witnessed one of several outstanding events provided for your entertainment. The Drum and Bugle Corps Contest will be held tonight at the Los Angeles Coliseum. There is a free admission ticket for this event in the coupon book that has been given to registrants.

On Wednesday evening in the Coliseum, a "Pageant of Stars," along with "Cavalcade of California," will be presented. This is a stupendous presentation with over 2,000 in the cast. Edward Arnold will be the master of ceremonies. A few of the other motion picture stars appearing are: Ezio Pinza, Red Skelton, Roy Rogers and Trigger, Dinah Shore, Gary Cooper, and 25 to 30 others. There is no other place in the world where such an extravaganza could be staged. The admission to this colossal production is also free by the use of the ticket in the coupon book furnished each registrant.

Also, currently being staged at the Paramount Theatre is The American Legion's own RED, WHITE AND BLUE. This is one of the most lavish and elaborate productions staged anywhere in the United States since the Ziegfeld Follies. You should make every effort to see this show before leaving Los Angeles so that you can tell your friends to be sure to see it when it plays in their communities.

Los Angeles is in a festive mood. It has made our parade the occasion for a gala event. Public schools and large downtown stores will close at noon in order that the persons affected may view the parade.

Los Angeles welcomes you and hopes that you will have many pleasant recollections of your stay in our city.

NATIONAL COMMANDER CRAIG: Thank you. At this time, I will introduce, for a response of welcome, Past National Commander Stephen F. Chadwick of the Department of Washington.

RESPONSE TO ADDRESSES OF WELCOME
By Past National Commander Stephen F. Chadwick

I sincerely appreciate the privilege which you have accorded me in being designated to make this response.

The platform of an American Legion national convention again in this great city of Los Angeles is not strange to me, for it was here 12 years ago that I received my commission as national commander of this great veterans' organization. It was here that I accepted my orders to go throughout our land speaking with the voice of a million, as you have spoken with the voice of three and one-half million to interpret to the people our thoughts, our hopes, and our desires for their and national welfare as written in the mandates of our conventions.

Twelve years ago, one who had been a dashing first lieutenant in World War I was completing an outstanding record as district attorney of Alameda County, to move on to be attorney general of this state, and to become its Governor in 1943. As Legionnaire Governor Earl Warren he has greeted us today as in 1946 he greeted us at San Francisco, again extending to us the unparalleled hospitality of California. In appreciation of the Governor's expression, I can only say that we know that it comes through him from the hearts of all the people whom he serves, and if I may be pardoned the personal expression, I trust that should the Legion in the next four years see fit to again bring its national convention to California, my friend Earl Warren, if not called to higher responsibility, may for a third time be privileged as its Chief Executive to extend its well-known hospitality.

Twelve years ago as the Legion was meeting in Los Angeles, one who had served his country in World War I with the 144th Field Artillery, and later with Military Intelligence, after a distinguished career at the Bar and service as a Judge of the Superior Court of Los Angeles County, was in the process of being elected mayor of this city. Now, and after twelve years of outstanding service in that capacity, he greets us as Legionnaire Mayor Fletcher Bowron of Los Angeles.

The Legion well knows the hospitality of this, America's most dynamic city, built as it has been not only by California's native sons, but by a migration of people from almost every state and community throughout the whole of these United States. Mayor Bowron, it occurs to me sometimes that it might be appropriate to say—"Breathes there a man with soul so dead, who never to himself hath said... 'I have relatives in Los Angeles.'"

The Legion is most happy to be welcomed by these two distinguished Legionnaires and outstanding citizens of our great nation.

To those of you who have worked in and with the Legion since World War I, it was only to be expected that we should find as the president of
The American Legion's 1950 Convention Corporation, Leon V. McCordie. Through thirty years when there has been work to be done, from a record of conspicuous prosperity his has been a name to be considered, and we well know that from the time of his selection as president of the Convention Corporation he has planned for the comfort and entertainment of those of us who are the city's guests at this convention, and as he has always been mindful of the Legion's serious significance we know that the arrangements made for our working hours will satisfy our every desire.

Among the Legionnaires of World War II, none at national headquarters has distinguished himself by finer performance nor more gracious manner than has your past department commander, Lewis K. Gough. When he greets us on behalf of the Legionnaires of the Department of California, we know that he conveys a welcome from 200,000 men and women, veterans of World Wars I and II who have performed in every field of Legion endeavor, know how to work and when and how to play, and are happy to join with them in this convention, both for its hours of work and hours of play.

Twelve years ago, although the clouds of World War II were gathering, the Legion's voice as it endeavored to counsel the people against the inevitable day of conflict was substantially unheeded even while the national radio networks right here in Los Angeles were bluntly carrying the malevolent bastion of one Adolph Hitler. We knew then that the peace for which our comrades of 1917 and whose death had died was no accomplished. We knew then that if America was to be determinative she should herself have a policy designed to accomplish world peace, and should be strong in arms and mighty in spiritual strength if that goal were to be accomplished. Because we had read the communist manifesto, and because we had had intimate contact with those who had become the dictators and rulers of the communist regime in Russia, the Legion had opposed the recognition of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. We knew at that time, as we have learned to our cost today, that free men cannot traffic with a government which exists by the enslavement of its peoples. In the intervening years I think (and believe that some of you will agree with me) that the Legion has made mistakes. One of these mistakes I call— was in our convention of 1941, before Pearl Harbor, as a small group within the Legion had offered this resolution:

Whereas, Russia, and particularly the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, has consistently over a period of years derided, ridiculed, condemned and attempted to destroy our democratic system of government; and

Whereas, The American Legion has consistently and persistently fought such dangerous activities; and

Whereas, The present war between Germany and Russia has not in any way changed the political philosophy of the Communist Party of Russia: now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion reiterate its oft-stated position on communism, and definitely go on record as opposing aid to Russia under the Lend-Lease Act.

The adoption of that resolution was defeated upon a roll call by a vote of 874 to 604.

My comrades, that action was a terrible—a grave mistake. For two years thereafter we gave of our strength and of our substance to communism. Russia agreed to the nefarious and intolerable demands of her dictator with reference to theaters of operation and zones of occupation in connection with the victory in Europe, and with no thought of appreciation on its part we accepted the Kremlin as a partner on the eve of the victory in the Pacific, to which they had contributed nothing. We are now paying the price of our association with the Red Russian Bear. We went to bed with that animal, and I submit are only now beginning to realize the size and the multitude of the fleas with which we are infested!

Around the whole perimeter of the world's contact with Soviet Russia and its satellites there are the smoldering fires which may overnight kindle into another Korea or make a world conflagration. This situation, while it must be the concern of all American citizens, can well be said to be a primary concern of The American Legion. We as veterans know that we enjoy life only because those who were our comrades made the supreme sacrifice for us; and on this day, and even in this hour, that young men of America are fighting and dying to protect our freedoms.

Governor Warren, Mayor Bowron, President McCordie and, Commander Gough, we will accept and I know to the fullest enjoy those liberties for which you have made for our entertainment and comfort; but be assured of this: That the delegates to this convention are here primarily to work and will give of their best thought and deliberation to the end that there will be no more mistakes of policy by The American Legion. Yes, to the end that the contribution of our great strength may be fully devoted to the solution of theills that beset us; and to the end that the sacrifice of our comrades and of America's sons now in arms shall not have been in vain.

We cherish freedom, not for ourselves alone, but for all men, and we would include the enslaved men of good will behind the iron curtain.

Our goal is peace... peace that will be assured for free men throughout this troubled world of ours. In this expression I know that I bespeak the heartfelt desire of every Legionnaire attending this convention.

GREETINGS

By President Harry S. Truman

I deeply regret that I cannot be with you as a delegate from Missouri. But as Commander in Chief of our unified armed forces.

Two years ago at Miami, I told the assembled delegates "I would rather see the peace of the world preserved than be President of the United States." Those words were no truer than they are at this hour.

The trend of events in recent months has caused us all deep concern. The free peoples of the world now know that this nation is dedicated to peace and freedom for all persons, and a more abundant life for us all.

Throughout the world, and even here at home, the forces of reaction and repression have deliberately spread the gospel of hatred seeking to discredit the American way of life and our love of truth. Now that the issue has been drawn, we must spare no effort to show the entire world that we stand united, with but a single goal.

The American Legion rank and file served their country in two great wars and in the years of peace that followed with distinction and devotion. The achievement of you, my comrades of the Legion, is written indelibly for all to see. As a democratic organization devoted to God and Country, you have worked unceasingly for the better...
ment of all Americans and all people who love freedom.

Now, as never before, the opportunity is offered to The American Legion, its auxiliaries, and all our citizens, to meet the challenge to our way of life. All of us must work toward the goal of strength and unity.

We must work together with a calm understanding and a firm resolve that this nation will rise above the obstacles of the present and emerge from the dark fog of distrust which threatens. I know that The American Legion, inspired in the highest ideals of patriotism and dedicated to national service, can be counted on to devote its energies and its immense resources to the welfare of all the people.

VICE-COMMANDER DAVE FLEISCHER: Mr. Commander, Delegates and Comrades: Two years ago, we had the good fortune of holding our Thirtieth National Convention in a state across the continent as famed for sunshine and hospitality as California itself. The Legionnaire Governor of that state is back with us today, and I believe he brings tidings that all of us will cheer. I am happy indeed to welcome and present a fellow Legionnaire and a mighty good one—the Honorable Fuller Warren, Governor of the state of Florida.

FLORIDA CONVENTION INVITATION
Governor Fuller Warren

As a member of Post No. 9, Jacksonville, Florida, and on behalf of all the people of Florida, it is my happy privilege to extend a warm and cordial invitation to The American Legion to hold its convention in 1951 in Miami, Florida.

In coming to Florida, this greatest of military orders will not be venturing into the unknown, the untried, the untested. You may recall that you honored and prospered Florida back in 1948 by holding your Thirtieth Annual Convention there.

We gave you at that time everything but good weather. Some of you may recall that during the parade there fell the hardest rain at any time since Noah and his family and two of every living creature had to take to the Ark for 40 days and 40 nights.

I want to say to you, my comrades and friends, that won't happen in '51. That weather occurs in Florida only about once in every generation.

In addition to that, we have got 10 times better control down there than we had in '48. That was before the present administration took over.

The present administration took over on January 4, 1949. Since then we have been putting things under some regulation. We have regulated the citrus industry. We stopped the shipping of green fruit to you people in the other 47 states and territories.

We have regulated the cattle industry. We have taken the cows off the roads and put them back behind fences.

When you go there in '51, you won't have to run a blockade of cattle or hogs on the highways of Florida. We have started building dams and levees down there to control the excess waters which some people unkindly call floods.

I want to say to you, my fellow Legionnaires, ladies of the Auxiliary, I want to say to you that in '51 when you come down there, we will have a rain regulator so don't worry about it at all.

Yes, friends, you can figure on coming to Miami, Florida, in 1951 and keeping dry—externally, that is, of course.

Let me say, my friends—and you seem so friendly, and I am grateful for the responsive, courteous treatment I am getting here. Governor Stassen, I wish you could get this in the political record, but you can't do it, can you?

My friends, let me say to you that the trend is to Florida. Last year 4,700,000 discreet and discriminating citizens from other states in the Union went to Florida, where they sought and found cease from worry and care. Yes, except the multi-millions who come here to this earthly paradise, California, everybody else is going to Florida, so come on down, friends. You will have a warm and friendly and eager welcome.

Let me say to you, my friends, that oftentimes people go to Florida for a short visit. They become enamored of the place. They settle down as permanent citizens and live a long and happy life thereafter.

Many times citizens from the other fine states of this indissoluble union of indestructible states, many times they have come to Florida late in life. They have recaptured their lost youth, lived on for a generation or more thereafter. That has happened.

You fellows don't need to recapture your youth. You have got it right with you. I can see that here. I mean, there might be somebody else who needs it.

Let me tell you what happened 20 years ago. A man by the name of Al Lang, from one of the great northern states, had a very critical heart ailment. The doctor told him he had only a little more of life. He wanted to die in that pleasant surrounding and happy environment. So he went to St. Petersburg, Florida.

Down there his heart ailment left him. His health came back to him, and now, 30 years after, at the age of 80, he is one of the most active and useful citizens in Florida.

So that is just a small sample of what the Floral Garden of Eden will do for you down there. Come on down there. Get a taste of it.

And to mention one other matter—and then I will yield to some other speaker who wants to be heard nearly as badly as I do here—there is not only an opportunity for abundant, happy living down there, but some mighty good opportunity for profitable business investment.

There are 36,000,000 acres of land in Florida. Only about 7,000,000 of them are under cultivation. So only about one out of every five acres is cultivated.

May I say, my good Brother Gough—I believe it is, of California, these other fine people of the great west here, that America's last frontier is not in the west, but it is in Florida. That is where it is, so come down and enjoy it.

Let me say to you, that you fellows, that none of you are ready for retirement, but when you get ready for it, come on down and buy you a little ranch; raise you some cattle, and enjoy security and peace with mighty little effort down there.

Come down and buy you an orange grove. You can get 15 acres of oranges down there, the kind
we raise and the price we are getting for them, and you can just sit there on the front porch and take it easy between these annual conventions of The American Legion.

Those are some of the opportunities that will await you down there in Florida. We have got about 3,000,000 people. We have plenty of room for more like you down there. Come down and enjoy it.

Let me say a concluding word about Miami and Miami Beach: Two years ago we liked to think we showed you a pretty good time, but we will show you a better time in 1951. Those two great cities have expanded and grown and enlarged so you would hardly recognize them.

We have more than 40,000 hotel rooms there, very discreet houses with detectives in them—gentlemen. I know just how you feel there—and we have more than 1,000 restaurants. We are equipped to give you an even better time than you had in 1948.

Let me say that if you had fun in '48 it will be tripled or doubled in 1951. Thank you very much.

GREETINGS FROM GEORGE C. MARSHALL,
Secretary of Defense

I regret that I am unable to be present in person to express to you the appreciation of the Department of Defense for the loyal support the American Legion has always given to the preparedness measures and to urge your wholehearted efforts to give this country the strength it needs in the critical future we now face.

In the past, our military successes have invariably been received with an excess of optimism and an immediate reaction to reduce our armed forces or limit their further development. This was the case to a greater or lesser degree following almost every success we had in the last war, beginning with the victory in Tunisia. The immediate reaction to the Korean campaign seems to indicate repetition of this unfortunate habit of ours. But this time, with your most active help, I hope, we must not give way to the heavy pressures to relax our vigilance or emasculate our strength.

In the world today, I am sorry to say, military strength seems the most essential factor in the support of our foreign policy and of difficult negotiations, and it seems for the moment to be the best means to prevent war—also the surest way to hasten victory if war should befall us.

To maintain a strong military posture through the years immediately ahead and at the same time not to wreck our economy, it is mandatory that we create and maintain a reservoir of trained manpower available for service. In other words, we must have some system of universal training. I will not go into the arguments in this message. You already know them well, I am sure, but they never have been more impressive to me than they are today, and I am certain they will be tomorrow.

In March, 1948, as Secretary of State, I said before the Armed Services Committee of the Senate: "I see no possible way financially to maintain a reasonable military posture except on the foundation of universal military training. The consideration of this subject has been confused by discussions of amounts, requirements, administration and various conflicting beliefs. The clear cut issue is whether or not this country will stand before the world for at least the next five or 10 years in a position appropriate to its leadership in furthering the perpetuation of free governments, and avoiding their transition into police states."

In my final report as Chief of Staff in September, 1945, I made a special and earnest plea for the immediate adoption of a system of universal military training. Last June we found ourselves of a sudden in a situation in Korea where the issue of trained manpower was of momentous importance. Now that that particular crisis appears to have been moderated to some degree, I hope that the American people will recognize this urgent need and adopt it as a national policy. Just how we can best join the present imperative requirement for Selective Service action with the initiation of some system for universal military training I am not now prepared to say. But one way or another, it must be done. Past proposals will undoubtedly have to be materially altered to meet the serious situation into which we have gotten ourselves by past failures to act in time. But I hope, with your help, that we can manage this time to overcome the vigorous opposition of small minorities that have dominated the decision in the past, and finally do what, in my opinion, is so much to the vital interest of the American people, not to mention the world at large.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS
Fred M. Fuecker, chairman, of Washington, reported as follows:

To the Thirty-second Annual National Convention,
The American Legion, Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950:

Thirty-five members of your Committee on Credentials met at 1:00 p.m., October 8, 1950, in Committee Room 150, in the City Hall, Los Angeles, and agreed on the following report, which is respectfully submitted for your consideration:

It was regularly moved, seconded and carried that the voting strength of this convention be as follows:

Membership in hands of the National Treasurer at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, September 9, 1950 (30 days prior to national convention), is basis for computing number of delegates. Total number of delegates for each department is based on five delegates at large, one delegate for each thousand members, or major fraction thereof, and the members of the National Executive Committee, which committee includes the national commander, who exercises his vote only in his capacity as chairman of the national convention (Art. VII, Sec. 3), the five vice-commanders, and the national chaplain. All living past national commanders are members of the National Executive Committee without vote, and life delegates to the national convention, with vote, which is exercised with their respective departments.

In addition to the above, it was regularly moved, seconded and carried that the outlying posts not affiliated with a department organization be allowed one delegate and one alternate at the convention, provided said delegate and alternate were present and fully qualified to represent said outlying post.

It was regularly moved, seconded and carried that the chairman and secretary be authorized to hear protests and receive credentials of delegates from the various outlying posts not present at the meeting of the Committee on Credentials.
Pursuant to the foregoing regulations, the voting strength of this convention by departments is as follows:

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<th>State</th>
<th>Votes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
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<td>Alaska</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
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The report was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PERMANENT ORGANIZATION

Edward A. Linsky, chairman, of Pennsylvania, reported as follows:

To the Thirty-second Annual National Convention:

The American Legion, Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950:

Thirty-five members of your Committee on Permanent Organization met on October 8, 1950, in Committee Room 150, in the City Hall, Los Angeles, and agreed on the following report, which is respectfully submitted for your consideration:

That the national adjutant be made the permanent secretary of the convention, with power to appoint 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 thereto, any questions which may be specifically referred to it by the convention:

Each convention committee on reporting to the national convention shall present its report in the form of a separate resolution for each subject to be acted upon.

Pursuant to the action of the Fourth Annual National Convention, the Credentials, Rules and Permanent Organization Committees shall meet in advance of the official opening of the convention for the purpose of preparing their reports which cover the operations of the convention.

**Credentials**

1. The Committee on Credentials shall set forth the voting strength of the convention in accordance with the provisions of the National Constitution and By-Laws.

**Rules**

2. The Committee on Rules shall set forth the rules and regulations under which the convention shall function.

**Permanent Organization**

3. The Committee on Permanent Organization shall enumerate the committees which shall function in connection with the convention and outline the scope of their respective duties.

**Americanism**

4. To receive report of the National Americanism Commission; to receive all resolutions on immigration, promoting understanding and appreciation of American government and activity in the American way of life through youth activities, community service, instruction of prospective citizens and immigrants, and to combat subversive activities; and to recommend to the convention the program for our National Americanism Commission during the ensuing year.

**Child Welfare**

5. To receive report of the National Child Welfare Commission; to receive all resolutions on juvenile delinquency and war orphans; and to recommend to the convention the program for our National Child Welfare Commission during the ensuing year.

**Economic**

6. Each department is authorized to assign two delegates to the Economic Committee, and to subdivide itself into two sections, as follows:

**Employment and Veterans’ Preference**

a. To receive the report of the National Economic Commission dealing with the subjects of employment and veterans’ preference, and to consider all resolutions on employment of veterans of World Wars I and II, their widows, and the wives of disabled veterans; their preference rights in all government employment, civil service, and to recommend to the convention the program for the committees and commission concerned, during the ensuing year.

**Other Economic Matters**

b. To receive the report of the National Economic Commission, except for that part dealing with employment and veterans’ preference, and to consider all resolutions on housing, and such other economic matters, and to recommend to the convention the program for the committees and commission concerned, during the ensuing year.

**Finance**

7. To receive the report of the National Treasurer and of the National Finance Commission; to consider all questions relating to national per capita tax, and to recommend to the national convention the amount of national dues for 1951; to consider any plan relating to finance or financial policy that may come before the convention.

**Foreign Relations**

8. To receive the report of the Foreign Relations Commission, to consider and study all questions pertaining to the relations between the United States and foreign countries, and to recommend to the convention the program for our Foreign Relations Commission during the ensuing year.

**Internal Affairs**

9. Each department is authorized to assign three delegates to the Internal Affairs Committee, and to subdivide itself into three sections, as follows:
Constitutional Amendments

a. To receive the report of the Internal Affairs Commission as pertains to constitutional amendments; to receive and consider all suggested amendments to the National Charter of The American Legion and the National Constitution and By-Laws, and report approved amendments to the convention.

National and Department Affairs

b. To receive the report of the Internal Affairs Commission as pertains to national and department affairs, to study all questions affecting national headquarters and internal affairs, and all phases of Legion program and policy of operation which affect the physical development, to recommend to the convention definite plans for correcting and improving these conditions, and to recommend to the convention the program for the Internal Affairs Commission and its member committees during the ensuing year, and to consider resolutions involving general public or American Legion policy and such matters not specifically falling within the jurisdiction of some one of the other committees.

Membership

c. To receive the report of the Internal Affairs Commission as pertains to membership activities, to consider resolutions dealing with membership expansion and stabilization, and to recommend to the convention the program for the Internal Affairs Commission as relates to membership matters during the ensuing year.

Legislation

10. To receive the report of the National Legislative Commission; to consider legislation pending before Congress directly affecting service-men and women and their dependents, and to recommend legislation not specifically falling within the jurisdiction of other convention committees. Subcommittee of three is authorized to meet with similar subcommittees from other convention committees receiving resolutions recommending legislative action by the Congress. The recommendations of these joint subcommittees for Congressional action will be made to the convention committee which was originally in receipt of the resolution in question.

Publications

11. To consider and report to the convention all matters pertaining to all member publications published by the national organization.

Rehabilitation

12. Each department is authorized to assign two delegates to the Rehabilitation Committee, and to subdivide itself into two sections, as follows:

Claims and Rating

a. To receive the report of the National Rehabilitation Commission as pertains to claims and rating; to consider questions pertaining to disabled war veterans and their dependents; insurance matters, and to recommend to the convention the program for our National Rehabilitation Commission during the ensuing year.

Hospitalization

b. To receive the report of the National Rehabilitation Commission as pertains to hospitalization; to study carefully the work of the Veterans Administration and recommend such changes as are considered necessary, and to recommend to the convention the program for our National Rehabilitation Commission during the ensuing year.

Security

13. Each department is authorized to assign five delegates to the Security Committee, and to subdivide itself into five sections, as follows:

Military Affairs

a. To receive the report of the National Security Commission as pertains to military affairs, to consider questions pertaining to this subject, and to recommend to the convention the program for the Military Affairs Committee through the National Security Commission.

Naval Affairs

b. To receive the report of the National Security Commission as pertains to naval affairs, to consider questions pertaining to this subject, and to recommend to the convention the program for the Naval Affairs Committee through the National Security Commission.

Merchant Marine

c. To receive the report of the National Security Commission as pertains to Merchant Marine, to consider questions pertaining to this subject, and to recommend to the convention the program for the Merchant Marine Committee through the National Security Commission.

Aeronautics

d. To receive the report of the National Security Commission as pertains to Aeronautics, to consider questions pertaining to this subject, and to recommend to the convention the program for the Aeronautics Committee through the National Security Commission.

Civil Defense

To receive the report of the National Security Commission as pertains to Civil Defense, to consider questions pertaining to this subject, and to recommend to the convention the program for the Civil Defense Committee through the National Security Commission.

These five subcommittee reports to be coordinated and presented in composite form as a definite recommendation for action of the national convention, seeking to secure peace for the people of the United States through national security.

National Convention Commission

14. In accordance with previous recommendations of the National Executive Committee and the policy followed in past years, all matters relating to time, place and arrangements for national conventions be automatically referred to the Standing National Convention Commission; provided, that any resolution affecting housing at national conventions shall automatically be referred to the Convention Committee on Internal Affairs.

The report was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RULES

Matt Monaghan, chairman, of Louisiana, reported as follows:

To the Thirty-second Annual National Convention.

The American Legion, Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950:

Thirty-five members of your Committee on Rules met on October 8, 1950, in Committee Room 150 in the City Hall, Los Angeles, and agreed on the
following report which is respectfully submitted for your consideration:

1. We recommend that, with the following modifications, Robert's Revised Rules of Order be adopted for this convention.

2. When a delegate desires to make a motion or address the convention, he shall rise, address the Chair as "Mr. Commander," and state his name and the name of the department before proceeding.

3. That debate be limited to five minutes for each delegate.

4. That debate on any one subject presented to the convention be limited to two hours.

5. That but two delegates from any one delegation be permitted to speak on any one subject. Where disagreement exists within a delegation, only one delegate of that delegation shall be permitted to speak on each side of the subject.

6. That the floor be permitted but once to any individual delegate on any one subject, except by the consent of two-thirds of the voting strength of the convention present, excepting that chairmen of convention committees may speak as frequently as may be necessary in connection with the reports of their committees, and that in event of controversy the presiding officer shall not entertain any motion which will curtail further debate without affording the chairman or committee representative an opportunity for rebuttal.

7. That all resolutions originating on the floor of the convention shall, in writing, automatically and without reading, be referred to the Resolutions Assignment Committee.

8. When the poll of any department is demanded by a delegate of such department, the secretary of the convention shall poll the vote in this department by delegate without discussion of the question being voted upon.

9. That on roll calls the chairman or acting chairman of each delegation shall poll his delegation on the floor and shall announce the vote of his delegation.

10. That the vote of the past national commanders shall be cast with the vote of their delegations.

11. That no person not a duly-accredited delegate, or alternate taking the place of absent duly-accredited delegate, shall participate, directly or indirectly, in a viva voce on any subject before the convention.

12. Delegates may arrive at a vote in any manner they see fit, but shall announce it in terms of full units and not in terms of a fractional part of a vote. The vote of any delegate absent and not represented by an alternate shall be cast by the majority of the delegates present from his department.

13. Unit rule of voting shall not be allowed in this convention.

14. Voting shall be by acclamation, except when a division is demanded by the chairman or acting chairman of at least three departments, and except in the election of national officers.

15. In the event a department has not provided the method by which alternates shall be designated to serve in the place of absent delegates, the chairman of each delegation shall make such designation.

16. Nominations for national officers shall be from the floor on a roll call, the departments alphabetically arranged. Each department may present as many candidates as it chooses.

17. Nominating speeches for the national officers shall be limited to five minutes each, and speeches extending the invitation to the next candidate shall be limited to 20 minutes. Not more than two seconding speeches shall be made for any candidate and not more than one seconding speech for convention city, and said speeches are not to exceed three minutes.

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

19. At the conclusion of balloting on national vice-commanders, the chairman of each department delegation shall deliver to the tellers on the platform the written ballot. The entire lot of such written ballots on national vice-commanders shall be in the hands of the tellers before the result of such vote is communicated to the national commander for announcement to the convention.

20. Delegates and persons recognized by the Chair shall be entitled to a respectful hearing, and the Chair shall have the authority to clear the gallery or the floor or have the sergeant-at-arms escort from the auditorium any person or persons who may create any disturbance which interferes with the orderly procedure of the convention of The American Legion.

21. None of the above rules shall be construed as preventing an alternate delegate from serving on a convention committee.

22. That the consent of two-thirds of the voting strength of the convention present is necessary for suspension of the rules of this convention.

23. In order to avoid confusion on the floor of the convention, it is suggested that any amendment originating on the floor to any resolution or report shall be presented in writing and transmitted to the presiding officer at the time of the introduction of such amendment.

The report was adopted.

NATIONAL COMMANDER CRAIG: My comrades, I would like you, please, to give us your attention for a few moments on a matter that does not appear on the agenda of your convention program. It is a very pleasant task on my part to present to an old friend of ours, of the Legion, a citation of recognition for all the years of splendid service that he has rendered, not only to The American Legion and its members, the great particular interest that he has taken in our convention—a busy man, a man who has never been too busy to make a profound expression of sympathy and constructive attention to those who are less fortunate than ourselves.

In your name and on behalf of the Legion, I want to present to you our friend, Morton Downey, this expression of gratitude and recognition of service.

MR. DOWNEY: Mr. National Commander, this is a little surprise, and I don't mind telling you that it is one of the pleasant surprises.

I am very, very happy to have had it pulled on me, and very happy and grateful to be the recipient of it. I hope you keep asking me, because I will be willing, and I hope I will be welcome, for as long as I live.
I will keep coming, and when it so happens that my voice kind of cracks and I'm no good to you, I will try to raise theough to send someone to do the job for you.

NATIONAL COMMANDER CRAIG: Morton, when you get so old that your voice cracks, everybody in this hall will be so old they couldn't hear you anyway.

Now, with your permission, I would like to call to the podium Past Commander Perry Brown and Past Department Commander of the Department of Pennsylvania, Walter Alessandroni.

PRESENTATION OF MEDALLION TO MAYOR OF PHILADELPHIA

By Walter Brown

Mr. Commander and friends: While enjoying the hospitality of the city of Los Angeles, The American Legion cannot but help to accent the good times we had at our last national convention held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The City of Brotherly Love made our visit there in September of 1949 a memorable occasion. Not only were Legionnaires welcomed warmly, but everybody in Philadelphia joined in helping to make our 1949 Convention the grand success it was.

The American Legion created news in Philadelphia last year, just as it is doing this week in Los Angeles, in forging a program of militant Americanism designed to keep our beloved country free and secure. Our 1950 National Convention is receiving one of the greatest press, radio, television and newspaper coverages in the entire history of The American Legion. We set a record in this respect last year, but we are already on the way to beating it here in Los Angeles.

Our chief host in Philadelphia last year was Mayor Barnard Samuel. He was invited to this convention to receive in person, on behalf of the city of Philadelphia and its grand people, a token of appreciation from The American Legion of their fine hospitality.

We are genuinely sorry that pressing business has prevented Mayor Samuel from being with us today. He has, however, delegated one of the outstanding young Legionnaires of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania to accept the medallion with which The American Legion now desires to honor him. This representative is Past National Vice-Commander and Past Department Commander Walter E. Alessandroni of Philadelphia, who himself contributed greatly to the success of last year's convention.

Walter, on behalf of the entire American Legion, and as the national commander who presided over last year's convention, I want to present you, for Mayor Samuel, a small token of our affection for him, and of our great appreciation of the many courtesies, kindnesses and hospitality shown to us by the citizens of the City of Brotherly Love.

ACCEPTANCE OF MEDALLION

By Walter E. Alessandroni

On behalf of the city of Philadelphia and Mayor Samuel, I am happy to accept this medallion from The American Legion.

We in Philadelphia and in the Department of Pennsylvania tried to serve you well and make the convention a success. I am authorized to tell you from the Mayor that Philadelphia stands ready to play host to you once again when you have determined that you would care to return to Philadelphia.

NATIONAL COMMANDER CRAIG: As national commander, I will have during this convention no happier task or greater privilege than that of presenting our distinguished speaker. We all know him well and we love him for what we know him to be—a man of firm integrity and rare ability and whose conscience demands that he do his very best whatever job may be placed at hand.

Legionnaires who have been privileged to follow his lead and to work at his side for the security of our country reserve for him a favorite place in their judgments and in their hearts. That others have seen fit to discount his service is, in my belief, a truly regrettable and deplorable circumstance, full measure of which only time and events will tell.

His appearance here today is in no way a homecoming. Fortunately for the Legion, he has never left us. Pray God that he never will.

Welcoming him here today, I praise him proudly and from my heart for discharging courageously and well the responsibilities of a most difficult office in a most difficult time.

As national commander, I thank him in behalf of 4,000,000 members of The American Legion and its Auxiliary for faithfully supporting the cause of Universal Military Training and the unification of the armed forces. As one American citizen, I respect him for laboring unselfishly over the years to make my family, my home and my country more secure.

It is with an accumulation of this pride, gratitude and respect that I present our great past national commander, one of America's great patriots, the Honorable Louis Johnson of West Virginia.

ADDRESS BY LOUIS JOHNSON

Past National Commander

Over the years, you have conferred upon me many positions of trust. In 1932, you bestowed upon me the highest honor within your command. You elected me your national commander. The officer of national commander paved the way toward my appointment as the Assistant Secretary of War in 1937. It was largely responsible for my selection as the Secretary of Defense in 1949. I welcome this occasion, therefore, to express to you my deepest appreciation for the opportunities I gained through your faith in me to hold offices of trust and honor in our national government.

Today I stand before you not as a national commander, nor as the Assistant Secretary of War, nor as the Secretary of Defense. I am simply Louis Johnson, a member of The American Legion from the state of West Virginia.

When our National Commander George Craig first asked me to speak to you at this convention
in Los Angeles, I was the Secretary of Defense. It was in that capacity that I accepted the invitation. When I resigned that post several weeks ago, I offered to relinquish my position on this program. The American Legion, General Craig, however, thought otherwise. He said that he believed that you of The American Legion would like to hear from Louis Johnson, the Legionnaire. So here I am, prepared to speak to you today on the subject closest to your hearts, the national defense of our country.

The last 100 days in Korea have put our national defense policies to the supreme test of battle. Before we can fully appraise our performance, it would be well to look again at the policies themselves. I say "again" because I have discussed these policies with American audiences on a number of occasions and especially at meetings of our own American Legion. First and foremost is our policy of peace—peace not at any price, of course, but even at the price of risking an aggressor's first blow. That is a correct policy fully supported by our history and tradition and consistent with the American ideal.

In a speech I made before the Congress of American Industry on December 7, 1949, I tried to spell out that policy in some detail. Among other things, I said:

"For ourselves, we have no designs upon any other government or any other people. We cherish peace and we shall always cling to the hope that war can be averted, even under the most trying circumstances, and even at the risk of receiving a stunning blow at the opening of hostilities. That is our national philosophy. That deep, is our profound devotion to peace."

I believed in that policy in December, 1949, six months before the North Koreans unleashed their attack upon civilization. I believed in that policy on June 25, 1950, when they delivered their stunning blow. I believe in that policy now when victory in Korea seems to be within our grasp. And, what is far more important, the American people, I am confident, continue overwhelmingly to support that policy.

Since that first blow of the aggressor is bound to carry with it the great advantages of time and place, we must be prepared to reduce those advantages of the initial acts of aggression to a minimum, parry that first thrust successfully, and return with a crushing counterattack of our own. Here, then, we have our next national defense policy—to develop forces of great power capable of overcoming the effects of any initial setbacks, perhaps losing a battle occasionally but always winning a campaign. The most effective use of such power to counterattack would be its very existence—for the knowledge of its strength might be capable of deterring aggression in the first place. Our next policy, therefore, must be strong enough to deter attack, strong enough, at least, to deter a prudent nation from opening hostilities against us.

We know from experience, however, that nations are not always prudent, and that though they may be prudent themselves, they are not always averse to using other peoples as cat's-paws to gain their selfish aims. Such nations may dare to ignore the deterrent qualities they may offer in the way of attack willy-nilly. In that case, we must prove capable to defend ourselves after the initial attack is made.

But no war can be won merely by proving capable to defend ourselves, or by defensive tactics, though they may be unavoidable in the early stages of a campaign. Defensive tactics must be accepted as one of the prices of our peace policy that gives an aggressor an advantage, but for ultimate victory only a strong and successful offensive can suffice. So we come to our next policy. We must prove ourselves powerful enough ultimately to defeat the aggressor.

To summarize, then, our national defense policy can be phrased in these broad brush words—to deter, to defend, to develop, to attack.
place, and prepare fully to meet it wherever it came. But that kind of preparedness would have taken a force far larger than anyone would have dared advocate, and far larger than we can pos-
sibly build even now. The Korean incident has convinced us that the deterrent effect of our strength was not enough and that we now must increase our forces considerably. But even if we double them, we can never be strong everywhere. To try to be everywhere would result in being strong nowhere, to say noth-
ing of going into bankruptcy during the process. So we must take calculated risks today and tomor-
row just as we did yesterday—try to deter but prepare to defend and defeat those who are im-
prudent enough not to be deterred.

The North Koreans were imprudent and no one, perhaps, realizes it any better now than they do themselves. The Soviets, prudent themselves, knew better than to risk a direct engagement themselves. The reprisal potential of our atomic power has proved a deterrent factor to them since the end of hostilities in 1945 and still continues to deter a Soviet attack. These people are determined to realize that our retribution against them will be certain, powerful, and effective. When they gambled on a war, they were not so sure that we would use atomic weapons against the imperialist aggressors. In fact, they were not sure that we would fight at all. They seemed not to have anticipated that the United Nations would overwhelmingly join us in an offensive struggle against aggres-
sion. So they decided to run a test on our willing-
ness to fight, on the readiness of the United Na-
tions to make it a world show of force against aggres-
sion, and on the capabilities of civilization to defeat the powers of evil.

Well, they have had their test and thousands upon thousands of North Koreans have paid the price. Had the North Koreans themselves realized that in 100 days we would wreck the military machine that they had taken more than four years to build, they might have been deterred. Had they but known that even without using the atomic bomb we had the capacity to inflict such devas-
tating punishment upon them and their cities, they might have hesitated even at the expense of anti-
zoning their revolutionary sponsors. Let us hope that the results in Korea will convince the Soviet satellites everywhere that there is no glory in dividing the old Kremlin or for carrying the ball for imperialist Russia. We and our allies have proved to the world that the United Nations will and can protect the peace.

It has been a battle, however, not without great cost to ourselves. We have lost many priceless American lives. Many of the fine junior and non-
commissioned officers whom we counted upon for cadres in case of expansion have become casualties. The toll among other United Nations, espe-
cially among the people of South Korea, has been very heavy. During the early stages of the de-
fense, our men fought against terrific odds. Out-
numbered sometimes as high as 20 to one, they stubbornly fought over every inch of ground and made the enemy pay dearly for his forward move-
ments. Skillfully they sold cheap Korean real estate by the mile and bought precious American lives by the hundreds and thousands. Retreats are always hard on the men who must fight, but a slow retreat was the only way we had to gain time for the mounting of a counterattack.

Our military leaders had studied well the art of retreat. They have used several pages out of the Rus-
sian book itself on how to hold and when to with-

draw. As a military achievement, the successful withdrawal from Seoul almost to the very gates of Pusan compares favorably with the Russian re-
treat toward Moscow in the face of Napoleon's army, and the successful retrogression of Soviet forces toward Stalingrad before the confident storm troopers of Hitler's hordes.

For more than 12 weeks, which to the men in the lines must have appeared like 12 years, our soldiers and marines clung to an ever-shrinking beachhead. Then came the startling amphibious operation at Inchon, the port of Seoul, and the change to the offensive.

General MacArthur, the master strategist, again hit our enemies "where they ain't." As during World War II in Hollandia, Leyte and the Ling-
guayan Gulf, he by-passed the enemy, stronghold, slipped in behind his ramparts and struck where the enemy least expected an attack. With a superb sense of timing and a well-knit and qualified team to fight and to support his plans, he changed the course of the Korean campaign in a matter of hours.

The battle is not yet won. There may still be many sacrifices ahead. The price of liberty always comes high. But we have the great consolation that our men who have given their lives in Korea have not fought in vain. Out of the Korean experience already has come a more determined resolution towards strengthening our ramparts.

On the paddy fields of Korea, overhead and in adjacent waters, there has come a realization of a United Nations police force against those who would destroy the peace. Aggression in Korea has hastened the evolution of the peaceful North At-
lantic community into a firm, protective alliance. For more than 12 weeks, which to the men in the lines must have appeared like 12 years, our soldiers and marines clung to an ever-shrinking beachhead. Then came the startling amphibious operation at Inchon, the port of Seoul, and the change to the offensive.

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greater faith in freedom, and more willingness to contribute men and resources for our common support. It means the mobilization of men and munitions on a scale unprecedented in our history, short of all-out war.

It means heavy expense and onerous taxes to meet the cost of defense, and it will mean a heavy financial strain on our economy. It means, too, that we must watch ourselves carefully lest we over-expand and destroy the health of our economy which is still one of the primary military assets of the free world.

The taxation and the military service we may have to bear to meet the present emergency may become a permanent and fixed cost on our price of freedom. But however costly, strenuous and tiring this constant struggle may become, this much we must prudently keep before us always: Years and years of preparedness to avoid war, if successful, are vastly preferable to a single year of unlimited war, its casualties, its sacrifices, and its risk of defeat.

I have an abiding faith in the destiny of our country. I am confident, as all of you are, that by living together harmoniously and working together wholeheartedly we will be able to reduce these risks. I have great confidence in our military team. I have seen it plan. I have seen it operate. I have had the great honor to serve as Secretary of Defense, or you might say as its captain or manager.

And speaking of managers, I am reminded of the bleacher fans at the Yankee stadium who credited the victories of the team to the players and always blamed "Casey" Stengel for the temporary setbacks. So it has often been with me. I am not here today, however, to discuss my own contributions or my own shortcomings in my administration of the Department of Defense. I shall leave that entirely to the historian—other than to say, to you, my friends, that I have kept the faith and, God willing, shall continue to do so. I had a job to do and to the best of my ability I did it.

In conclusion, I merely want to repeat a quotation from Abraham Lincoln, which I have often given before. It was a good rule. It is a good guide for any public servant. It reads as follows:

"If to do the best I know how, the very best I can, and mean to keep on doing so until the end. If the end brings me out all right, what is said against me won't amount to anything; if it brings me out wrong, all the angels swearing that I was right would make no difference."

NATIONAL COMMANDER CRAIG: Thank you, Louis Johnson. I think that I bespeak the feeling of all of us here that we do not need to wait for the passage of time or for the record of history. We have confidence in the record. We have confidence in you.

Now, may I have your attention—and will you please maintain the convention in a state of order?

I will call upon our national chaplain, Father Carney, to conduct the memorial service.

NATIONAL CONVENTION
MEMORIAL SERVICE

National Chaplain
Rev. Father Edward J. Carney, OSA

Ladies and gentlemen, with your kind indulgence we will only take a short time. I assure you, to pay tribute to our comrades who have fallen on the field of battle. With your kind consideration and attention, we will expedite matters right now.

To begin with, I shall call upon Rabbi David Lefkovitz, of Louisiana, to give the invocation. Kindly conduct yourselves with the utmost of decorum during this solemn occasion of memorial service.

INVOCATION
Rabbi David Lefkovitz

Almighty God and Father, into the festivities and deliberations of our Legion fellowship comes this tender hour of memorial, when we could give our moment of affectionate tribute to those comrades who have passed away, but who will never be forgotten. Help us, Our God and Father, so to live that by our lives, by our dreams, by our hopes and by our deeds we must justify their noble sacrifices and keep our country strong. For all God-loving men everywhere, forever free, in the name of all humanity, we would ask it. Amen.

PRAYER

Department Chaplain William Bannister

Almighty God, Father of all mankind and Judge of the nation, we pray Thee to guide us in this meeting. Send Thy blessing to our nation and to all nations. Hasten the fulfillment of Thy promise of peace that shall have no end. We pray for those who serve the public, guard the public welfare, that by Thy blessing they may be able to discharge their duties honestly and well.

We pray for our comrades, that by Thy help they may observe the strictest justice in the cause of freedom, strive earnestly for the spirit of democracy, preserve un tarnished our loyalty to our country and to Thee.

We pray for our comrades, for our sick, our disabled, those in beds in hospitals and elsewhere, those enfeebled by disabilities. Bring back to them the blessings of health and happiness. God of Mercy, keep our departed comrades in Thy loving care, Lord of life everlasting, bless us now and forevermore. Amen.

NATIONAL CHAPLAIN CARNEY: We will now have the candle lit, and I will ask the national president of the American Legion Auxiliary to place the wreath in memory of our fallen brethren.

. . . . The candle was lit and National President Sheehe of the American Legion Auxiliary placed the wreath. . . .

NATIONAL CHAPLAIN CARNEY: We will now hear from our beloved Morton Downey.


MEMORIAL ADDRESS

National Chaplain
Rev. Edward J. Carney, OSA

I wonder if you would be kind enough to sit down for a few moments while we make some observations.

"Have pity on me, have pity on me, at least you, my friends, for the hand of the Lord has touched me."

These are the words of Job, taken from the Scriptures, from which we will try to make application in our own humble way.

Complacently, we dare to say of our dead comrades, "Well done."
I want humbly to ask myself what I have achieved to have the great company of the fallen say to me, "Well done." I know each one of you will join me in asking exactly the same question of yourself.

What have we done, each and every one of us, to discharge our obligation to those who have placed our country and ourselves under eternal obligation?

Have we to them been true? Have we to their ideals been true? Have we, in our daily lives, been undeviatingly faithful to the purpose for which they paid the fullest measure of purchase?

I cannot answer for you. I would not if I could. But as for me, and my own performance, 'Have pity on me, have pity on me, at least you, my friends, for the hand of the Lord has touched me.'

When Job said those words, he was in dire sorrow. The hand of the Lord had touched him and had visited on him all the tribulations known to man.

In sorrow, Job spoke and not in anger; in acceptance and not in defiance.

From him and his attitude there is much for us to learn. For the hand of the Lord has touched this nation. We are in our hour of trial and tribulation. Will we prove ourselves worthy of our glorious comrades and ancestors who are watching to see how we behave in our daily confrontation of evil? Will we so act that those who have already faced the judgments of Heaven can look down on us and in turn say, 'Well done'?

They have left to us the unfinished tasks, not because they would not face them, but because they dare face them so nobly and so well. They are saying to us: Is golf more important to you than the salvation of freedom? Are the bowling alleys more vital to you than the centers of resistance to tyranny? Do you awake each morning so completely filled with the ardour of liberty that each waking second is devoted to defending it; and are you pledged—above all else—to be true to thine own self and to thine own country?

Not in scorn nor in anger are these words spoken. But rather in self-examination and in deep contrition, for my own failures to live to the highest degree the mission of God's Image on earth. "Have pity on me, have pity on me, at least you, my friends, for the hand of the Lord has touched me." Let us here take resolution that the touch of the Lord's hand shall be one of awakening and not of condemnation.

To use words in paying tribute to our nation's glorious dead is only to demean the words and acceptance and not in defiance.

The communist's aims are us—every one of us. His aims are the destruction of religion and in North and South America. His aims are to enslave all of us has no God but Stalin. It has no respect for living in calmness and in mutual respect of evil? Will we so act that those who have already faced the judgments of Heaven can look down on us and in turn say, 'Well done'?

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To use words in paying tribute to our nation's glorious dead is only to demean the words and scoff at memory. THERE IS ONLY ONE MEMORIAL WORTHY OF THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US, AND THAT IS A STRONG AMERICA, A BRAVE AMERICA, and a FREE AMERICA.

If that be our offering, they will be content. If that be our offering, they will rest peacefully in the eternal sleep of the divine. If that be our offering, then and only then will they say to us, 'Well done.'

Of course, the Legion—as always—will care for the maimed, will visit the wounded and the sick, will bring gifts and friendliness to the bedridden and infirm.

The cries of our stricken—and even of our madmen—will never fall unheeded on our ears. But for us to take even the wider a mile of credit for performing the most obvious of charitable deeds is to make of ourselves 20th century Pharisees.

I would not insult you by presuming there is need even to remind you of such tasks. I know that you will do them and I know that, as Legislators, you will do them well.

What I challenge you to do is to do 60 seconds an hour. 24 hours a day and seven days a week is to work unalteringly, unalterably and indefatigably to protect and to preserve the United States of America.

For the hour of trial our nation presently endures is a national torment that will last perhaps to the end of our lives.

To form understanding of what brutally confronts the sword it is necessary for me to review again, and to review it in terms of the great movements of historical times which have ravaged and destroyed the peace of the world.

It is necessary for me also to tell you that when two conflicting ideologies arise in the world—or two conflicting forces of approximately equal strength—unfortunately no solution has yet been found except that one shall destroy the other's power and its war-making capacity.

When Ghengis Kahn, and his predecessors and successors, decided that the world was theirs to conquer, their murderous hordes and, incidentally, their rapidity of movement and logistics are still the marvel of today's military men—when these Asiatic tyrants made their decision, they swarmed time and again over Europe, until at last their foul might was destroyed on the field of battle.

When the Moslem rose to power, in the belief that only in the might of the sword was salvation to be found, his sword, too, ranged its arm along the shores of the Mediterranean and up into Spain. Once again, no basis for peace could be found with those who believed that might makes right.

When the 18th centurists made their decision, they swarmed time and again over Europe, until at last their evil might was destroyed on the field of battle.

The new Asiatic despotism which purposes to enslave all of us has no God but Stalin. It has no objective but destruction. It has no aim but to exterminate us.

It may not be the diplomatic thing to say, but that which the Lord has touched us with is the challenge to preserve Western and European civilization as well as our American way of life. The communist is the force of evil incarnate. Any society which holds that the right to disagree is the certainty to be liquidated stands self-indicted. It is contrary to our own respect for the individual and the individual's rights. It is foul and fiendish in the eyes of God, for it sets up the presumption of automatic determination of belief. You cannot assault and deny belief without denying the Lord, Who has said, "Judgment is mine."

Marx and Engels have told us flatly in their manifesto that the communist disdains to conceal his aims.

The communist's aims are us—every one of us seated here. His aims are the enslavement of every human being—in Europe, in Asia, in Africa and in North and South America. His aims are to reap for his own benefit what our skills, our hands, and the sweat of our farmers have produced. His aims are the destruction of religion.
and of all things spiritual. His aims are to deny God and to place all God's children in bondage.

It may be of historical interest that a third of these onslaughts and threats to our civilization come again from Asia—for Russia is, in four-fifths of its territory, an Asiatic country.

The communist's aims are to destroy everything we hold precious, and if we are not conscious of these purposes—if we do not oppose them to the last fibre of our strength—he will succeed.

If we are to falter at the thought of a lifetime of devotion to freedom and all the sacrifice that involves, we are not worthy to stand here before the memories of those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

But we will not falter, and we will not fail. Some of us will be hurt. All of us will be smeared. We do not have on our side the great majority of the intellectuals who have easy access to the media of print, of the screen and of the radio. To them we are the scorned and simple-minded babbletry. But do not let that disturb you, for the intellectual is the man who has read too much about too little. Let us be simple, for in simplicity all the virtues lie that we and those who have gone before deem worthwhile: WORSHIP, PATRIOTISM, INTEGRITY, HONOR, SPORTSMANSHIP, KINDLINESS, HUMILITY AND CHARITY.

On their side, the communists have recruited all the vocal voces—on their side lie misrepresenta-

The cause is just; the stake is freedom; the tide of battle, at long last, flows our way. We can, we must, we shall gain the victory that is now clear in our sight.

And when we have won, our comrades on high then can pay us the final accolade, "Well done."

"Have pity on me, have pity on me, at least you, my friends, for the hand of the Lord has touched me."

BENEDICTION

Past National Chaplain Rev. Thomas Grice

In reverence we pay tribute to the fallen heroes of Korea, to the memory of all those who lie in God's silent gardens in foreign fields, or in hallowed ground in our own beloved country, brought there through sacrifice upon the altar of conflict. May we ever cherish and revere their memory, and again dedicate ourselves to the service of our country. Amen.

NATIONAL COMMANDER CRAIG:

I bring, you greetings from La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux, or from 103,000 Legionnaires who belong to the 40 and 8. This is an all-time high membership in an organization that does not conduct a membership campaign.

It is also my happy privilege to tell you that we Legionnaires that belong to the 40 and 8 have secured a lot more than were reported.

Now it is my pleasure to introduce to the convention one who has exemplified himself in pursuit and hard work that contributes to the programs of child welfare. An outstanding Legionnaire, an outstanding leader of the 40 and 8, Clarence Smith!

GREETINGS

Chef de Chemin de Fer Clarence E. Smith

I bring you greetings from La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux, or from 103,000 Legionnaires who belong to the 40 and 8. This is an all-time high membership in an organization that does not conduct a membership campaign.

It is also my happy privilege to tell you that we Legionnaires that belong to the 40 and 8 have secured and reported to National more Legion members than ever before, and I know that we have secured a lot more than were reported.

We are Legionnaires first and, as such, are working for The American Legion in our local posts and departments.

To me, The American Legion is a service organization organized for the purpose of rendering service to our disabled comrades and to the widows and orphans of our comrades who did not return or who have passed on.

But some times I am afraid that we have forgotten this. The American Legion has grown large and has many, many programs, all of which
Before I say anything else today, I want to congratulate you Legionnaires on the part The American Legion has played in helping to write into the statute books of this nation some really effective legislation against communism. The American Legion has made many fine contributions to the security and the welfare of the United States; and the support the Legion gave to the Internal Security Act of 1950, which became law on September 23, over the veto of the President of the United States, was in that fine tradition.

The Internal Security Act of 1950 is law today because you of The American Legion, and other patriotic organizations, recognized the urgent need for legislation that would help keep subversive aliens out of this country, and make it easier to send the subversive aliens who are already here back where they came from; legislation which would provide weapons for dealing with communists, and other subversives, promptly and effectively, in time of national emergency; legislation which would force the communist party, and all of its fronts, to operate out in the open if they want to continue to claim the protection of our laws; and because, having recognized the need for such legislation, you were so effective and positive that the Congress of the United States gave you the kind of law you demanded.

But don't look for one minute that the job is all done, the fight is all over, and that the Internal Security Act is going to operate automatically, and take care of the communist problem from here on. Because if you entertain sweet dreams like that, you'll wake up one of these days to find yourself right back where you started. Already the drive is under way in full force to repeal this Act, or to amend it by pulling all the teeth out. The propaganda campaign to discredit this legislation began even before it was vetoed, and has been intensified since it became law.

The job hasn't been finished just by putting the Internal Security Act on the statute books. The rest of the job is to keep it there and to see that it is vigorously and effectively enforced.

In order to do that job, it is up to us to combat the propaganda that is being spread against this law, every time we hear it. I want to take just enough of your time today to hit some of the highlights of the propaganda attack that is being made against the Internal Security Act, and some of the plain lies that are being told about it, and some of the spurious and unfounded charges you are going to hear, so that when you hear them, you will have the answers all ready.

Opponents of this law will harp on the matter of how much it will cost to administer. Already, the newspapers have carried a story that the increased cost to the Justice Department will be 15 million dollars per year. I do not know how accurate that figure may be, but I suspect the communists are spending many times that amount in their efforts to undermine us from within. I think you Legionnaires will agree with me that money spent to fight communism within our own borders and to exclude and deport subversive aliens, is not money wasted, when we are appropriating $17 billion to carry on a shooting war where our boys are dying at the hands of the communist hordes.

You have heard the charge made—and you will hear it again—that the Internal Security Act of 1950 puts the government of the United States into the "Thought-Control" business. I nailed that lie on the floor of the Senate, but it is still going the
rounds. There is not a line in the Internal Security Act bill which can be fairly interpreted as putting the government of the United States in the "Thought-Control" business. When you hear anybody peddle the fallacy that there is some "Thought-Control" establishment in this law, demand that he point out the particular provision; you'll find he can't do it, because there is no such provision in the law.

One of the biggest whoppers that is being used against this law is the statement that the law requires the Secretary of Defense to publish a list of all the secret and vital defense plants in this country. The answer to that one is that it simply is not so. The law doesn't require the Secretary of Defense in his discretion to publish the name of a single defense plant. There is a section in the law which gives the Secretary the right, in his discretion, to name any kind of an establishment that has employees, and say with respect to that establishment that it is his opinion that the national security requires that no communists work there. Now, if you want to make it a crime for a communist to work in a particular place, of course you have to give him notice. He mustn't work there. So, when the Secretary of Defense designates an establishment that he doesn't want communists to work in, he has to publish that designation, and notice has to be posted in the establishment. When that has been done, it is then a crime for a communist to work in that place. But the whole thing is discretionary with the Secretary of Defense. He may name 10 places, or 10,000. And this particular provision of the law has nothing to do with any regulations the Secretary may make to try to keep communists out of vital defense plants. The new Internal Security Act did not change or repeal any authority the Secretary had, before the new law was enacted, to safeguard defense plants. The new law does give the Secretary additional authority, because Section 21 of the Internal Security Act makes it a criminal offense, punishable by up to one year in jail or up to $5,000 fine, or both, to violate any regulation that the Secretary may have made for the protection of any defense establishment.

The provision of the law making it a crime for a communist to work in a particular place, if the Secretary of Defense has designated as a "defense facility" is just something extra, which has been put in the law in case the Secretary of Defense wants to use it. Remember, it doesn't have to be a place that makes weapons or munitions. In fact, it doesn't have to be a place that makes anything at all. If it is a place where people are employed, and the Secretary of Defense makes up his mind that the national security requires that it be a crime for communists to work there, then he can declare this place to be a defense facility, and as soon as the notice is posted on the premises, it is a crime for a communist to work there.

I can give some examples of how that might be used. I don't know, of course, how it will be used, or whether it will be used at all. I noticed some stories in the newspapers last week quoting the President as saying "we have made it "clear" that he will "go slow" in enforing "certain provisions" of this law. I don't know which provision, if any, he intends to go slow on. But I can give you some examples of how this particular provision might be used. Suppose the Secretary of Defense decided it would be a good idea, and in the interests of national security, to get rid of any communists that might be working for any of the nation's airlines. He could declare each airline to be a defense facility. Suppose the Secretary of Defense decided that national security required that no communists should be employed in the community of Hawthorne, Nevada, because of the huge naval ammunition depot at Hawthorne. The Secretary could, if he wanted to, designate every establishment in Hawthorne as a defense facility. Suppose the Secretary of Defense decided that the national security required that there shouldn't be any longshoremen who are communists working on any piers in the port of Los Angeles. The Secretary could, if he wanted to, designate every establishment that employs longshoremen at the port of Los Angeles, as a defense facility. None of those hypothetical designations would uncover any information of value to foreign espionage; none of those designations might help weed some communists out of a place where they could be dangerous to national security.

Of course, making it a crime for communists to work in a particular place may not get rid of all the communists in that place. But it will help to get rid of them, and it will help to keep them out; don't make any mistake about that.

Another whopper you are going to hear about the Internal Security Act—another whopper you are going to hear about the Internal Security Act of 1950—and you will hear it in many forms and with many variations—is that the new law is "confused," or "unworkable," or both. When someone tells you that, remember, he has his finger on the particular provision that he thinks is either confusing or unworkable; and you will soon find out who is confused. And don't let anybody confuse you by trying to make you believe that because some of the provisions of this Act will take time to become fully effective, that means the Act is unworkable. Suppose it takes two years, or longer, before any communist is convicted under this law for failing to register.

When he is convicted, he will go to jail. And if the communist leaders who have boasted, repeatedly, that they will refuse to obey this law, actually do refuse to obey it, they will be convicted. Then they will go to jail. And you're not going to get them in jail any quicker by repealing this law. Remember, the people who are criticizing this law as "unworkable" because it provides for a full hearing, and a right of appeal, before any man can be labeled as a communist and required to register, are the same people who are complaining because they say the law is an invasion of civil rights.

Another charge that is being made about this law is that it will operate to drive the communists underground. Now, you know, and I know, that the communist party has been going underground for two years and more. The head of the FBI told us all about that long before this bill was even introduced. What the Internal Security Act of 1950 does is to make it a crime for the communist party to operate underground. That may not stop the underground operations, but it will certainly help.

Another piece of the propaganda line that is being used against the Internal Security Act—maybe you've heard it already—is the statement that this law has "sweeping" provisions and that these "sweeping" provisions are going to affect a lot of innocent people. Sometimes the opponents of the bill even go so far as to say the bill is going to "hurt" these innocent people; but mostly, they just say it will "affect" them, and expect you to consider the word "affect" as though it meant "hurt adversely."

Now, in the first place, there isn't anything loose about the definitions in this Act, or about any other provision. They were all drawn with extreme care. And this Act isn't going to hurt...
anyone except communists and fellow travelers who insist on remaining fellow travelers with full knowledge of what they are doing. The only "effect" this bill will have upon a person who has innocently joined a communist-front organization without knowing that it is a communist-front organization will be to put him on notice, eventually, as to the kind of organization he belongs to, so that he may have an opportunity to get out of it.

Suppose the case of a man who is a government employee and is among a member of an organization which registers as a communist-front organization, or with respect to which there is issued a final order requiring it to register as a communist-front organization. That man will have to choose between his membership in that organization and his government job. I suppose there are some people who will complain about that. Personally, I think that is a fine provision.

All the attacks on this law aren't going to be made openly, and the big push against the Internal Security Act probably will not be in the form of an outright repeal proposal. A more subtle approach will be used.

Maybe you have heard about a bill which has been announced as "an amendment" to the National Security Act of 1950. Every time you hear about that bill, nail it for what it is: A deceptive propaganda to funnel an attempt to prevent any of the most important provisions of the Internal Security Act of 1950, without replacing them with anything at all, and to take some of the teeth out of the provisions that are left.

That is what the announced Bill would do, and that is what it is intended to do; and I suppose we shall see other bills, similar or identical to the proposed Bill, before we are through with this fight.

I'll give you my word on this: So long as I am in the Senate of the United States, no bill of that nature will ever reach the Senate floor without being branded for what it is.

But what I say in the Senate, and what others say there may not be enough to combat the propaganda against the Internal Security Act which is being sown up and down the land today, in a campaign which will be intensified in the weeks ahead. You have before you a drive to be used in fighting this propaganda campaign in your own home communities, as individuals, as well as giving your support, as an organization, to the retention of this law and the effective enforcement of it. Remember, the drive is on to discredit the Internal Security Act of 1950, and secure its repeal, or the enactment ofemasculating amendments. Remember, this drive is not pointed to the future.
that we can get a bigger crowd of Iowans to hear them talk here in California than they can in Iowa.

Now you know not one of the last three Governors has been willing to take any one of those weapons with some other states that are almost in the same situation.

After being here a little longer than you have, these people established the American way of life and a state of the Union almost instantaneously.

On the ninth day of September, 1850, California became the 31st state of the Union, with 90,000 people. People kept coming. Today there are 10,500,000 of us. And we are part of the bone and sinew of every state of the Union. So we are always happy to have visitors from every part of the country. We have a feeling of kinship for all of you, and we want you to see with your own eyes what your relations out here are trying to do to help you in your native states make our nation strong and equal to the great responsibilities that have recently come to it.

We are particularly happy to have you gather here as representatives of The American Legion, because the Legion is symbolic of American spirit in trained responsibility that goes with it. Forthright Americanism, unabashed dedication to God and Country, firm adherence to democratic principles and complete devotion to honorable world peace were never more greatly needed than in the troubled world of today.

We believe this can be the most important of all the national conventions of The American Legion that have been held. It seems to us, and particularly to me, that perhaps the time has come when the American people must listen more attentively than in the past to the voice of experience—experience that emanates from the hearts and minds of Americans who have served with and seen comrades killed or maimed on the field of battle for the preservation of freedom. This will be the thirty-second time that voice of experience has spoken. Thirty-one times it has been discounted, but can it be discounted now? True, the experience of World War I did not convince. Neither did that of World War II.

But for the third time in one generation, hospital and funeral ships are now on their way to the homeland, this time from Korea. Our hospitals are once more being filled with boys who are also the victims of unpreparedness. Taps will be sounded over thousands of them. Surely there must be some point at which realism will supplant indifference. Americans must realize by now that unpreparedness is our greatest foe; even more dangerous than Stalin himself.

I pray as I know you do that American boys will never be called upon to fight again. I ought to, because I have three of my own. But I pray even more fervently that if they are called, they will be properly trained and equipped, and that here at home we, too, will be prepared to make the sacrifices that are essential for their success.

Boys have died in Korea because they were not adequately prepared. This was never even discussed. They could have been prepared if the admonition of the Legion had been heeded.

If Universal Military Training had been instituted at the time it was first urged upon our government by The American Legion, it is entirely possible there would have been no Manchurian incident, which started the Japanese on the road to conquest and empire building. There might have been no Ethiopian war for the aggrandizement of Mussolini's dictatorship. Hitler might never have invaded Poland. There might have been no Dunkerque and no Pearl Harbor.

Almost certainly, if Universal Military Training had been in effect since the conclusion of World War II, there would have been far less likelihood of a Korean incident and, even had it occurred, the defense of Korea would have been far less costly in human lives.

It is far too easy for those who have never been personally involved in the hell of war to turn back to their individual interests when the guns have stopped firing. Even at this moment, before the firing has ceased in Korea, we find those who are already returning to pre-Korean attitude of "business as usual." It is not difficult to be vigilant on sentry duty in No Man's Land, but it is very difficult to maintain the same vigilance on an apparently peaceful Sunday. Yet June 25, 1950, was such a Sunday; December 7, 1941, was such a Sunday.

It is the solemn duty of each of us to continue our insistence on a sound program of military preparedness, based on Universal Military Training. We must not be satisfied with less than that. The risks are too great, the stakes are too high, and any half-measures to be acceptable. I sincerely hope that The American Legion will continue to spearhead this battle until the day comes when all our young men will have the opportunity to include in their regular educational process the training to defend themselves, their families and their country.

The nature of war in these days requires not only powerful armed strength in the field, but also great powers of resistance to the effects of attack on the home front. We must, therefore, also press for accelerated preparations for effective civilian defense.

The federal plan for civilian defense recently submitted to the Congress by the Office of the President of the United States is entirely predicated upon effective programs at the local community level. The basic structure of the federal plan has its foundation in the individual, the family, the neighborhood, the community and so on through all the echelons. It is not a program to be imposed from the top down, but rather one to be built up, with local people and local government playing its part. Consequently, the responsibility should be felt by every citizen to participate in this program and to assume the leadership that his experience and training fit him for.

We must not only be ready for direct attack by the enemy upon any community in the land, but we must also keep constantly in mind that the communist conspiracy is peculiarly fitted to employ insidious techniques of internal disturbance and sabotage.

I know that the members of The American Legion, individually, in their posts, in their districts and departments, are ready to assume their full responsibilities in the strengthening of our national defense and in the construction of an effective program of civilian defense. But there is a job to do in addition to these. In the long-range view, this global conflict in which we find ourselves involved is a war not only of men and arms, but also of ideas. If the vicious doctrines of communism do not constantly spread and gain new minds as to their evil work, the objectives of communism can never be achieved. The constant weight of truth pressing against the Iron Curtain will eventually break through. To achieve this end, the free countries of the world are now engaged in a tremendous program of mutual as-
ADDRESS OF LOUIS BUDENZ
Professor, Fordham University

Recognition of Red China, directly or indirectly, will be a tragic blow to American security, especially on the West Coast. What is it that Stalin desires primarily as shown by the proposal of his envoy, Jacob Malik? It is recognition of Red China. What is it that the Soviet fifth column is working more constantly?

Read their publications and the answer is: First of all, recognition of Red China.

Frederick Vanderbilt Field, who has now registered as an agent of the Chinese communists, calls the confinement of Red rule over the Chinese people as a deadly blow to "American Imperialism." He proclaims it to be the beginning of the end of American influence and friendships in Asia.

The American nation, on this question, cannot afford to be misled as it was in large part on the character of the Chinese communists as agrarian reformers. A group of writers, instigated by this man Field, who had become secretary of the American branch of the Institute of Pacific Relations, persuaded great sections of American leadership that this was the case, although the official documents of the Chinese Reds (some of which I have read) show that this has never been the character of followers of Mao Tse-tung. They have always been subservient to Stalin as their leader and teacher.

From Lenin's declarations to the orders of Moscow to the communist party in my time as a Red leader, Soviet Russia has always regarded China as the jumping-off place to world conquest—and especially to eventual attack upon the United States. Let the American people make it plain that there cannot be no deal that would stabilize Stalin's rule in China.

Some of the greatest victories of Stalin in the past have been in the United States, through the activities of the concealed communists. They have done their share to confuse past public opinion—on China, Poland and Soviet intentions.

Today these concealed communists furnish one of the big problems before America. They must be dealt with in a forthright way through the recognition that they are agents of a dictatorship which has as its great objective the destruction of the United States government under our Constitution.

There is one way in which the concealed communist can be dealt with in the beginning. That is by public policy which recognizes all members of communist fronts as enemies of the American nation. We have had too many intelligent people pleading ignorance over and over when exposed as members of these fronts. That can no longer be permitted. If they are with Stalin to that extent, they are against the United States.

From my own knowledge, fully 80 to 90 per cent of the members of communist fronts are in reality concealed communists, loyal to Moscow.

There has been a well-organized campaign of character assassination organized by the Soviet fifth column, and joined in by those puppets whom they can persuade in that direction to intimidate ex-communists and prevent them from testifying on behalf of the republic. What is the object of this campaign? Actually, to persuade those ex-communists by this gangster-like campaign to commit perjury on behalf of the Reds. We cannot permit this plotting to be successful.

One of the falsehoods most used in this campaign is to the effect that ex-Reds testify, when
they do, because of financial considerations. This is an outright falsehood. What has actually occurred has been the payment of what amounts to a tribute to treason by a portion of the American public through the jobs which the Reds obtained in the government and the movies for their friends and agents. Many men and women have enjoyed lush incomes such as the 10 Hollywood writers who were sentenced to jail for refusing to tell Congress whether or not they were Reds, because they were communists and for no other reason. Through campaigns of letter writing, the Reds defeated many of their "enemies"—patriotic citizens—and drove them from organs of public opinion. In the same manner, they boosted their own friends and followers.

Is it not amazing that there should be any further speculations here in America as to what Soviet Russia intends to do? The Soviet dictator has one unswerving objective—to destroy by violence this American government set up under our Constitution. That is what Lenin declared to be its aim in his work: "State and Revolution," distributed by the thousands in the United States by the Reds. That is what Stalin says is his goal in his book, "Foundations of Leninism," which is a must reading for all actual Reds. The violent shattering of the civil, judicial and military arms of the government in order to bring about world conquest—the world Soviet dictatorship—is their unending aim.

If the American nation proceeds with that understanding, it can defeat Soviet communism and the Soviet goal of world domination. Any nation which showed such ingenuity under disadvantageous conditions as this nation did in Korea, through the brilliant strategy of General MacArthur, need never have permitted Red rule in China or in Poland, two of the great points of achievement which Stalin set for himself as early as 1944. Any nation which can do what we did in such a short time in the Far East in a military way can win peace by refusing to yield one step before Soviet aggression—a firm moral stand against any further Soviet depredations, wherever perpetrated—will again allow our beloved country to buttress its own security and help save mankind.

NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER
PERRY: At this time, I yield for a very important presentation to one of our great past national commanders, the Honorable Edward N. Scheiberling of New York.

PRESENTATION OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL
By Past National Commander Edward N. Scheiberling

Throughout the years of its existence, The American Legion has recognized those who have rendered distinguished and patriotic service to the United States of America. Generals and admirals, statesmen and high public officials have been acclaimed by our delegates in convention assembled. Today we pay our tribute to one of the greatest living advocates of Americanism. The man we honor, Charles F. Johnson, Jr., is the living exponent of those high ideals which we have set forth in the preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion.

A great industrialist, the employer of many thousands, he is a most practical combatant of the evils of communism which we have heard described here today. Forever seeking to better the lot of the workingman, Charlie Johnson is carrying forward the torch of enlightened industrial leadership, for in Binghamton, New York, in 1887, his early playmates were the sons and daughters of Endicott-Johnson workers.

After his graduation from Mercersberg Academy, he entered the industry established by his family. He took his place at the bench in one of the factories and worked his way up from the bottom to superintendent of that factory in 1895. In 1930, he became first vice-president and general manager. Elected president of the company in 1948, he has broadened its humane policies established by his distinguished predecessors, by adding a generous pension plan, recreation centers for the workers, a death benefit plan and a million-dollar addition to the Wilson Memorial Hospital, a company medical unit provided for workers and their families, and he has constructed many hundreds of homes for his employees at cost.

Sincerely one of the workers, he lives with his employees, he works with them, he plays with them, shares their family lives, enjoys with them their sports and entertainments. This, with them, helps those in trouble and, above all, he keeps them honestly informed of the status of the business.

Mutual respect and confidence have established a company unique which promotes peace and good will in a great industry. Dedicating his life to the perpetuation of his company’s fine labor policies, he has been unyielding in his efforts to advance and further promote the unusual spirit of friendliness and good will between 22,000 workers and the management.

Every civic project in his community has received his active and wholehearted support, not only in substantial gifts of money, but in the devotion of his time and his personal dynamic leadership.

Many thousands of Endicott-Johnson workers served actively in both world wars. Many returned badly wounded. All were reinstated with full employment rights preserved. His company thus anticipated the laws for veterans’ employment followed World War II.

Extensive veteran training programs were established and hundreds of our comrades benefited by the advantage of these programs. Full medical and hospital care was provided for the families of all of his workers while in the service.

His company received on October 13, 1949, the American Legion National Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of its outstanding record in the employment of physically handicapped veterans of World Wars I and II, the national commander of The American Legion personally presenting the award at Johnson City.

Charlie Johnson truly inculcates a sense of individual obligation to the community, the state and the nation. His record stands as a beacon to guide those with large responsibilities. He is big of heart, big of mind. Realizing the importance of The American Legion as a potent influence for good, he assisted in the building of Legion clubhouses in Endicott, Johnson City and Binghamton, and contributed several hundreds of thousands of dollars for that purpose.

When New York established its State University in 1948, Charles F. Johnson, Jr., saw an opportunity to add educational advantages for the families of his friends and associates, and largely because of the forceful presentation made by him, the trustees selected the Triple Cities area for the

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location of a new four-year college. Students now attending the new Harper College, and those to enter in the years to come, will bless the name of Charlie Johnson.

Philanthropist, humanitarian, industrialist, and patriotic American, we acknowledge his great and invaluable service.

It is my most happy privilege to present in your name the highest honor of The American Legion. Its Award for Distinguished Service, to Charles F. Johnson, Jr.

**ACCEPTANCE OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL**

By Charles F. Johnson, Jr.

I discovered, in going down to Washington a few weeks ago to receive an honor from the Marine Corps League, that it so happened that the week I was there, a man who held a very high office in the country, a few days before I went down to Washington, had made a mistake. He said something that he should not have said, and a few days afterward it came out in the newspapers, and that man found it necessary to go to the convention and apologize for what he said. Therefore, I made up my mind that a man that is not accustomed to talking, at least talking to people like you folks, had better prepare what he is going to say, so as to be sure, first, that he puts across what he wants to say; and secondly, that he doesn't forget to say what he intended to say; and thirdly, that he does not offend anybody and then have to come around later and apologize. So now, with your permission, I am going to stick to my manuscript.

In honor of the memory of Mr. George F. Johnson, the builder of our business and responsible for its fundamental principles and policies, and also in honor of approximately 22,000 Endicott-Johnson workers, of which I am one, who have faith and confidence in those principles and policies and have pledged themselves to be loyal to them, in all humility and with sincere appreciation, it gives me, as a representative of our workers and community, the greatest pleasure to accept this award from you, Commander, representing one of the greatest organizations in the world—The American Legion.

The spirit of loyalty and cooperation which exists between the workers and management of Endicott-Johnson Corporation was kindled and has been kept alive by paying good wages, providing medical and hospital service to all workers and dependent members of their families, building homes for workers, establishing a liberal pension plan and death benefits, granting holidays and vacation with pay, also sharing profits with the workers. All these indirectly benefit the community, but the privilege of using our parks and playgrounds, swimming pools, dance pavilion, recreation centers and golf course is shared by our residents of the community.

During World War I, 1,692 Endicott-Johnson workers served in the armed forces of our country, and 47 of them made the supreme sacrifice. The Selective Service Act of that war did not contain the guaranty of re-employment which applied to those who served in World War II. However, when the first men were called to service, Mr. George F. Johnson, with his usual foresight, defined our company's policy in his humble and direct way by stating:

"Everybody who left the employment of the company to go into service and returns, no matter how badly wounded, should be reinstated in exactly the same position, the same bench, the same window in every respect the same as before he went away."

At the end of 1919, Endicott-Johnson inaugurated its profit-sharing plan and paid its first bonus by dividing among its workers one-half of the profits made that year. This amounted to $237.90 for each worker, and those who were still in service received their bonus checks when they returned home.

During World War II, 5,095 Endicott-Johnson workers were in service and 109 made the supreme sacrifice. When they left town, they were presented a farewell box containing various useful items. While they were away, each was sent a copy of the Binghamton Sun, carrying one and sometimes two pages of E.-J. workers’ news. A total of more than 4,750,000 copies were mailed.

As the company paid holiday and vacation pay to workers at home, a check was sent to those in the armed forces for the amounts they would have received had they remained at work.

A constant flow of correspondence was maintained between our Administration Department and our workers in service.

At the conclusion of the war, a veteran of the first world war was selected as coordinator to assist those who returned in securing work. Special attention was accorded disabled veterans in endeavorsing to get work in our organization that they could do. A veterans’ training program was put into effect, and at the present time 906 have availed themselves of its benefits.

Endicott-Johnson has a Workers’ Chorus of over 100 voices composed of the best of its talent in the country, and since the end of the war it has given many concerts to disabled veterans in hospitals in New York State.

During the past several months, our company and its workers, in recognition of their interests in and service to veterans, have received citations from the Disabled American Veterans, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Marine Corps League and your organization. In each instance it was my privilege to accept the awards, and in each I said whatever honors have come to us from military organizations rightfully belong, first, to Mr. George F. Johnson, and, second, to the 22,000 workers who have done and are doing everything they can, individually and collectively, to protect and preserve these principles and policies for all time.

With gratitude in my heart for the confidence and honor you have bestowed upon all of us, I accept this award on behalf of our company, its workers and the entire community of which we are a part, and again thank you for your gracious words and this splendid tribute.

The Colors were retired and the meeting recessed at 4:50 p.m.
The second session of the convention met in the Shrine Auditorium at 10:15 a. m. A concert was given prior to the meeting by the Theodore Roosevelt Post No. 391 Band, Houston, Texas, as well as a number of songs rendered by Sioux Falls Post No. 15, National Chorus champions. National Commander Craig called on National Chaplain Rev. Father Edward J. Carney, O. S. A., to give the invocation after the Colors were advanced.

NATIONAL COMMANDER CRAIG: For many years, The American Legion has seriously attempted to aid and assist the democratic processes of financing this government in days of crises through the only means by which our economy can sustain itself, that is, for the citizens of the government to make available to the government through loan, their property and money.

We have with us this morning a representative from the Treasury Department, Mr. Tom Husselton, who will speak to us upon the War Savings Bond Program.

ADDRESS BY TOM HUSSELTON
U. S. Treasury Department

First of all, may I say that we of the Treasury Department are more than happy to have this opportunity of expressing our appreciation to you as members of The American Legion and the Auxiliary for the work that you have done throughout, not only the last year, but for the years which have gone before.

Never before in our history have we needed fighters as we need them today. Fighters are needed in every walk of life, on the battle line and on the home front. They are needed in your community and mine, for make no mistake about it—the fight—the fight we wage is for freedom: yes, even for life itself. There are forces within and without this great nation of ours that would destroy everything we hold dear. We must fight, for as Winston Churchill puts it:

"Still, if you will not fight for the right when you can easily win without bloodshed; if you will not fight when your victory will be sure and not too costly; you may come to the moment when you will have to fight with all the odds against you and only a precarious chance of survival. There may even be a worse case. You may have to fight when there is no hope for victory, because it is better to perish than live as slaves."

Those are uncompromising words, but do you not agree with their truth? All of us will. It seems to me, but for the most of us the problem resolves itself into one question, and that is—"What can one small individual, when the need is so great?"

Since this nation's beginning, patriotic men and women have been asking that question—and, searching their own hearts, have found the answer. To some there came calls to great service, to others came the hum-drum, everyday routine of small services, which by themselves are not great, but which when added together produce a great achievement.

Only 57 men signed the Declaration of Independence, but they closed that immortal document with these words, "With a firm reliance upon Divine Providence and for the support of this Declaration we mutually pledge our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

There were no fighters for you, only a handful of individuals, yet they turned the world upside down.

And may I remind you that when George Washington took one of our Continental Army, it numbered 7,754 men; that during the ghastly winter at Valley Forge the Continental Army consisted of 5,038 half-starved, half-frozen ordinary men like you and me. May I remind you that at no time during the Revolutionary War did George Washington ever have more than 38,000 effective in the field at any one time.

So it goes down through history, men and women, ordinary folks like you and me, but who had a consuming desire, have accomplished the things that make this nation great.

Now we find ourselves in the midst of a great world conflict, testing whether the things of the spirit shall prevail, or whether the lust for greed, power and material values shall conquer.

Do we believe that liberty is the right of every man?

Do we know beyond doubt that the truth shall make every man free?

Do we mean that justice means exactly what it says?

Do we acknowledge the equality of all men?

If we do, then we have no alternative; we must fight. Each of us as individuals, for each of us must send forth a host of fighting men, for upon each of us rests the personal citizenship responsibility for the future of this nation and, indeed, the world.

From this time on, you must accept that responsibility or know that you have joined the ranks of those who would betray their nation.

From this time on, each post of this great order must send forth a host of fighting men, some to do great things—some to do small—but each according to his ability. Nothing less will suffice.

We must support our fighting men and end aggression in the world. We must produce the materials and equipment needed for defense. We must raise the money to pay the cost of increased defense efforts. We must do all we can to prevent inflation.

Perhaps you are still saying to me, "But what can I do?"

My friends, without knowing it, many, many of you have been doing a great thing. You have been doing it individually or as posts. You have been working and saving to make and keep this nation economically sound and strong.

What have you done?

My friends, you and your fellow Americans—75,000,000 of them, have purchased U. S. Savings Bonds in the amount of $48,500,000,000. Because that much money has been diverted from the spending stream you have cut down inflation materially; you have stored up purchasing power that will mean homes, cars, college educations, that longed-for vacation, retirement and, above all else, the peace of heart and mind that comes from having a few hundred dollars as a cushion upon which to fall back.

And you have been and are helping Uncle Sam to manage a huge national debt—a problem so
great that only a few can comprehend it, but either we must manage it, or it will manage us.

Perhaps you do not realize it, but the total amount of Savings Bonds purchased by you and your posts will run into many millions of dollars. We wish not only for your sake, but for our own, that we knew exactly how many.

Be that as it may, we do know that you made a great contribution not only in dollars, but also in the leadership in your communities, which is so vital and so required today.

So I come to you today with two purposes in mind—

First, to express the appreciation of the U. S. Savings Bonds Division of the Treasury Department, and

Second, on behalf of the Secretary of the Treasury and all of us, to ask you to develop and execute a "fighting" program, in which every one of your organization can join.

First of all, may I pay tribute at this time to the man who has been National Bond Chairman for The American Legion for the past year. You know him as Jack Tribby. We know him as a great and personal friend of ours. I talked with Jack on the telephone last week and Jack told me that it was with a great deal of regret that it will be impossible for him to be here today. We had hoped to be able to honor him tangibly at this time. But sometime later on in the city of Baltimore, his home, we will see to it he receives the recognition which is his.

Under his leadership, you folks throughout The American Legion in the United States did a tremendous thing this year. You led the way in a great many communities, and I assure you that the work you did was greatly appreciated and contributed greatly to the success of our campaign this year.

The thing we ask you this morning, and the Secretary asked me to bring this to you, is a campaign which all of you will hear about. It will mean that every post commander will shortly be hearing from Jack Tribby, and we are going to ask every member of the organization and every employee member of this organization, regardless of the number of people to install the payroll savings plan in his business. We want every member of the organization who has employees to install the Savings Bond program on the payroll savings plan. In other words, we have the problem of reaching 2,500,000 businessmen throughout the United States employing less than 100 people. There are only 40,000 employers employing 100 or more. I can see the role that organizations like The American Legion are going to play in the tremendously important job of attempting to partially finance the great defense costs. We feel sure we can depend on The American Legion for participation in the next campaign even as it has participated in the past.

The leadership displayed in the organization gives us great strength and confidence to go forward. We believe as a result of the work of this great organization there is a possibility of a unification of the people of this nation through the small Savings Bond program. Small it may be, but a great unification of the people of this nation.

Because you have done this great thing in the past, and because you will produce in the future, I would like very much now to present to Command Post No. 51 the little replica of the Liberty Bell as the symbol of the Independent drive just completed this year. I think perhaps if he and you, even as this little bell happens to sound out, that you are going to hear something like this:

'I am the voice of the Liberty Bell.'

'I have spoken many times as history has been made by the people of this nation.'

'I have watched great men; small men—with their women, build this nation into the land of hope, of opportunity, of success. I spoke in triumph when Independence was achieved on July 4, 1776, at Philadelphia. My voice was filled with joy, with laughter, with far-flung hope, when that weary band of colonists put these words to paper—

'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal. That they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness—that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

'Yes, I spoke when this nation was born.'

'Now I speak today, to all men for whom liberty and independence are sweeter than life itself.'

'And you will rise to the call, for you and I are pledged to see that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.'

'I remind you of the ideals that made this nation great; I particularly remind you that one of the cornerstones of independence, any kind of independence, is thrift.'

'I call you to action and challenge you to accept and discharge your individual responsibility to your country. I ask you to rally to the cause of independence and liberty and freedom. I will ask you to rally around me as I have seen men rally in the past, as all the world will know that we are a united people.'

'I solemnly remind you that unless you, who make up this nation, remain spiritually, physically and economically strong, peace and happiness, liberty and independence will fade from this earth.'

'Save for your independence—buy United States Savings Bonds, for a thrifty people is a strong people.'

'Remain true to the faith of your fathers—belief in the dignity of man—worship your God—and remain spiritually strong.'

'You in this nation are the only hope of free men everywhere. You dare not, you must not, you will not fail.'

'I am the Voice of the Liberty Bell—rally around me and once again I shall say Proclaim Liberty Throughout All the Land and to All the Inhabitants Thereof.'

So, because there is not the money in the Federal Treasury in our budget to pay for this little bell, it is a very great pleasure for me to present on behalf of the 51 volunteer state chairmen, who out of their own pockets have contributed the funds that make these little bells possible, and on behalf of them and to express their appreciation, the expression of Secretary Snyder and a handful of us of the Savings Bond Division, I would like to present this little bell to you on behalf of and for Commander Craig and this citation to The American Legion. It is the Treasury Department Award of Merit for work well done in the Savings Bond campaign, and may I say to you, we know that you will continue to carry on and continue to have faith in this very important phase of our national economy, and we again say to all of you, thanks for helping us, because the handful of us cannot carry on without the
Vice-Commander Boock: Thank you.

You may tell the Treasury Department we are happy to receive the citation and we will continue to do our work in behalf of Secretary Snyder.

National Commander Craig resumed the Chair.

National Commander Craig: At this time we will hear from J. Victor Glasson, the Department of Nevada, veteran of World War II, graduate of The American Legion College, Chairman of Membership and Post Activities Committee of the convention.

American Legion College

By J. Victor Glasson, National Chairman of Membership and Post Activities Committee

It is with a great deal of pride and humility that I take over this spot on the program which was assigned to me by V. M. "Army" Armstrong of the Department of Indiana, President of The American Legion College, to discuss with you briefly the value of that educational program of our organization.

It is with pride that I accept this assignment because I was privileged to have taken the course of study of the Extension Institute of The American Legion and to attend The American Legion College held at national headquarters, in Indianapolis, Indiana.

It is my understanding that this is the first time that a graduate of The American Legion College has had an opportunity to discuss this worthwhile activity with those attending one of our national conventions.

I am one of the younger members of this great organization. I fully realize the importance of all of the younger members of the Legion acquainting themselves with the background and programs and activities which have made this organization great.

To me the Extension Institute and The American Legion College are the most effective mediums we have to properly and adequately indoctrinate our younger members. And might I say that many of the older members might well take advantage of the availability of these courses of study.

At the College in Indianapolis, the students spend seven days in intensive study of what makes the Legion "tick." Classes get under way as early as 8:30 in the morning—and while they formally close at 5:00 in the afternoon, the students spend the evening hours and, in fact, the hours until the early morning discussing and re-hashing the subjects discussed that day.

Our graduates point with pride to the fact that many Legionnaires who have participated in these courses of study are now actively leading the posts, the districts, and in many instances the departments of this great organization.

Tentative plans now call for a term of The American Legion College to be held at national headquarters, in the new home of the organization, beginning on December 3 and running for seven days. A certain allocation of students has been made to each department, and I would recommend that those of you now in this auditorium who are interested in enrolling in the next term of the Legion College immediately contact your department adjutant.

More than 30,000 Legionnaires have taken advantage of the courses of study of the Légion College and the Extension Institute. This means that we have not as yet even begun to scratch the surface in taking these courses of study to the members of the organization—so I appeal to you to take the story of the Legion Extension Institute and the Legion College back to the department in your respective states and the posts in your respective home towns, and stress the importance of Legionnaires enrolling.

I feel that this is important to the future welfare of our organization.

Report of Committee on Americanism

Archie Closson, chairman, of California, reported as follows:

To the Thirty-Second Annual National Convention, The American Legion, Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950:

Thirty-nine members of your Committee on Americanism met at 6:00 p.m., October 9, 1950, in the Committee Room East Dining Hall in the Patriotic Hall and agreed on the following report which is respectfully submitted for your consideration:

Archie M. Closson, Department of California, was elected as chairman, and J. Walter LeCraw, of the Department of Georgia, was elected secretary.

Resolution No. 20 (Italy)—Priority to Sons of U.S. Veterans in Italian Immigration Quotas, was rejected as being too limited and too discriminatory.

Resolution No. 122 (Maryland)—Constitution Day (September 17) Be a National Holiday, was rejected as the committee considered a full-hedged holiday was not needed.

Resolution No. 148 (North Dakota)—Loyalty Oath Be Required from Officials in Government, Educational Institutions, etc., was rejected as action concerning federal officials is now being taken and action for states and other sub-divisions of government is a matter of local interest and should be considered by local and state authorities.

Resolution No. 159 (Arizona)—Urge Enactment of S. 2311, A Bill to Protect U. S. Against Un-American Activities, be rejected as subject matter is already covered by recent legislation.

Resolution No. 204 (Arizona)—Responsibility for Loyalty Checks Be Transferred to House Committee on Un-American Activities, be rejected due to the fact that the investigation of employees in the executive department of the government is a matter for the executive department.

Resolution No. 216 (Arkansas)—Legislation Governing Military Secrets, was rejected as subject matter is already covered by recent legislation.

Resolution No. 256 (Iowa)—November 11 Be Designated for an Armistice Day Observance for W. W. I and W. W. II, be rejected for the reason that so many who were in W. W. II might feel discriminated against should observance of both wars be on the same day.

Resolution No. 257 (Kansas)—Subversive Activities Control Act of 1950, be rejected, as subject matter is covered by recent legislation.

Resolution No. 263 (Oklahoma)—November 11 Be Designated as American Victory Day to Commemorate Both W. W. I and W. W. II, be reject-
ed for the reason that so many who were in W. W. II might feel discriminated against should observance of both wars be on the same day.

Resolution No. 264 (Oklahoma)—Penalties for Treasonable Acts in Time of Peace Be Made the Same as for Such Acts in Time of War, be rejected for the reason that treason in time of peace is not recognized.

Resolution No. 360 (Washington)—Priority Legislation Concerning Exclusion and Deportation of Communist Aliens, be rejected, matter is covered by recent legislation.

Resolution No. 362 (Washington)—All Records and Files of National Headquarters Regarding Identity of Communists, Etc., Be Made Public, be rejected as impossible of implementation.

Resolution No. 417 (Illinois)—Compulsory Finger Printing, be rejected for the reason not practical for implementation.

Resolution No. 472 (California)—Federal Registration of Communists and Communist Organizations, be rejected as being covered by recent legislation.

Resolution No. 522 (Wisconsin)—Endorse S. 2511, The Mundt-Ferguson Bill to Control Communism, be rejected because subject matter is covered by recent legislation.

Resolution No. 523 (Wisconsin)—Deplore Unfounded Name-Calling of People With Whom We Disagree, be rejected as being a matter of individual conduct.

Resolution No. 557 (Massachusetts)—Loop Holes Under Present Laws Governing Displaced Persons, be rejected because committee considered the resolution was not specific.

Resolution No. 594 (New Jersey)—Amend Statute of Limitation for Treason Cases, be rejected as being already covered by recent legislation.

Resolution No. 665 (Virginia)—Immediate Enforcement of Mundt-Nixon Bill be rejected, as subject matter is covered by recent legislation.

Resolution No. 667 (Virginia)—Imprison or Deport Dangerous Aliens, be rejected as impractical for implementation.

Resolution No. 679 (Virginia)—Creation of a Board to Investigate Loyalty of Every Government Employee, be rejected as subject matter is covered by legislation recently enacted.

Resolution No. 724 (Virginia)—Enrollment Date in School for Participation in Junior Baseball; Resolution No. 248 (Missouri)—Adopt Official Flag for Boys’ State; Resolution No. 249 (Missouri)—Advance Age Limit in Junior Baseball; Resolution No. 252 (Minnesota)—Disqualification of a Team With Paid Players in Junior Baseball Tournaments; Resolution No. 329 (Arkansas)—Age Limit Rule in Junior Baseball Be Modified; Resolution No. 524 (Wisconsin)—Change Rule 3 in Junior Baseball; Resolution No. 625 (Texas)—Junior Baseball Program of a Post Located on State Boundary Lines; Resolution No. 308 (New York)—Prohibition of Treasonable Acts Against the U. S.; Resolution No. 394 (Illinois)—Citizens Convicted of Treason During National Crisis Receive Penalties Comparable to Those of Armed Services; Resolution No. 405 (Illinois)—Combat Conscripting and Forcible Induction in the U. S.; Resolution No. 413 (Illinois)—Disbar All Lawyers, Judges or Court Attaches Engaged in Subversive Activities; and Resolution No. 414 (Illinois)—Stop Entry of Displaced Persons Until Citizens of U. S. Are Employed and Housed, were all referred to the National Americanism Commission for study and report.

Resolutions Nos. 35 (Nebraska), 147 (North Dakota), 198 (Wyoming) and 202 (Arizona), all pertaining to the outlawing of the communist party of the U. S. A., all submitted to the several states for adoption to be impossible of implementation.

Whereas, Pursuant to the provisions of the Act of June 2, 1924 (43 Stat. 253), all Indians born within the territorial limits of the United States are made citizens of the United States; and

Whereas, The security and defense of our nation is being endangered by a communist fifth column operating throughout the length and breadth of the United States and particularly in the heavy industrial and maritime centers; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion in convention assembled, That definite steps be taken by The American Legion to initiate action for the repeal of laws which discriminate against persons of Indian blood.

Resolutions Nos. 40 (Ohio), 82 (Arkansas), 106 (Indiana), 107 (Indiana), 108 (Indiana), 109 (Indiana), 120 (Nevada), 132 (North Carolina), 151 (Pennsylvania), 309 (New York), 393 (Michigan), 400 (Illinois), 467 (California), 542 (Delaware), 602 (Oregon), and 627 (Texas), all pertaining to the outlawing of the communist party and other subversive organizations, were consolidated and rewritten, using Reg. No. 40 in the following language, and adopted:

Whereas, There is a distinction between the rights of free speech, press and assembly, and the right of organizing to overthrow the government that guarantees these rights; and

Whereas, The communist organization, its affiliates and its every member, are definitely established as a working conspiracy directing their every effort toward the overthrow of the United States government by force and violence; and

Whereas, The American Legion, in national convention assembled in Los Angeles, October 9-12, calls upon the Congress and the President of the United States to outlaw the communist party of the United States and particularly in the heavy industrial and maritime centers; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That we urge and request the Congress of the United States of America, if necessary, to initiate a constitutional amendment to be submitted to the several states for adoption to outlaw the communist party of the U. S. A., all subversive organizations and their front organizations or other groups who do or may advocate the overthrow of our form of government by force or violence or any unlawful means.

Resolutions Nos. 41 (Ohio) and 86 (District of Columbia) were consolidated and adopted using the language of Resolution No. 86, Change Date of Armed Forces Day, as follows:

Whereas, Participation by veterans’ organizations and other patriotic groups of civilians in Armed Forces Day is highly desirable and in the interests of the country; and

Whereas, The fixing of Armed Forces Day during the latter part of May, a period during which veterans and other patriotic organizations are preparing for Memorial Day celebrations, renders...
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it difficult to do proper justice to both celebra-
tions; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion, in national
conviction assembled, That the President and
Secretary of Defense be urged to fix, in the future
years, a different date for the celebration of
 Armed Forces Day, sufficiently removed in time
from Memorial Day or other established patriotic
celebrations to assure for them an adequate par-
ticipation by veterans and other patriotic organi-
izations.

Resolutions Nos. 57 (South Dakota) and 465
(California) were consolidated and adopted, using
the language of Resolution No. 57, Command Fed-
eral Judge Harold Medina, as follows:

Whereas, Judge Harold R. Medina, trial judge
in the case of the United States against eleven
communists charged and convicted of trying to
destroy this nation, did conduct the trial with
fairness, favor to none, honesty and high honor; and

Whereas, He has been maliciously criticised,
mercilessly castigated and unwarrantedly maltreated
by the communist press, much of this so-called
"liberal press," and by individuals and groups
who lean to the communist line; therefore, be it

Resolved, by this 32nd National Convention,
That The American Legion commend Judge Me-
dina for his able conduct of the above-mentioned
trial.

Resolution No. 64 (Canada)—U. S. Veterans of
Friendly Countries Re-Enter U. S. Without Regard
to Quota, was adopted as follows:

(1) Resolved, That honorably discharged veter-
ans of the U. S. Armed Forces who served the
U. S. in time of war, living outside the territorial
limits of the U. S., and who are not citizens of
their country of origin, may enter the U. S.
as aliens without regard to quota to take up per-
manent residence therein, subject to the approval
of the Immigration Department and after inves-
tigation as to their present loyalty to the United
States; be it further

(2) Resolved, That veterans who benefit by
the above legislation shall be veterans who were
either inducted into the armed services or honor-
ably discharged from the armed services within
the territorial limits of the U. S. Veterans be-
fitting from this legislation, therefore, will be only
those veterans who were formerly legal residents
of the U. S.; be it further

(3) Resolved, That wives and minor children
of any U. S. veterans as designated in Clauses (1)
and (2) may enter the U. S. as aliens with such
veterans to take up permanent residence in the
U. S.

Resolution No. 133 (North Carolina)—Command
Department of Justice for Conviction of Traitors
Who Broadcast During W. W. II, was adopted as
follows:

Whereas, The United States Department of Ju-
stice was most capable, efficient and diligent in
the apprehension and conviction of traitors who
broadcast during World War II in both the Euro-
pean and Pacific areas; therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion in na-
tional convention assembled these 9th, 10th, 11th
and 12th days of October, 1950, in Los Angeles,
California, commend the Department of Justice
for this service to our country.

Resolution No. 149 (Pennsylvania)—Regulation
of Immigrants Admitted Under Special or Tem-
porary Visas, was adopted as follows:

Whereas, Under existent immigration laws there
are many and devious provisions under which ad-
mission to the United States can be and is
 gained, including temporary as well as permanent
residence; and

Whereas, Means for regulation and recording
conformity with conditions under which admis-
sion is permitted are both inadequate and insuffi-
cient; and

Whereas, There is reason to believe that non-
conformity by and on the part of both immi-
grants and sponsors of those on special visas is
flagrant offenses against the national security, na-
tional economic and internal tranquility; now,
therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion in 32nd
Annual Convention assembled, October 9-12, 1950,
proposes that legislation be enacted and sufficient
money be appropriated by Congress to provide for
adequate regulation of the conduct and activities
of all immigrants for reasonable length of time
after admission under special or temporary visas;
and be it further

Resolved, That the proper officials be mandated
to take action to gain the consummation of the
purposes of these resolutions.

Resolutions Nos. 150 (Pennsylvania), 363 (Wash-
ington), 402 (Illinois), 526 (Florida), 538 (Idaho),
were consolidated and adopted as Resolution
No. 402. Continue Vigorous Investigation of
Loyalty of All Governmental Personnel, as follows:

Whereas, In the recent investigations of gov-
ernmental personal by the Loyalty Commission
set up by the President for that purpose, has pub-
lished that of several million employees investigat-
ed, a comparatively small number have been
found lacking in loyalty adherence to our philosoph-
y of a republican form of government in a democ-
archy; and

Whereas, Much doubt and question has been
raised by the American public that greater and
more careful screening is needed in carrying on
this loyalty program; therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion in conven-
tion assembled in Los Angeles, California, October
9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, That The American Legion urge
it upon the President of the United States and
the chairman of the Loyalty Commission and
his associates to continue with redoubled efforts
the important work of the Loyalty Commission.

Resolution No. 152 (Pennsylvania)—Legislation
To Insure Non-Discrimination In Education Oppor-
tunities, was adopted as amended as follows:

Whereas, Equality of opportunity is basic pre-
mise of American democracy; and

Whereas, Many Americans are being deprived
of the right of full education because of sufficient
race, religion or national origin; and

Whereas, There have been differences in the
opportunities offered which have cost the United
States a heavy price in the waste of human re-
sources and renders more difficult the attainment
of a well-informed, alert citizenry; now, therefore,
be it

Resolved, That The American Legion in na-
tional convention assembled at Los Angeles, Oc-
tober 9-12, 1950, urges full educational opportuni-
ties for all citizens from elementary schools
through the college and university level.

Resolutions Nos. 81 (Arkansas), 191 (Ten-
nessee), and 684, all pertaining to the subject of
Federal Aid to Education Without Federal Con-
trol, were consolidated and adopted with Resolu-
tion No. 191, which reads as follows:

Whereas, There are several million children in
the United States who are receiving a sub-stand-
ard educational opportunity; and
Whereas, The resulting waste in our human resources at this critical period in our nation's history is a serious handicap to the preservation of the American way and constitutes a threat to our existence as a free people; and

Whereas, In some states and in many communities it will not be possible to finance an adequate program of education without the participation of the federal government in the support of schools; be it therefore,

Resolved, by The American Legion, in national convention assembled, That it reiterate the stand taken at the San Francisco National Convention, and urge the Congress of the United States to enact at the earliest possible moment legislation which will provide federal aid to education with federal control and with full preservation of the accepted American principle of the local management of schools.

Resolution No. 197 (Wyoming)—National Americanization Program, was adopted as follows:

Be It Resolved, by The American Legion assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, That the Americanization Commission of The American Legion, properly and legally constituted, should be empowered to cooperate, alone or together with other industrial, civic, educational, or patriotic groups, a national Americanization program for the purpose of educating and familiarizing immigrants in the American standard way of life as against European socialism or any other foreign political philosophies.

Resolution No. 200 (Arizona)—Death Penalty for Crimes of Espionage, Sabotage and Treason in Time of Peace as in Time of War, was adopted as amended by changing the word "treason" to "sedition", as follows:

Whereas, The present federal laws provide insufficient penalties for those convicted of the crimes of espionage, sabotage and/or sedition, in time of peace, as evidenced by recent convictions, and the penalties imposed by the courts on those so convicted; and

Whereas, Information transmitted, in time of peace, to powers, inimical to our form of government, may be used by them in time of war; and

Whereas, By the use of such information, particularly of a military nature, such inimical powers may seek to destroy our constitutional authorities, and cause hardships and distress to our people; and

Whereas, Our courts punish those convicted of the crime of murder, by imposing the penalty of death; and

Whereas, We consider the crimes of espionage, sabotage and/or sedition more heinous than that of murder as such crimes committed in time of peace, may be the cause of the destruction of whole communities; therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion at national convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, exert all efforts at its command for passage of federal legislation, by which the death penalty may be imposed on those convicted of the crimes of espionage, sabotage and sedition, committed in time of peace, as well as on those convicted of the same crimes committed in time of war.

Resolutions Nos. 201 (Arizona), 238 (Kansas), 411 (Illinois), 664 (Virginia), all pertaining to commendation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and J. Edgar Hoover, its director, have been rewritten and adopted as Reg. No. 201—Command J. Edgar Hoover and FBI, as follows:

Whereas, For more than a quarter of a century the Federal Bureau of Investigation, under the able leadership of J. Edgar Hoover as its director, has proved its devotion to those principles of Americanism which we hold as our own; and

Whereas, The American Legion has placed unqualified and absolute confidence in the Federal Bureau of Investigation, its director, J. Edgar Hoover, and his co-workers, to discharge successfully grave responsibilities, with the cooperation, aid and assistance of every law-abiding person in the nation; and

Whereas, For more than a quarter of a century we of the Legion have cooperated with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in protecting the security of our beloved country, secure in the knowledge that our contributions would receive merited recognition and gratitude; be it therefore,

Resolved, by The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, That The American Legion reaffirms its faith in, and gives a vote of confidence and appreciation to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, J. Edgar Hoover, its director, and his co-workers, for the Bureau's efforts to expose and suppress successfully subversive agencies that seek to destroy our freedom; that the Federal Bureau of Investigation and J. Edgar Hoover, its director, and his co-workers be encouraged to continue their highly commendable efforts, in the public interest, of ferreting out those individuals who are possessed of communist ideologies and engaged in subversive activities.

Resolutions Nos. 203 (Arizona) and 365 (Washington) were consolidated and adopted by using the verbage of amended Resolution No. 203—Communists in U. S. Be Apprehended, as follows:

Whereas, It is the belief of The American Legion, that the communist party of the United States is not a political party in the sense that the Democratic, the Republican, the Socialist and the Prohibition parties are legitimate political organizations, but on the contrary is an organization dedicated to the destruction of our present form of government through force and violence; and

Whereas, The American Legion is pledged to continuously and actively combat communism in the United States; and

Whereas, It is our belief that every American citizen who is a member of the communist party is a traitor to his country and every alien in the United States who is a member of the communist party is an active enemy of our country; and

Whereas, The United States of America, through the United Nations, is now engaged in an undeclared but very real war against world communism, and every communist in the United States is a threat to our national security; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion National Convention, assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, That legislation be enacted immediately by Congress, namely, that all known communists within the U. S. and its territories and possessions be immediately taken into custody and placed in suitable places of detention for reasons of national security; and that all communists who are American citizens be placed on trial as traitors to the United States of America, and that all communists in the United States who are not citizens of our country be treated as enemy spies.
Resolution No. 219 (Connecticut)—Continuous Physical Training Program for Young Americans, was adopted as follows:

Whereas, Physical fitness and intelligent discipline among young people, both to civilian and military fitness and effectiveness, as well as to the safety of the individual; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That we encourage a program of continuous physical training for young Americans in schools, organizations and community, which will build a foundation for the strength they will need in time of peace as in time of war, at this Thirty-Second Annual Convention of The American Legion convoked at No. 361, (Washington, District of Columbia, October 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th days of October, 1950.

Resolution No. 256 (New Mexico)—Pro-Communist Activities in U. S. Government Offices, was adopted as follows:

Whereas, Pro-communist activities have been allowed to flourish in certain departments of our national administration in Washington; and

Whereas, These activities have militated against the security of America here and abroad; and

Whereas, Americans are standing and dying to preserve democratic freedom; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the 32nd Annual National Convention of The American Legion urges the removal from government office of any executive official in any department of our national government under whom communist activities have been allowed to operate; and be it further

Resolved, That any official of the federal government in any executive capacity who knowingly tolerates, or provides protection for, communists within the functions of his department should be immediately separated from the duties of his office.

Immediate Passage of Hobbs Bill, was adopted as follows:

Be it Resolved, By The American Legion in national convention assembled at Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, That H. R. 10, known as the Hobbs Bill (which has already passed the House and is now in the Senate of the United States), which deals with alien subversives who, for technical reasons, cannot be deported but who have been convicted of deportable subversive and criminal acts, be placed under the supervision of the attorney general of the United States as provided in said Hobbs Bill, be immediately passed by the Senate before the adjournment of the current session.

Resolution No. 364 (Washington)—Declare Release from Jail of Harry Bridges, was adopted as follows:

Whereas, Harry Bridges, convicted perjurist, communist party card carrier, and articulate foe of the American way of life, has been released from jail; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By The American Legion in national convention assembled at Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, That we deplore the release from jail of Harry Bridges which affords him the opportunity to further his well-known policy of organizing labor throughout the world including those in the United States who overthrow their free peace-loving governments with a view to bringing them into and under the dictatorship of communist Russia; and

Whereas, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, has stood side by side with The American Legion in defense of American principles and against communism, fascism, socialism and any other ism except Americanism; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, That William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, be commended for his outstanding service and leadership on behalf of American labor and all laboring people throughout the world in their courageous stand against the forces of communism.

Resolution No. 396 (Illinois)—Publicity Campaign to Register and Vote, was adopted as follows:

Whereas, The right of franchise is a privilege which should be expressed by all Americans; and

Whereas, The freedom of the ballot box is the guarantee of freedom of the press, speech, religion, and peaceful assembly; and

Whereas, Americans seem to place a low value on this priceless heritage which is the foundation stone of our republican form of government in a democracy; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, That we initiate a publicity campaign and call upon the citizenry to register and vote in the coming general election on November 7, 1950, thereby exercising an important civic obligation.

Resolutions Nos. 397 (Illinois) and 415 (Illinois) were consolidated and adopted by using the language of Resolution No. 397—Educational Program in Flag Etiquette Urged, as follows:

Whereas, The subject of flag etiquette is an important aspect of the Americanism program of The American Legion; and

Whereas, The American Legionnaire is looked upon by the citizenry as the one to follow in matters of flag etiquette; and

Whereas, There still continues much misunderstanding among many Legionnaires as to the proper manner of salute in various situations as they arise; and

Whereas, The American Legion has sought by the legislation in Congress to amend Section 5 of P. L. 829, which concerns itself with correct manner of salute, for some time, but without success; therefore, be it

Resolved, By The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, That we urge the National Americanism Commission to carry on a spirited educational program and other appropriate action necessary to correct the present misunderstanding
with regard to flag etiquette and secure necessary legislation thereon.

Resolution No. 399 (Illinois)— Command Press, Radio and Television for Promotion of Americanism Program of Legion, was adopted as follows:

Whereas, The penetration of the communist National Lawyers Guild into the legal profession has been characterized by J. Edgar Hoover as amazing; having been used parrot to parrot the communist line; and

Resolved, by The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, That we, the delegates, do hereby express our grateful thanks to the press, radio and television for their fine endeavors in giving publicity to the Americanism program of The American Legion.

Resolution No. 401 (Illinois)— Dishar Members of National Lawyers' Guild Who Follow Communist Party Line, was adopted as follows:

Whereas, The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, That the attorney general be strongly urged to cite the National Lawyers Guild as a communist front; and

Resolved, by The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, That the American public has not been alerted to the divisive forces which today seek to array class against class, race against race, and creed against creed; now, therefore, be it

Whereas, The American Legion has been consistently approved resolutions on the subject of tolerance, aiming to create better understanding among all our people; and

Whereas, The American Legion in national convention has consistently approved resolutions on the subject of tolerance, aiming to create better understanding among all our people; and

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be furnished to the Un-American Activities Committee and that sufficient appropriations be provided for its work; and be it further

Resolved, That the membership of The American Legion is required itself with the work of the House Un-American Activities Committee and thereby be better equipped to meet its carping critics.

Resolution No. 402 (Illinois)— Exclusion of Scurrilous and Indecent Literature from Mails, adopted as follows:

Whereas, The postmaster general under H. R. 8767, recently passed by Congress, is thereby given the right to return obscene, lewd, indecent and scurrilous articles, devices or literature of any kind sent by a person under his true name, or under some corporate name; therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, That the National Americanism Commission draw up plans to take affirmative action in carrying out the purposes and intent of our resolutions on this subject by holding seminars similar to the All-American Conferences, or to carry on a publicity campaign using such facilities as are available.

Resolution No. 403 (Illinois)—Continue Un-American Activities Committee of House of Representatives, was adopted as follows:

Whereas, The American Legion has been actively in the front line of the battle to support and maintain the Un-American Activities Committee of the House of Representatives in its fight against subversive individuals and groups; and

Whereas, The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, That the Un-American Activities Committee of the House of Representatives continue the Un-American Activities Committee and that sufficient appropriations be provided for its work; and be it further

Resolved, That the membership of The American Legion is required itself with the work of the House Un-American Activities Committee and thereby be better equipped to meet its carping critics.

Resolution No. 404 (Illinois)—Program to Alert Our Citizens to Need for Tolerance and Unity, was adopted as follows:

Whereas, The American Legion in national convention has consistently approved resolutions on the subject of tolerance, aiming to create better understanding among all our people; and

Whereas, In the present perilous and dangerous period of our country's welfare, there is greater need for unity among all our people in order that our defense efforts receive greater emphasis and concentration; and

Resolved, by The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, That the National Americanism Commission draw up plans to take affirmative action in carrying out the purposes and intent of our resolutions on this subject by holding seminars similar to the All-American Conferences, or to carry on a publicity campaign using such facilities as are available.

Resolution No. 406 (Illinois)— Commend Press, Radio and Television for Promotion of Americanism Programs, as amended as follows:

Whereas, The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, That American history be taught as a required subject in our high schools and colleges as a prerequisite to graduation of a student from high school and the granting of a degree as a requirement for admission to a major university; and

Resolved, by The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11 and 12, 1950, That American history be taught as a required subject in our high schools and colleges as a prerequisite to graduation of a student from high school and the granting of a degree as a requirement for admission to a major university; and

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be furnished by the National Americanism Commission to all departments of The American Legion, to be transmitted to the departments to the governing State Boards of Education, the Boards of Regents
or Directors of each institution of higher learning, and to each member of the Legislature of the respective states.

Resolution No. 408 (Illinois)—Commend National Education Association and Affiliates for Barring Communists from Membership, was adopted as follows:

Whereas, The National Education Association, the largest professional teachers' organization, voted overwhelmingly in its recent convention to bar communists and other subversives from membership therein; and

Whereas, The American Legion is highly appreciative of the solicitude for our nation's welfare which the National Education Association has demonstrated by such course; therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, That we do hereby commend the members of the American teaching profession, the National Education Association and its affiliates, for their patriotic action in barring communists and other subversives from their membership.

Resolution No. 409 (Illinois)—Commend Members of American Teaching Profession for Support of Legion's Americanism Program, was adopted as follows:

Whereas, The teaching profession of the United States has overwhelmingly supported The American Legion Americanism program in schools, to cite a few purposes, as the oratorical, essay, and school medal awards, junior baseball contests, etc.; and

Whereas, The various teacher organizations such as the National Education Association and its various state affiliates have supported The American Legion in its fight against subversive groups; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, That we do hereby commend the members of the American teaching profession, their organizations, the National Education Association and its various state affiliates, for their hearty support of the Americanism program of The American Legion.

Resolution No. 410 (Illinois)—Refuse Permits to Subversive Groups to Hold Meetings in Public Buildings or to Parade, adopted as follows:

Whereas, The communist party in the United States is not a society of free citizens organized for lawful purposes, but is an organization owing allegiance to a foreign government and whose objective is to destroy our form of government and our way of life and subject us to the domination of that foreign government, and substitute their alien philosophy for our American philosophy of freedom, not by persuasion and peaceable precept, but by economic and physical force; and

Whereas, Meetings called to further communist purposes are not peaceable assemblies of citizens guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States, but are trysts and congregations of conspirators dedicated to the destruction of our liberties, at the bidding of an alien power dedicated to the enslavement of the world; and

Whereas, The meetings of communist front organizations are for the purpose of aiding the aforesaid destructive aims and purposes of the communist party itself, and to disguise their purposes to better serve the purposes of that alien state and to conceal their treasonable acts and designs; and

Whereas, Communist party and communist front parades are likewise aimed at furthering the said treasonable purposes; and

Whereas, Such meetings and such parades promote discord and dissension and foster espionage and treason, and menace the peace of the world; therefore be it

Resolved, by The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, That all officials of the United States, of any of the counties, cities, park districts, school districts, or any other municipal body, or any other institution supported in whole or in part by tax money, have the authority to issue permits for the use thereof, be memorialized and urged to deny permits to any communist party group or communist front group, which has been so designated by the Attorney General of the United States, or the Un-American Activities Committee of the Congress or any other lawful committee of the Congress to use any building or other place of assembly and that all such officials having authority to issue permits for parades deny such permits to any communist party or communist front group, and that all persons having control of private halls or places of assembly, be appealed to in the interest of preserving our liberties, to deny rental of their properties to all communist party and communist front groups.

Resolution No. 416 (Illinois)—Letter-Writing Campaign to Inform World's People of America's True Purposes, was adopted as follows:

Whereas, In Russia and in its satellite countries the people are kept in ignorance of America's true purposes and are fed with untrue and vicious propaganda concerning our desires to help in the creation of an enduring world peace; and

Whereas, In 1948, the Department of Illinois, American Legion, through its Americanism Commission, undertook a successful letter-writing campaign to Italy by Americans of Italian extraction, whereby they wrote thousands of letters to their relatives and friends in Italy which disabused the minds of their Italian relatives and friends, of the false and duplicitous statements and claims made against the United States by the Italian communist and his world followers; and

Whereas, This letter-writing campaign should be undertaken on a larger scale, to wit: by every citizen or alien residing in the United States writing to their relatives and friends in their native country; and

Whereas, The American Legion at national, through its administrative services, such as the National Americanism Commission and the National Security Commission and the Foreign Relations Committee, can more effectively organize and cooperate with this letter-writing project on a national basis; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, That this letter-writing project throughout the world be organized and coordinated by the national headquarters of The American Legion.

Resolutions Nos. 418 (Illinois) and 540 (Wisconsin) were consolidated and adopted as Resolution No. 418 (Illinois)—Urgent National to Provide Funds to Make Reports of Regional Conferences on Un-American Activities Available, as follows:

Whereas, The National Americanism Commission has sponsored regional conferences on un-American and subversive activities in order to counteract such activities; and

Whereas, One of such conferences was recently held in Chicago and it is understood that in-
Resolution No. 466 (California) — Resolution of Appreciation and the Program of the Motion Picture Industry in Support of American Principles and Against Communism, was adopted as amended as follows:

Whereas, The national organization of The American Legion, in furtherance of its program of Americanism, has made frequent requests that the motion picture industry use its tremendous facilities for public information in the fight for American principles and against communism; and

Whereas, The motion picture industry has responded to these requests by the production in 1949 and 1950 of such anti-communist films as: BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN (20th Century-Fox); THE RED MENACE (Republic); I MARIED A COMMUNIST (RKO); THE RED DANUBE (MGM); GUILTY OF TREASON (Eagle-Lion); and THE CONSPIRATOR (MGM); now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion express its appreciation to the above-mentioned producers and urge them to continue their efforts.

Resolution No. 470 (California) — Suitable Citation to Congressman Nixon for His Patriotic Service, was adopted as follows:

Whereas, Events of recent weeks have demonstrated the need for greater vigilance against subversive activities in our nation; and

Whereas, Through the untiring efforts and perseverance of Congressman Richard M. Nixon, of California, of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, Alger Hiss was brought to justice; and

Whereas, Congressman Nixon has joined with Senator Karl Mundt of South Dakota in drafting and sponsoring legislation which it is generally recognized presents the best and most effective method of curbing and exposing communist activities in the United States; and

Whereas, The National Executive Committee of The American Legion and the 1949 National Convention of The American Legion have heartily endorsed the said Mundt-Nixon Bill; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion in national convention assembled at Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, does hereby commend Congressman Richard M. Nixon, of California, for his determined and diligent efforts in bringing to the attention of the American public the Alger Hiss subversion and for the introduction and energetic efforts in behalf of the Anti-Subversive Bill; and be it further

Resolved, That the national department award a suitable citation to Congressman Nixon for his patriotic service.

Resolution No. 471 (California) — Denial of Restoration of Citizenship to Certain Japanese, was adopted as follows:

Whereas, It has been proposed that some 4,200 American-born Japanese who voluntarily renounced their American citizenship after Japan declared war on the United States now be restored to full United States citizenship; and

Whereas, It is our belief that such persons are not of proper caliber for U. S. citizenship; therefore, be it

Resolved, That this resolution be expedited as quickly as possible.
Resolution No. 525 (Wisconsin)—Winners in National Oratorical Contest Be Barred from Further Department Contests, was adopted as follows:

Whereas, It is possible for a contestant in the American Legion National High School Oratorical Contest to be a winner of the Department Oratorical Contest as many as four times; and

Whereas, Such participation in the case of an outstanding contestant tends to discourage participation in said contest by other contestants; and

Whereas, It is felt that a more stimulating effort will be injected into said contest if some measure is taken to prevent winning contestants again repeating; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the American Legion in national convention assembled at Los Angeles, California, as follows: That contestants in said Oratorical Contest who have been first place winners in national finals be barred from further competition.

The committee discussed at some length a matter brought to it from the delegation from Virginia, Comrade C. M. Dancey, Jr., pertaining to the alleged reference in some American Legion literature in reference to colored posts and colored Legionnaires as being discriminatory. It was suggested that the Convention Americanism Committee call this to the attention of all Legion publications in an effort to eliminate racial references.

Resolution No. 709 (Convention Americanism Committee)—Urge National Finance Committee to Allocate Sufficient Additional Funds for Counter Subversive Activities, was adopted:

Whereas, The American Legion is vitally interested in safeguarding our internal security; and

Whereas, International communism is engaged in a world-wide propaganda war of un-paralleled magnitude against the United States and its institutions; and

Whereas, The American Legion, in convention assembled, has repeatedly deplored the apathy with which its efforts to eradicate communism have been received; and

Whereas, The tremendous increase of work and requests for help from Legion subdivisions made upon the Americanism Commission have made it imperative that additional funds be made available and earmarked for the counter-subversive activities, in order that The American Legion may fully and effectively carry out its responsibilities in this vital activity; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion in convention assembled October 9, 10, 11 and 12, 1950, strongly urge and recommend that the National Finance Committee allocate reasonable and sufficient additional funds to the Americanism Commission to the end that the counter-subversive activities may be carried on in proper relationship with the needs of the times.

Resolution No. 710 (Convention Americanism Committee)—Amend Nationality Act of 1940, was adopted:

Resolved, by The American Legion assembled at national convention, in Los Angeles, California, That Section 406, paragraph (h), of the Nationality Act of 1940, be amended to include in the exceptions to the application of Section 404, veterans of the 2nd World War, and it is further recommended that the Act be made retroactive to include those veterans of World War II whose time has expired under the three-year limitation of the present Act.

The report was adopted.
germane to the proper functions of The American Legion.

Fourteen resolutions are recommended by your Convention Committee for referral to the National Economic Commission and the respective committees under said commission for consideration and study.

The 75 resolutions recommended for adoption by your Convention Committee have been consolidated into 38 resolutions which are being submitted herewith to the convention for approval, together with the annual employment program for the year 1951.

The 10 resolutions recommended for referral to the National Economic Commission and the committee thereof for further study are as follows:

Number
334 Funds for financing G. I. Loans.
93 Violations of Veterans' Preference Act be corrected.
154 Veterans’ Preference Act violations.
481 Discrimination Against Veterans because of their ‘Preference’ be punishable.
350 Amend Sugar Act of 1948 to permit Puerto Rico to increase its quota to U. S.
630 Correct discriminations in program for crop allotments.
326 Interior Department employees filing on homesteads in Alaska.
333 Reforestation program be increased.
519 A. redefine the term ‘farm or other agricultural establishment.’
548 Government loans to farmers of cut-over land.

The 24 resolutions recommended for rejection because they are in conflict with the established policy of The American Legion or are not germane to the proper functions of The American Legion, or are already existing law, are as follows: Number

195 Maximum guarantee of $7,500 housing loan.
261 G. I. Bill of Rights include men still in service who were in W. W. I.
473 California plan to correct housing legislation.
560 Loans under Servicemen’s Readjustment Act of 1944.
631 Make available loans under G. I. Bill of Rights.
16 Preference for service-connected disabled in reduction-in-force cases.
95 Government jobs filled on a temporary basis during war.
321 Oppose curtailment of postal services.
335 Protect civil service jobs of those called into armed services.
420 Time spent in authorized V. A. treatment be counted for Civil Service Retirement credit.
475 Endorsing H. R. 8049.
479 Proposed amendment to Section 2 of Veterans’ Preference Act.
480 American citizens serving in Allied armies come under Veterans’ Preference Act of 1944.
517 Postal employees’ cut-back.
590 Oppose curtailment of postal mail service.
533 Control of Lamprey menace.
131 Congress enact controls necessary to maintain a balanced economy during crisis.
155 Urge fair employment practices.
158 Congress prevent rise in prices and hoarding.
196 Compulsory arbitration and no right to strike during national emergencies.
231 Restore Readjustment Allowances for those not applying within time limit.

343 Readjustment allowances of G. I. Bill be revived.
368 Oppose boarding, etc.

The resolutions recommended for adoption will be hereinafter submitted under the respective committees or function designations.

Employment


Resolution No. 607 from the Department of Oregon, and No. 534 from the Department of Idaho were submitted to your committee for consideration relative to the re-employment rights of veterans now entering the armed services. Your committee has considered these resolutions, and as they were not sufficiently embrace in properly protecting the rights of persons entering the military service, Committee Resolution No. 708 has been drafted and is recommended for approval as follows:

Whereas, The mobilization program will result in increased numbers of persons entering the military service due to enlistment, induction and call of reservists to active duty; and

Whereas, Certain provisions relating to re-employment in the Selective Service Act of 1948 were enacted prior to the Korean situation and do not adequately cover persons entering military service; be it

Resolved, That—

1. Re-employment rights be extended to persons enlisting, or reservists serving on active duty for more than three years;

2. That coverage be extended so long as persons are liable for involuntary call to military duty under the Selective Service Act; and

3. That this protection be extended so long as persons are liable for involuntary call to military duty under the Selective Service Act; and

4. That persons called for induction or active duty but rejected for physical or other reasons be permitted to return to their jobs, both public and private, without loss of any rights therein; provided, however, that recall of a reservist to active duty solely for the purpose of taking a physical examination to determine such fitness for active duty will not be considered a period of training and active service for the purpose of veterans’ preference.

Employment Services

The American Legion has been consistently interested in the proper functioning and staffing of the Veterans’ Employment Service, the United States Employment Service and the respective State Employment Services to the end that veterans will be assured of the proper effective job counseling and employment placement service contemplated in the Legion G. I. Bill.

In view of the additional burden being placed upon all of the employment services in the recruitment of sufficient personnel to meet all needs, it is imperative that the staffs of these services be increased and that adequate funds be provided by the Congress in order to secure the necessary personnel to do this job.

Resolution Nos. 123, 156, 48, 61, 69, 96, 563, 207, 257, 317, 373, 606, 670, have been submitted to your committee, and it is recommended that Resolution No. 123, as amended, be adopted, which

Whereas, The American Legion foresaw the need for, and designed the provisions under Title IV, Public Law 346 (G. I. Bill of Rights) of the 78th Congress, passed June 22, 1944; and

36
Whereas, This enactment created the Veterans' Employment Service (a federal agency) for the purpose of cooperating with and assisting the United States Employment Service to the end that . . . "there shall be an effective job counseling and employment placement service for veterans and that to this end policies shall be promulgated and administered so as to provide for them a maximum of job opportunity in the field of gainful employment; . . ."

Whereas, The total position strength of the Veterans' Employment Service in the nation has been reduced from 738 in 1948 to 410 in 1949, and to 265 during 1950, and that of the staff in Montana from a total of seven to three; and

Whereas, Such reductions in staff have seriously jeopardized veterans' representation, protection, and aid in the field of gainful employment; therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion in national convention assembled at Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, earnestly and vigorously recommend and request restoration of the Veterans' Employment Service staff requirements sufficiently adequate to comply with the purpose, intent and provisions of Title IV, Public Law 346; and be it further

Resolved, That the Congress appropriate sufficient funds for the adequate and sufficient administration, not only for the Veterans' Employment Service, but the United States Employment Service and the respective State Employment Services.

Resolution No. 336, recommending that discrimination against the older worker be eliminated, and Resolutions No. 218 recommending The American Legion traditional policy of full employment for veterans, are both recommended for adoption, said resolutions being as follows:

Whereas, The American Legion is vitally interested in the future security of our veterans in seeing that every opportunity is provided them in securing and maintaining gainful employment; and

Whereas, Present statistics indicate that 35 per cent of the unemployed fall in the middle-age group;

Whereas, Manufacturers are building up a human "scrap heap" of reliable, qualified, conscientious workers, still in their prime and capable of doing and able to produce an honest eight hours of work per day; and

Whereas, Employment of older workers has declined from 80 out of every 100 males, aged 65 and over, who were gainfully employed in 1870 to the present average of between 45 and 50 out of every 100; and

Whereas, The life expectancy at birth in 1850 was only 40 years, and, through public health campaigns on infectious diseases, 20 years has been added to this life expectancy by 1950; and

Whereas, Employment of older workers has declined from 80 out of every 100 males, aged 65 and over, who were gainfully employed in 1870 to the present average of between 45 and 50 out of every 100; and

Whereas, The American Legion recognizes its duty and responsibility to concentrate the power and influence of the organization toward the objective of full employment for veterans and disabled veterans; and

Whereas, The experience of recent years clearly indicates the increased problems facing disabled veterans and veterans 'over 40', in obtaining and retaining employment; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion, in national convention assembled these 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th days of October, 1950, at Los Angeles, California, does again emphasize its traditional policy and urges that (1) employment for veterans be continued as a major objective of The American Legion; (2) that The American Legion devote its full strength to insuring that sufficient funds and sufficient personnel be made available through Congressional action to the agencies responsible for job placement and counseling; apprentices and on-the-job training including the Veterans Administration, the Veterans' Employment Service, the United States Employment Service and the State Employment Services so that a complete and effective service will be furnished to all unemployed veterans with particular emphasis on disabled veterans and veterans in the older age brackets; (3) that The American Legion through its posts, districts, departments, and its national organization organize its resources to secure placement on suitable jobs of all unemployed veterans through its own efforts and through full utilization of federal, state and community agencies; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be forwarded through proper channels to the representatives in the Congress of the United States for their support and appropriate action on behalf of our veterans, especially the disabled and those in the 'over 40' age group.

The American Legion is vitally interested in seeing to it that war production is expanded to meet our military needs. Resolution No. 205, recommending an expanded program of apprenticeship in industries essential to existing emergency, is recommended for adoption as follows:

Whereas, It is increasingly apparent that this nation may be faced with another disastrous emergency; and

Whereas, It is self-evident that the ability to successfully defend ourselves depends on our ability to produce arms and material rapidly and in quantity; and

Whereas, The key to and the backbone of our production potential is the nation's reservoir of skilled man power functioning in the trades and crafts utilized by our industries; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion National Convention assembled in Los Angeles, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, be recorded as vigorously recommending that all possible means at the disposal of the Congress of the United States be utilized to further and expand the program of apprenticeship in industries essential to the present war emergency, which is now functioning to develop and improve our skilled man power resources with the assistance of the Bureau of Apprenticeship of the United States Department of Labor.

No. 159

It is essential, of course, that any action being followed which will slow down war production should be corrected. Resolution No. 159 on this
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subject is recommended for adoption as amended, and is as follows:

Whereas, America is at war and her very existence as a nation is imperiled; and

Whereas, Her sons in her armed forces are fighting and dying at this moment that her future may be secure and that her democratic institutions shall not perish; and

Whereas, It is essential that all persons, young and old alike, without regard to class, shall support our armed forces and the nation's every effort or suffer destruction as a nation; and

Whereas, There is a willful and determined group among employers, labor leaders, and employees alike, that are vital to the nation's defense, who selfishly are putting their own interests above our vital industrial effort and above the interests of the nation's efforts and the interests of our armed forces; and

Whereas, Daily newspapers, periodicals, etc., record strikes taking place throughout the nation, imperiling our effort toward winning the war; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion in Thirty-second Annual National Convention assembled, That it condemn these actions on the part of capital, labor and selfish individuals which are showing down war production, and that we demand that they be dealt with summarily as determined by the Congress.

No. 60

A situation exists in certain areas whereby displaced persons from foreign countries, who were originally admitted to fill specific occupations, have entered occupations other than those for which their entry was granted, and it is felt that this should be corrected, particularly in those cases where there is no scarcity of American labor. Resolution No. 60, covering that subject matter, is recommended for adoption as follows:

Whereas, It is a matter of policy of The American Legion to support and demand employment of veterans wherever possible; and

Whereas, Some of these unemployed in certain fields are such because job openings are filled by displaced persons from foreign countries; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That this 32nd National Convention of The American Legion go on record as demanding a more severe screening of disabled persons entering the United States so that those displaced persons approved by various organizations for entry be permitted to enter only if they remain in the work classification upon which their entry was based or in fields where there is no surplus of labor.

No. 686

The American Legion is interested in maintaining the American standard of living and is recommending the adoption of Resolution No. 686 which opposes any reduction in our protective tariffs which would lower our standard of living. Said resolution is as follows:

Whereas, Through the combined efforts of our armed forces and industry, the United States and our allies emerged victorious in two world wars; and

Whereas, With the cessation of hostilities, most of the critical and strategic material upon which the United States depended in the prosecution of two world wars has been converted from war-time to peace-time use, if the need should again arise;

Whereas, Many of the veterans who served in the past two world wars are now engaged in industry and are enjoying the highest standard of living of any nation in the world through existing good relations between labor and industry;

Whereas, The security and the high standard of living is due in great measure to the protection afforded labor and industry alike through the protective tariffs that have been on our statute books for many years:

Whereas, Trade negotiations with other nations are scheduled to be held beginning September of 1950 under the Trade Agreement Act of 1934, as amended and extended, looking toward possible reduction of United States customs tariffs which, if accomplished, will make it impossible for many of the industries in these United States engaged in the manufacture of critical and strategic materials to compete with like articles of foreign manufacture because of low wage rates and other lower costs of manufacture in foreign countries; therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion in annual national convention assembled are opposed to the principle of any reduction of our protective tariffs which, if accomplished, will lower our standard of living and be a decided detriment to our building up stock piles of critical and strategic materials and other tools of war which these United States will need, should war be forced upon us at any time in the future.

No. 111

Resolutions Nos. 111, 112, 352 and 562, relative to economic sanctions of trade against Russia, have been considered by your committee, and Resolution No. 111, as amended, is recommended for adoption, the other resolutions being considered as consolidated therein. Resolution No. 111 is as follows:

Whereas, Commerce with Russia and her satellite nations gives those nations' economy a financial weapon; and

Whereas, Our nation faces a world conflict from the forces of communism; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9 through 12, inclusive, go on record as favoring the invoking of economic sanctions against trade with Russia and her satellite nations.

Amendment to G. I. Bill for Those Entering Service Since Start of Korean Action

Your convention committee is of the firm opinion that all benefits for World War II veterans provided under the G. I. Bill should be extended to all those in or entering the service since June 24, 1950, and the G. I. Bill amended accordingly. Your Convention Committee is informed, however, that such amendments have already been introduced in the Congress, and resolutions are now before other convention committees on this subject matter which undoubtedly will be approved, and, therefore, has not prepared a separate resolution covering said matter, but heartily recommends that the convention approve such action when submitted by the other convention committees.

Veterans' Preference

Oppose Any Change in the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944

Nine resolutions have been considered by your committee relative to proposed changes in the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944 which would react to the disadvantage of the veteran and take away the benefits granted by the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944, particularly with respect to the recommendations of the Hoover Commission on personnel management.
No. 421
It is recommended that Resolution No. 421 be adopted, the other eight resolutions being consoli-
dated therein. Said Resolution No. 421 being as follows:
Whereas, H. R. 8925, introduced in the House of
Representatives at the second session of the 81st
Congress by Mr. Murray of Tennessee, states as
its objective
To provide a recruitment procedure for the
competitive civil service in order to insure selec-
tion of personnel on the basis of open competi-
tion and merit, and for other purposes"; and
Whereas, In reality, this bill desires to put into
effect certain provisions of the Hoover Report rela-
tive to Personnel Management in the federal gov-
ernment as follows:
(1) Decentralization of the functions of the
U. S. Civil Service Commission of recruitment,
examination, and appointment to the several
federal agencies, leaving to the commission only
general approval of the policies and periodic
inspections of the agency to see that they are
complying with established laws and regulations.
(2) To grant authority to the agencies to rate
examination papers completed by applicants
either on a numerical basis or by categories
(outstanding, satisfactory, and unsatisfactory),
said categories not to be used in the Post Office
Department. This provision, if an agency elects
to use the category system of marking, will
eliminate 5- and 10-point preference.
(3) Authorizes the agency to receive five eligi-
bles for a vacancy rather than three eligibles
where the rating is numerical, and where the
rating is by category, the appointing officer shall
be entitled to five eligibles from the highest
category.
Whereas, All of these provisions will modify and
amend the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944; and
Whereas, The American Legion is unalterably
opposed to these or other proposed changes in the
Veterans' Preference Act of 1944, as evidenced by
the actions at previous state and national con-
ventions; now, therefore, be it
Resolved, by The American Legion in convention
assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9,
10, 11, 12, 1950, That we reiterate our unalterable
opposition to any proposed changes in the Veter-
ans' Preference Act of 1944, particularly further
pointing out our disagreement with his decision
concerning back pay.

No. 113
Resolutions No. 113, 300, 318 and 476 urging
that federal Civil Service employees receive credit
for military service in World War II are consistent
with the previous policy of The American Legion
and it is recommended that Resolution No. 113 be
adopted by the convention, Resolutions No. 300,
318 and 476 being consolidated therein. Resolution
No. 113 being as follows:
Whereas, A precedent was established following
World War I, giving federal employees credit for
military service; and
Whereas, A Civil Service employee who was em-
ployed by the federal government subsequent to
his military service in World War II does not receive
credit for his military service in World War II; and
Whereas, A Civil Service employee who was em-
ployed by the federal government prior to his
military service in World War I receives credit for
his military service; and
Whereas, It is our opinion that both Civil Serv-
vice employees' military service time should count
equally toward their benefits derived from their
employment with the federal government; and
Whereas, H. R. 87, a bill to correct these in-
equalities, is now pending the consent of the House
Special Rules Committee to gain a vote on the
floor; now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That The American Legion in conven-
tion assembled in Los Angeles, California, October
9 through 12, inclusive, go on record as favoring
H. R. 87.
No. 374
Resolution No. 374 from the state of Washing-
ton, recommending that apprenticeship time served
by World War I veterans be counted toward re-
tirement, is recommended for adoption, said res-
olution being as follows:
Whereas, Time spent in apprenticeship by vet-
erans in governmental establishments subsequent
to World War I is counted toward Civil Service
retirement; and
Whereas, Time spent in similar apprenticeships
following World War I cannot be counted toward
such retirement; now, therefore, be it
Resolved, by The American Legion in national
convention assembled at Los Angeles, California,
October 9-12, 1950, That we go on record as fa-
voring such legislation that will correct this
injustice.
Resolution No. 632

Resolution No. 632, calling upon the government to use the services of disabled veterans, is recommended for adoption and is as follows:

Whereas, President Truman has called on industry to employ disabled veterans whenever possible, and to give disabled veterans every encouragement; and

Whereas, We heartily approve this policy, and it is our observation that when disabled veterans are given Civil Service employment they are subtly discouraged by being given jobs that a little too hard for them, and by other artful means of discouragement; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion, in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11 and 12, 1950, That we call on the Defense Department and all government agencies to give every encouragement to disabled veterans and to stop the above-mentioned subtle discouragements.

No. 564

Resolution No. 564, urging that the retirement laws of the federal government be amended for veterans, is recommended for adoption as follows:

Resolved, That this convention go on record as favoring legislation in the retirement laws (of the federal government), which would permit employees to retire at any age upon completion of 30 years' service at a full annuity, and veterans to retire after 25 years at a full annuity.

No. 65

Resolution No. 65, relative to the reduction in force regulations under the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944, is recommended for adoption as follows:

Whereas, The Civil Service Commission's regulations covering Section 12 of the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944, as amended, provide veterans must be fully qualified to gain precedence over a non-veteran serving under the same type of appointment. The American Legion feels that this fully qualified clause has been overlooked by some federal agencies and has virtually nullified the spirit and intent of Congress and The American Legion in providing appropriate preference for veterans in cases of reduction in force; and

Whereas, The federal Civil Service Commission has recently slightly modified the fully qualified clause dealing with reduction-in-force regulations. It is the opinion of The American Legion that current regulations are not adequate to protect the interest in the reduction-in-force procedure and should be further strengthened to provide that preference employees who meet the minimum qualification requirements of a position held by a non-veteran employee have the legal right to displace a non-veteran employed in the particular assignment; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion in national convention assembled at Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, That the Civil Service Commission be requested to further modify its reduction-in-force regulations so as to further comply with the spirit and intent of Section 12 of the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944, as amended, and that all reduction-in-force appeals filed with the commission during the period that this fully qualified clause was in the regulations may be either reopened by the veteran or readjudicated by the commission on the basis of whether the veteran meets the minimum qualifications of the position in question.

Resolution No. 66

Resolution No. 66, urging an amendment to the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944 to extend veterans' preference on prime contractors using federal funds, is recommended for adoption as follows:

Whereas, Unemployment is always a threat to veterans; and

Whereas, It is growing increasingly evident that the international situation will bring about increased civilian employment in which government funds will be expended; and

Whereas, The Veterans' Preference Act of 1944, as amended, does not include the coverage of veterans' preference with prime contractors who operate with federal funds; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion in national convention assembled at Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, That the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944, as amended, be further amended to include the requirement that prime contractors who operate in whole or in part with federal funds must give preference to all qualified veterans, and that the Congress be requested to give the authority to an appropriate federal agency for the administration of this preference requirement.

No. 206

Resolution No. 206, similar to Resolution No. 66, relative to veterans' preference in all contracts where federal funds are used, is recommended for adoption as follows:

Whereas, These ex-servicemen and women have sacrificed many valuable years to service with the armed forces of our country; and

Whereas, These ex-servicemen and women have sacrificed many valuable years to service with the armed forces of our country; and

Whereas, These ex-servicemen and women have sacrificed many valuable years to service with the armed forces of our country; and

Whereas, This convention assembled in Los Angeles, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, request its Legislative and Economic Commissions to do everything within their power to have appropriate labor clauses in all contracts where they are financed by federal funds; and

Whereas, The Congress or the President of the United States has not passed laws or approved executive orders affecting veterans' preference; therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion in national convention assembled in Los Angeles, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, request its Legislative and Economic Commissions to do everything within their power to have appropriate labor clauses in all contracts where they are financed by federal funds and that the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944 be enforced; and be it further

Resolved, That to assure veterans' preference, we recommend that all contracting firms be required to use the facilities of the United States Employment Service and its affiliate State Employment Service for selection and referrals.

No. 555

Resolution No. 555 urging that the civilian personnel of draft boards and induction centers for veterans is recommended as follows:

Whereas, The young men and women of this nation are once more called upon to defend the honor of the United States, to bear arms in national service; and

Whereas, It is necessary for the proper functioning of draft boards and induction centers to employ civilian personnel in the various operations; be it

Resolved, That this convention assembled in Los Angeles, October 9-12, 1950, That we call on the Defense Department and all government agencies to give every encouragement to disabled veterans and to stop the above-mentioned subtle discouragements.
Resolved, by The American Legion, in convention assembled in Los Angeles, October 9 to 12, inclusive, That in all capacities in these installations, all positions shall be filled by veterans and those with veterans' preference, and by them only. We feel that it is only right and proper—honorable and decent—that those in sending our young citizens to fight, and possibly die, should be those who, in other wars, have given their services to America in time of national emergency.

No. 478

Resolution No. 478, relative to a uniform sick leave allowance of Civil Service workers, as amended, is recommended for adoption as follows:

Whereas, It has been stated that the average Civil Service worker only works 1,650 hours per year due to the following "grants": 26 working days of paid vacation leave, plus eight national holidays, for a total of 34 working days; plus 15 days of paid sick leave for an over-all total of 49 days, or a 10-week period per year. This also figures 30 minutes of daily coffee time which is not accorded all Civil Service workers, and is mostly at a Womack, D. C., factor, or a white-collar grant; and

Whereas, the sick leave allowance is allowed for the purpose of keeping the workers healthy and is in very few cases used up, therefore lending a false sense to the picture it paints, along with the 30 minutes' coffee-time periods. Actually, many days of sick leave are "lost" by the workman due to his having accumulated the maximum buildup; and

Whereas, This false picture is endeavoring to cut the present leave time of Civil Service workers by passage of legislation; therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion in national convention assembled in the city of Los Angeles, October 9 to 12, 1950, go on record clarifying the situation in the Congress as to the actual allowance of leave, only when the agency assigns permission, and sick leave only with a doctor's permission, if beyond three days and in many cases only with a doctor's permission or direction. And further, that we oppose such action by Congress in lowering the amounts of leave time on any such misquoted information.

No. 68

Resolution No. 68, relative to the veterans' preference in government positions in the passing over of veterans in favor of non-veterans, as amended, is recommended for adoption:

Whereas, The present needs for maximum production requires the utilization of all our human resources and affords an opportunity for the placement of physically-handicapped veterans in government employment; and

Whereas, Physically-handicapped veterans should have an opportunity to utilize their abilities and at any time earn a livelihood; and

Whereas, The provisions of the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944, as amended, are circumvented in many instances, particularly in service-connected disability preference; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion in national convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, reaffirm our stand on preference in selection of preference eligibles to fill existing openings in all government jobs; and be it

Resolved, That adequate Congressional action be sought to safeguard the disability preference by requiring that the Civil Service Commission give service-connected disability candidates for Civil Service appointment a full explanation in the case of rejection for appointment, except where information might prove injurious to the veteran, and that the Civil Service Commission be granted legal authority to require the protesting federal agency to employ the veterans passed over, providing the Civil Service Commission deems the specific reason for such passing over inadequate.

Agriculture and Conservation

Adequate Funds for Farmers

Home Administration

No. 629

Resolutions Nos. 118, 125, 157, 267, 372, 604, 629, and 689, in conformity with the previous acts of The American Legion, urge that the Congress provide sufficient funds for the Farmers Home Loan Administration to meet the agricultural credit needs of veteran applicants who cannot otherwise obtain the necessary agricultural credit. It is recommended that Resolution No. 629 be adopted as follows, the other eight resolutions being considered as consolidated therein:

Whereas, The American Legion is apprised of the fact that agricultural credit is restrictive and many veterans beginning in agricultural pursuits need credit opportunities for land ownership or farm opportunities requiring capital goods for farm operating programs; and

Whereas, The U. S. Department of Agriculture, Farmers Home Administration, is a source of credit for veteran farmers in many areas of the state, and that credit needs are not fully met due to loan policies created by limited appropriations; and

Whereas, Each year the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Farmers Home Administration, runs out of funds early in the cropping year and many eligible veteran applicants have to be turned away for the lack of funds; and

Whereas, The U. S. Department of Agriculture, Farmers Home Administration, through its collections of interest on operating loans and land loans, is of very little cost to the government, as these interest payments help meet administrative expenses; therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion in convention assembled at Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11 and 12, 1950, That it continue to endorse the work of the Farmers Home Administration to meet the agricultural credit needs of eligible veteran applicants who, because commercial credit conditions are not operative in the area, cannot obtain the necessary agricultural credit to meet their needs.

No. 695

Resolution No. 695, urging that the National Economic Commission develop a specific program for western agriculture in order to assist veterans engaged therein, is recommended for adoption as follows:

Whereas, The American Legion in national convention assembled at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, August 29-September 1, 1949, went on record as showing its determination to assist veterans in agriculture, and the Department of Oregon, The American Legion, in state convention assembled at Salem, Oregon, and the Department of Washington, The American Legion, assembled in Seattle, Washington, also called for adequate credit assistance to farm veterans; and
Whereas, Since the passage of the G. I. Bill of Rights, the agriculture and conservation program of The American Legion has steadily grown in significance and promises to become one of the major parts of the important Americanism and national security programs of the organization; and

Whereas, Western agriculture offers problems different from the other agricultural areas of the United States, particularly in dry lands requiring water such as the Madras and Malheur projects of Oregon and the Roza and Grand Coulee projects of Washington; and

Whereas, Many more veterans have applied for homesteads and reclamation projects than there are units available; and

Whereas, Farmers Home Administration in the west has pioneered successfully in helping veteran farmers to help themselves by loans requiring re-payment not by "gift"; and

Whereas, Farmers Home Administration has lacked loan funds and the administrative personnel to provide adequate assistance to deserving and well-qualified farm veterans and at present is the only federal agency engaged in the direct lending field; therefore, be it

Resolved, by the National Agriculture and Conservation Committee and the Area E meeting of the Legislative Commission, and the chairmen of the National Employment Commission and the National Economic Commission, the chairman of the National Agriculture and Conservation Committee meet with the Secretary of Agriculture to bring about modifications of the existing agricultural credit programs in order to properly serve the agricultural and credit needs of all veteran farmers in all types of agricultural pursuits.

No. 31

Resolved, That The American Legion, at the Miami National Convention, authorized the organization of a National Agriculture and Conservation Committee of The American Legion; and

Resolved, That The American Legion in national convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, adopt a national policy for the Agriculture and Conservation Committee in order that a definite service program might be made up and presented to the several departments.

No. 119

Resolved No. 119, urging that The American Legion support more service programs benefiting the rural veteran, is recommended for adoption as follows:

Whereas, The American Legion Magazine, in its July, 1950, issue carried an article by Robert B. Pitkin, entitled "How the Legion Fights for the Farm Veteran," which highlighted the determination of the farm veteran in his quest for an opportunity to follow the vocations of his choice; and

Whereas, The story is superbly written and carries great human and reader interest, portraying for the first time the Legion's interest in a program for the benefit of the rural veteran; and

Whereas, Many thousands of veterans seek the opportunities written about; therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion at its national convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11 and 12, 1950, support more service programs benefiting rural people in order to fulfill the Legion's commitment of service to the Community, State and Nation.

National Employment Program for 1951

It is the obligation of the National Convention Economic Committee to recommend the employment program to be followed for the ensuing year. In arriving at the following program, which is recommended for approval by this committee, your convention committee has considered the reports of the National Economic Commission, the National Employment Commission, and the Veterans' Preference Committee, together with a study of the resolutions submitted to the convention which have been recommended for adoption. The program recommended is as follows:

1. Continue pressing for the fulfillment of The American Legion Community Development program.

2. Urge upon individual posts and departments for an active Employment Committee and the im-
mediate appointment of post employment officers in every post.
5. Continue insistence on the proper administration of The American Legion G. I. Bill, with corrective amendments when experience shows they are needed.
6. Seek expansion of Veterans' Employment Service to the number of personnel required to render preferential treatment to veterans.
7. Institute and continue the program of education among employers to prevent discrimination against mature or older workers.
8. Insist that those now in the services of their country be given adequate re-employment rights.
9. Urge the extension and improvement of unemployment compensation and benefits, oppose its federalization, support experience rating and employment stabilization, urge the policy of government management and of labor affecting wages and working conditions be directed to maintain and continually improve the American standard of living with collective bargaining and our competitive system of free enterprise recognized as essential factors in our American way of life.
10. The full resources of The American Legion are pledged in support of this national employment program and our cooperation tendered to all others similarly interested to the end that every veteran will be aided in securing that position in civil life that he would have achieved if war service had not interrupted his career, and in recognition that a prosperous America providing maximum employment for all who are willing and able to work is possible only if we continue to work as a team in peace as we did in the war production and on the fighting front.

Housing Administration of the G. I. Loan Guaranty Program

Your convention committee has been greatly disturbed by recently enacted legislation and the issuance of executive orders which, in our opinion, jeopardize the successful handling of loans to veterans under the G. I. Bill, and which may possibly result in the separation of the control by the Administrator of Veterans’ Affairs of such loans and transfer the powers and responsibility to the Administrator of the Housing and Home Finance Agency.

Your convention committee cannot be too emphatic in stressing our insistence that this program be maintained in the Veterans Administration. The Hoover Commission recommended the transfer of virtually all of these functions to the Housing and Home Finance Agency. Such recommendation was vigorously opposed by The American Legion. We reiterate our continued opposition to any such proposed change.

No. 706

In view of the urgency of the situation your convention committee has prepared Resolution No. 706 stating our firm position in this matter and recommends its adoption as follows:

Whereas, The President of the United States has been empowered under the Defense Production Act of 1950 to establish credit restrictions on home mortgage financing, including the financing of homes to be purchased or constructed by veterans under the G. I. loan guaranty program of the Veterans Administration; and

Whereas, By Executive Order No. 10161 the President has delegated that authority to the Administrator of the Housing and Home Finance Agency, which action has placed in him the official effective control of the G. I. loan guaranty program; and

Whereas, Such delegation or assumption of such authority would, and by the Administrator of the Housing and Home Finance Agency is contrary to the established policy of The American Legion, which has consistently fostered the home loan guaranty program under the G. I. Bill, under the Administrator of Veterans’ Affairs, and has resisted repeated efforts to reduce or destroy the effectiveness of the program, particularly in connection with the recommendations of the Hoover Commission, which seeks to transfer this program from the Veterans Administration to the Housing and Home Finance Agency; and

Whereas, The Administrator of the Housing and Home Finance Agency is now considering the issuance of regulations prescribing credit control on housing, which may have drastic effects upon the rights of veterans under the G. I. Bill and remove from the Veterans’ Administration its powers and responsibilities; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion views with grave concern the impact caused by any such action of the Housing and Home Finance Administrator to restrict the loan guaranty program of the Veterans Administration and assume such functions, keeping in mind the realization that in time of national emergency and defense efforts, veterans are willing to bear their share of such controls, but to assure ourselves that the rights of veterans under the loan guaranty program under the Veterans Administration are fully recognized; and, be it further

Resolved, That The American Legion urges the President and the Congress of the United States to amend the Executive Order and/or the basic legislation by retaining the responsibilities of the Defense Production Act relating to the loan guaranty program in the Administrator of Veterans’ Affairs and not in the Administrator of the Housing and Home Finance Agency.

No. 707

Delays have been experienced by the handling by the Veterans Administration in the approval of G. I. loans, together with other deficiencies which existed in the administration of the Loan Guaranty Service. Resolutions 208 and 49 have been considered by your committee, and after deliberation the committee has drafted Resolution 707, which, if followed, will improve the handling of the Loan Guaranty Service. Resolution 707 is therefore recommended for adoption, and Resolutions Nos. 298 and 49 are considered as consolidated therein.

Whereas, Due to the foresight and uniting efforts of The American Legion the loan guaranty activity of the Veterans Administration has grown to be one of the most important national housing and veterans’ service programs; and

Whereas, The heavy expansion of this program in the past year, due to recent changes in the law sponsored by The American Legion, has brought about numerous complaints that the Veterans Administration regional offices are unable to cope with the volume of the newly expanded program; and

Whereas, An executive section of the National Housing Committee of The American Legion met in Washington, D. C., on June 20, 1950, to study
these complaints and found that such complaints were due largely to administrative difficulties which were beyond the ability of the Director of the Loan Guaranty Service to correct; and

Whereas, This condition seemed to be largely due to lack of interest among top-level officials of the Veterans Administration in the loan guaranty program; with the result that the budget for the loan guaranty program was entirely inadequate to cope with the newly expanded program; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That an effort be made by The American Legion to dispel the apathy which exists among top-level officials of the Veterans Administration with respect to the administration of the loan guaranty program; and, be it further

Resolved, That the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs be urged specifically to:

1. Obtain adequate staffing of the field offices of the Loan Guaranty Service;
2. Direct the setting up of adequate job classifications in the loan guaranty operation; and
3. Advance the position of Director of the Loan Guaranty Service to the status of Assistant Administrator in order to assure the proper recognition of this vital program within the top level of the Veterans Administration.

No. 296

Resolution No. 296 urges that a priority in the use of builders for homes and Resolution No. 422, urging that unnecessary public works be deferred, have been considered and your committee recommends the adoption of Resolution No. 296 as amended, the subject matter of both resolutions; said resolution being as follows:

Whereas, Construction projects of all kinds, public and private, are now in process; and
Whereas, There is now much municipal, state and federal construction competing for the services of builders; and
Whereas, Much of the governmental construction could be delayed with no serious consequences; and
Whereas, Public construction might serve to support employment for citizens and veterans at times of unemployment, and thereby assist in the stabilization of our economy; and
Whereas, Building materials and construction machines and laborers can best be used in defense projects and in construction of homes for veterans, and others which are yet in short supply; therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion does hereby request the National Economic Commission of The American Legion to use its office in establishing for the citizen and veteran a priority in the use of builders for homes; and, be it further

Resolved, That all federal, state, county and municipal agencies be requested to delay non-essential construction until housing demands are met and to reserve such construction for employment at slack times.

No. 369

Resolution No. 369 condemning the hoarding of building supplies is recommended for adoption, as amended, and is as follows:

Whereas, Since the outbreak of the Korean war, there has become manifest an increased demand for all kinds of goods, including building materials; and
Whereas, There exists an adequate supply of building materials to meet normal demands; and
Whereas, There has been included in the War Production Act of 1950 a very strong anti-hoarding clause which can be effective only if local hoarding is reported; and

Whereas, Hoarding of building supplies increases the cost of building homes, imposing a greater financial burden on veterans and others engaged in home building; therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion at its 32nd Annual National Convention in Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, That all hoarding, including the hoarding of building supplies, be and is hereby condemned as unpatriotic and as lending aid and comfort to the enemies of the United States, and that American Legion posts should notify the N. S. R. B. of any such violations.

No. 297

Resolution No. 297, calling for improved inspections in the construction of G. I. homes by building contractors, is recommended for adoption as follows:

Whereas, Reports have been received of faulty construction of G. I. homes by building contractors; and
Whereas, It is evident that inspection of homes after same are completed cannot disclose many possible cases of faulty construction and, therefore, does not protect the veteran; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion, That we recommend that additional inspections be made during construction and that this recommendation be referred to the National Housing Committee for such corrective action, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Veterans Administration.

The American Legion 1951
Housing Program

No. 369

In view of the fact that many veterans who have obtained loans under the G. I. Bill are being recalled into service, it is of the utmost importance that their interest in the homes thereby secured be protected. Resolution No. 369, covering this subject matter as amended, including Resolutions Nos. 370 and 371, is recommended for adoption, as follows:

Whereas, The Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940, as amended, and other pertinent laws failed in material aspects to provide adequate coverage for persons entering the armed forces of their country in connection with the present national emergency, either by induction, enlistment or call to active duty with the National Guard or Reserves; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion's National Legislative Committee sponsor legislation to amend or supplement the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940, as amended, and all other applicable laws as may be needed to provide just and fitting protection for those veterans whose ability to discharge their existing obligations is prejudiced by the curtailment of their income due to their entering the armed service of the United States during the present national emergency so that they may be enabled to avoid any undue loss or foreclosure of their homes or other property during their period of military service, and may be allowed adequate time following their discharge from the armed forces to settle or discharge their outstanding obligations without being compelled to suffer undue economic hardships.
Your convention committee, after mature deliberation and thorough discussion, has considered Resolution No. 545 together with Resolutions Nos. 299 and 599, which embodies The American Legion housing program for 1951, and recommends the adoption of said Resolution No. 545, as amended, Resolutions Nos. 299 and 599 being considered as consolidated in the general housing program, which is as follows:

Whereas, Veterans of World War II, more than any other segment of the population, have suffered from a shortage and high cost of adequate housing; and

Whereas, The American Legion has consistently urged before the Congress the formulation of a complete and well-rounded housing program to assist veterans in all income levels; and

Whereas, The Congress has enacted into law a realistic veterans' program as the result of persistence, hard work and constant attention given to it by The American Legion; and

Whereas, The Korean war now requires the return of many veterans to service as well as those who have joined the privilege to serve before; and

Whereas, These defense efforts may require a curtailment of the home building program; and

Whereas, Such curtailment could have devastating effects on the veterans' housing program, unless distributed in direct relation to the comparative housing needs of all income groups; and

Whereas, The American Legion, through its national housing efforts, has come to be recognized as one of the outstanding authorities in the field of veterans' housing; and

Whereas, All mandates of the national organization calling for legislation expire with the adjournment of the second session of the 81st Congress; and

Whereas, It will be necessary, in order to continue active participation in legislative efforts affecting veterans' housing, to restate the mandate position of The American Legion for whatever further activity might develop in this field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion, in national convention assembled, adopt as The American Legion's national housing program:

1. Implement and carry out the veteran housing policy enunciated by Public Law 171, 81st Congress, as far as war conditions will permit.

2. Urge the continuation of a strong and favorable secondary market for loans made to veterans under the Servicemen's Readjustment Act, as amended, and continuation of the veterans' direct loan program as established by Public Law 475 of the 81st Congress.

3. The American Legion reaffirms its stand that cooperative housing for veterans be encouraged by the Veterans Administration, and that where private financing is not available for that purpose, funds at interest rates of not in excess of 4%, already in the jurisdiction of the Veterans Administration, be used or additional funds be provided by the Congress.

4. Urge continuation of the disposition of federally-owned war and veterans' housing projects as provided in Public Law 475, 81st Congress, except for those projects determined to be needed in the present defense effort.

5. Prepare and enact legislation granting more adequate relief to servicemen and their families to guard against the possibilities of losing their homes through foreclosure.

6. Urge that continued efforts be made toward the solution of veterans' housing problems by the federal government and its agencies.

7. Encourage each department to maintain an active housing committee to insure that the various federal housing programs enacted for the benefit of veterans are being accomplished at the local level in compliance with the full spirit and intent of the law; and be it further

Resolved, That if this resolution be adopted at the national convention, a copy be forwarded to each department commander of The American Legion and to all government agencies administering housing programs.

Your chairman is most appreciative of the attention and consideration extended by all of the members of the Convention Committee to the many weighty matters assigned to your committee for deliberation. All worked untiringly in endeavoring to arrive at the proper solution of the many problems presented.

The foregoing report is recommended for adoption by your Convention Economic Committee.

The report was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CHILD WELFARE

Dr. A. H. Wittmann, chairman, of Pennsylvania, reported as follows:

To the Thirty-second Annual National Convention,

The American Legion, Los Angeles, California,

October 9-12, 1950:

Thirty-eight members of your Committee on Child Welfare met at 6:00 p.m., October 9, 1950, in Patriotic Hall, in the city of Los Angeles, California, and agreed on the following report, which is respectfully submitted for your consideration:

Introduction

Responsibility in a democracy, such as ours, falls upon all citizens. It is a particularly pressing responsibility for those who have chosen to devote themselves to the broad field of human welfare which we have done as expressed in our slogan, "A Square Deal for Every Child," and unless we do assume special responsibility, we shall probably find what is supposed to be everybody's business turns out to be nobody's business.

Perhaps it would be considered presumptuous if we of the Legion were to attempt to articulate for the people of this nation and the members of the human race, especially the children, their longings, their fears, and their goals. However, when we stop to consider that one-half of the children of this nation are the children of veterans, how can we help but be concerned? Also, if we recall that this nation was built upon the idea of improvement of human life, the enhancement of liberty and the pursuit of happiness and if we recognize the degree upon which the world depends upon our example and our aid, we cannot ignore the responsibility that falls upon us for planning wisely for the future and trying to devise the means best calculated to achieve our goals.

It is with that thought in mind that we present this report to you for your consideration.

* * * *

There were presented for the committee's consideration 18 resolutions:

Resolution No. 361, from the Department of Massachusetts, pertaining to social security coverage for veterans, was referred to the standing
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Whereas, The problems of juvenile delinquency are occupying a constantly larger portion of our law-enforcement agencies due to the centralization of our population in cities; and

Whereas, An adequate child welfare program demands a thorough study of the causes that lead to delinquency and provision to remove such causes and to remedy the conditions in our society which give rise to these causes; and

Whereas, The child welfare program of the national department has stressed the prevention of juvenile delinquency; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion, in national convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, 1950, unqualifiedly recommends a section in the child welfare area conferences be devoted to a study of the problems of delinquency, the remedies therefor and the prevention of juvenile delinquency.

Child Welfare Citations

Resolution No. 588 from the Department of Massachusetts:

Resolved, That this convention goes on record in favor of the national organization awarding a child welfare citation each year to the post in each district which does the most outstanding work in child welfare as determined by the department Child Welfare Committee upon the recommendation of the District Child Welfare Chairman.

Federal Control of Desertion When State Boundaries Are Crossed

Resolution No. 369 from the Department of Oklahoma, with which is combined Resolution No. 603 from the Department of Oregon:

Whereas, There is a moral and legal responsibility for all parents to support their children, and there should be no way to avoid this responsibility, even though, in fact, many deserting parents do avoid such support through the simple expedient of crossing state boundaries; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That this 32nd National Convention of The American Legion reaffirms former convention action in support of federal legislation for the control of desertion when state boundaries are crossed; and, be it further

Resolved, That we go on record as endorsing uniform state laws on desertion and non-support which will make possible reciprocal agreements between states for the enforcement of court orders regarding support of minor children.

Social Security Credit for Korean Military Service

Resolution No. 699 from the Convention Committee on Child Welfare:

Whereas, The American Legion since 1942 has pointed out the inequity of not including World War II military service as "covered employment" under the Old Age and Survivors' Insurance program; and

Whereas, After a vigorous three-year educational and informational program, Congress has passed, and the President has signed, Public Law 734, which, among other provisions, authorizes a wage credit under Old Age and Survivors' Insurance for each month of military service in World War II, said war being defined as the period from September 16, 1940, to June 24, 1947; and

Whereas, Many thousands of young men and women are again leaving their civilian pursuits in the defense of the nation and of our civilization, and in so doing are suffering the same
diminution of their social security credits as did the serviceman in World War II prior to the adoption of Public Law 734; now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That the Social Security Act be amended to provide social security credits for men and women in military service on and after June 25, 1950, on the same basis as credit authorized for service in World War II.

Suitable System of Identification for Children
Be Established as Part of Civilian Defense Program

Resolution No. 700 from the Convention Committee on Child Welfare:
Whereas, There are in Europe today thousands of homeless children whose names, parents, place of origin and even nationality are unknown as a result of the social disruptions of World War II; and
Whereas, In every major catastrophe there is always a major problem of identifying casualties and especially young children; now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That this national convention of The American Legion urges that a suitable system of identification for children be established as a part of the civilian defense program.

Establishment of Day-Care Facilities for Children of Employed Mothers

Resolution No. 701 from the Convention Committee on Child Welfare:
Whereas, The rapid expansion of the military forces and the rise in employment has made it necessary for many mothers of young children to enter the labor market, with a consequent increase in the establishment of and the need for day-care facilities for children; now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That in the establishment of day-care facilities for children, proper standards of health, sanitation, personnel and care be met, and that such day-care centers be licensed and supervised by the appropriate state agency.

Re-establish an Emergency Maternity and Infant Care Program

Resolution No. 702 from the Convention Committee on Child Welfare:
Whereas, During World War II, a system of Emergency Maternity and Infant Care (known as EMIC) was established to provide needed service for the families of the lowest four military-pay grades; and
Whereas, Reports from the departments show that there is again a need to provide such maternity and infant care services for the families of men now entering or re-entering military service; now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That we urge the establishment of an Emergency Maternity and Infant Care program similar to the program operated during World War II, with due consideration given to correcting any inequalities which the experience developed during World War II may have revealed.

Define “Continued Absence from the Home” as Used in the Federal Security Act

Resolution No. 703 from the Convention Committee on Child Welfare:
Whereas, During 1950, The American Legion and its affiliated organizations extended aid and service to children amounting to almost seven million dollars; and
Whereas, A major reason that needy children have had to turn to The American Legion for help is delay in securing assistance to dependent children from public welfare agencies, occasioned in some cases by unduly long waiting periods required to establish technical eligibility and in others by delays in completing investigation of applications; now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That this 32nd National Convention of The American Legion again urges Congress to define the term “continued absence from the home” as used in the Federal Social Security Act with regard to eligibility for aid to dependent children, and that the definition should make it mandatory for states to adjudge a child as being denied the support of a parent when the parent has been absent from the home for a reasonably short period of time, which in no case shall be in excess of six months; and, be it further
Resolved, That appropriate department officials use their best efforts with state public welfare administrators to eliminate delays in the processing of applications for aid to dependent children and to simplify administrative and investigational procedures wherever possible.

Wage Credit Under Old Age and Survivors’ Insurance for World War II Service Be Increased

Resolution No. 704 from the Convention Committee on Child Welfare:
Whereas, The 1949 National Convention of The American Legion mandated a wage credit under Old Age and Survivors’ Insurance of $250 per month for each month of active military service in World War II; and
Whereas, Public Law 734, enacted by the 81st Congress, authorized a wage credit of $160 per month for each month of active military service; and
Whereas, No service, employment or profession should be considered of greater value to the nation than military service in time of war; now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That the Social Security Act be amended to change the wage credit under Old Age and Survivors’ Insurance for World War II military service from $160 to $250 per month.

The report was adopted.

NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER BOOCK: Our next report is that of a committee of which we of the Legion are very proud, a report that follows the Child Welfare Report rightfully. It is an informal report of our famous Tide of Toys program.

At this time I would like to introduce Comrade Thomas Paradine, of the Department of New York, who will give an informal report on the Tide of Toys program.

REPORT ON TIDE OF TOYS

By Thomas Paradine, Chairman, New York

Within the past six months The American Legion has made 9,000,000 new friends scattered through the length and breadth of the countries outside the Iron Curtain in Europe.

Under the urging of our national commander, George Craig, actively sponsored by Drew Pearson, the Tide of Toys was created in November of last year, and from the national headquarters to the departments and posts, word was gotten
around to you in very short order to institute what was to turn out to be the most effective international relations program developed by The American Legion.

The departments and posts responded so splendidly in a very short period of time—a matter of weeks—3,000,000 toys had been collected from the American children, tagged with a little letter addressed by the donor of the gift, after that gift had been taken out from under the child’s Christmas tree and dispatched to Europe. Fourteen countries and the children of those countries were the beneficiaries of this demonstration of kindness by the American children.

A commission, headed by Herman Luhrs, chairman of your Public Relations Commission; Father Carney, Comrade Alessandroni of Pennsylvania and George Kelly of the public relations staff of national headquarters, made a tour following up the distribution of these toys, and learned and reported to you that the impact of your program, the Tide of Toys, has created for you a vast storehouse of good will throughout Europe. Indeed, the reports that have come to us from the distribution made within the Iron Curtain, namely, within Yugoslavia, have indicated that the American G. I. long famous for being very conscious of and very kind and ever loving to children wherever he has been, all over the world, was still thinking of those kids; and the toys dropped in the bunkers of Germany, Belgium, France, Scotland and Italy have made for you friends of the generations that will match the generations of our own children now growing up.

This year your Tide of Toys is going to go forward. We are raising our sights to include a quarter, if you will, of some fifteen million toys to reach out beyond Europe—to reach into the Philippines, into Korea, in a simple manifestation of human kindness coming from the American children and their counterparts throughout the world.

This program is indeed part and parcel of all of your important commissions. We ask you to give it your great support. We ask you to continue what has been started so nobly by The American Legion, and we ask you please to continue the bridge of correspondence that has started, resulting in hundreds of thousands of letters from children overseas to our kids who put a little note on the toy they sent over.

I have here—and I would like very much to pass out to the delegates—several thousand unanswered letters received within the past week at national headquarters from kids overseas. Will you be good enough to take them home with you? Give them to your own children so that they in turn can send a note over to these European kids who for the first time have realized that the American G. I. is a wonderful guy in more ways than one.

NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER BOOCK: Thank you, Comrade Paradine, for that report.

MR. EDWARD A. LINSKY (Pennsylvania): Certainly every delegate and every individual here was pleased to hear the fine report on the Tide of Toys. But here we are, on October 11, and very little has been done about the coming program in December.

Most of us who were busily engaged in the Tide of Toys program last year realize that the program came out too late and without sufficient funds on the part of the national to finance this great project.

We don’t object to Pennsylvania spending money on this project, because it is an important one; but I do believe that if we are going to follow through as we have in the past, then the program should be started immediately, and the Finance Committee of our national organization should make sufficient appropriations available for the proper maintenance of this program.

I so move you.

MR. JOE MURAD (Ohio): I second that motion.

NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER BOOCK: Is there any discussion on the motion? The question has been called for. All those in favor signify by saying “aye”; contrary. It is carried and so ordered.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATIONS

Earl L. Meyer, chairman, of Nebraska, reported as follows:

To the Thirty-second Annual National Convention:

The American Legion, Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950:

Thirty-two members of your Committee on Publications met at 6:00 p.m., October 9, 1950, in the gymnasium in the Patriotic Hall and agreed on the following report, which is respectfully submitted for your consideration:

Earl L. Meyer, of Nebraska, was elected chairman, and Roland Cocreham, of Louisiana, was elected secretary of the committee.

No resolutions were submitted for the consideration of the committee.

Reports were submitted by the director of publications, the editor of The American Legion Magazine, and by members of the Legion Publications Commission who were present at the meeting.

The convention committee devoted considerable time to the discussion of all the various operations of the Publications Division, including editorial, manufacturing, and advertising. The reports all showed that the affairs of the Publications Division are being efficiently and economically administered, and that The American Legion Magazine continues to show gratifying increases in readership because of improved editorial content and art treatment, and that the carrying of The National Legionnaire as an insert in The American Legion Magazine seems to meet with the approval of active Legionnaires generally as no complaints have been received concerning it.

The report was adopted.

NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER BOOCK: It gives me a great deal of pleasure to introduce at this time a Legionnaire of long standing. Construction of one kind or another has occupied our next speaker ever since he graduated from the University of Nevada in 1917. As a member of the United States Sen-
ate, he is engaged at present in building legislation of the old-fashioned American character that all of us can admire.

He went from the classroom to the Army back in 1917, and while in World War I he was a regimental intelligence officer with the AEF. During the next 20 years, he won recognition as one of the nation's foremost civil engineers, playing a prominent part in the development of such man-made wonders as the Hoover Dam and the Central Valley Water Project. We know him best and welcome him with special feeling as a life-long Legionnaire, a Past Department Commander of Nevada, and a former National Vice-Commander of The American Legion.

May I present at this time the distinguished and aggressive U. S. Senator from Nevada, whose leadership in Americanism continues to reflect credit on The American Legion, the Honorable George W. Malone.

ADDRESS OF GEORGE W. MALONE
U. S. Senator of Nevada

The American Legion and the other veterans' organizations should furnish the leadership of the nation in national defense and international policy. The 20,000,000 veterans of this nation should lead, not follow.

National defense and foreign policy are part of their training and background. They know what war means.

The American Legion's military preparedness program, including Universal Military Training legislation, has varied little over a period of 30 years, and then only in detail. During that period, I held every office in our organization from post adjutant up to and including national vice-commander, serving on the National Defense and other national committees.

Today, I am speaking to you as an active member, a member who has carried the fight for our national preparedness program from our committees to the floor of the United States Senate.

I am speaking as a member of The American Legion who has seen our programs given lip service by public officials and then sidetracked, defeated and nullified by the national administration—over a 30-year period. I do not like it. I will have no part of the Administration's attempts through the State Department to control this organization's thinking and leadership in national defense and international affairs.

Since entering the Senate in 1947, I have joined in introducing two bills for Universal Military Training, but the President, through Administration spokesmen in the Senate, prevented either of the bills being reported, with the flimsy excuse that its passage would interfere with the draft; it would have stopped the draft and gradually merged into the Universal Military Training program.

On the Senate floor, I fought for an adequate preparedness program. Here again the Administration opposed the 70-air-group appropriation and its passage would interfere with the draft; it would have stopped the draft and gradually merged into the Universal Military Training program.

For three years, I have been pressing the executive branch of our government, which is charged by the Constitution with fixing foreign policy, to name the nations in Europe, Asia, the South Seas and Africa whose integrity is important to our ultimate safety. With no established American foreign policy, the Russians simply may have been trying us out in Korea.

If our foreign policy is not more clearly designed, these tests will continue. Our foreign policy should be determined and it should be told to everyone, including the American people, off guard by suddenly reversing its former position.

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We are in Korea, with the accompanying loss of American lives and American prestige among nations. The boys who had to be sent first into battle should have had proper fundamental training and the most modern equipment and would have had an even break.

Sending young men into battle without proper training and equipment is not war; it is murder.

The Korean situation might never have arisen in the first place if the State Department had had a definite foreign policy and an adequate national defense organization, spearheaded by an air corps and a submarine fleet, so that the nations of the world and the American people would know that we could enforce our commitments.

This suggests the question: But what ARE our commitments? The State Department first denied that we would defend Korea, and then caught everyone, including the American people, off guard by suddenly reversing its former position.

The American Legion and the other veterans' organizations should furnish the leadership of the nation in national defense and international policy. The 20,000,000 veterans of this nation should lead, not follow.

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and perpetuating misery among the primitive peoples ruled and worked by imperial overlords through the colonial system—and for arming Russia and the Iron Curtain countries for a third world war.

A high British government official has said quite frankly that the British needed American money, not for use in England, but to develop her Far East and African colonies—to be farmed for the benefit of the mother country. In condoning the French misuse of ECA monies in the Far East and North Africa, the United States turns its back on morality and its promise to respect independent nations through the United Nations organization.

Far from achieving any of its proclaimed objectives, the European Recovery Plan has served there only to consolidate French economic and political domination in Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco and Indo-China.

The aid which we are sending to ECA countries is for furnishing her the processed and manufactured products to Russia and her satellite countries and to other areas dominated or controlled by Russia, consolidating her gains in the Iron Curtain countries and in China.

The communist countries are being armed by ECA or Marshall Plan countries through trade treaties. I secured and introduced into the Record a list of 96 trade agreements between ECA countries and countries behind the Iron Curtain, including Russia, made since the close of World War II. Metal-working tools, steel, ball bearings, electrical machinery and apparatus, grain mills, heavy road machinery, farm machinery and assembled motor vehicles are a few of the many items being sent to Russia’s satellite countries from ECA nations. It is the opinion of informed people that Russia cannot process and manufacture goods fast enough to keep her satellite countries contented, and without our help Russia will fail in her aggression.

It is paradoxical that only with our help can Russia hold her allies and hope to defeat us—and we are giving her the help through the Marshall Plan or ECA. It is simply a manufacturing-in-transit program.

We helped Russia in the so-called cold war by furnishing her the processed and manufactured goods to consolidate her gains.

Both England and France have non-aggression pacts with Russia which read startlingly like the Atlantic Pact. We should demand the cancellation of a condition of that accord of any kind in Eastern Europe and in China. We censured ourselves for permitting a short-sighted Administration to send scrap iron and oil to Japan before Pearl Harbor, but today we are treating the communists much better; we are seeing to it that they get, not scrap, but finished products. The Marshall Plan countries which we are supporting are sending Russia and her satellites everything they need, to consolidate their gains.

Now, let us look briefly at our foreign policy in the Far East.

The many unpleasant chapters of American diplomacy in the Far East, of which Korea is the latest but probably not the last, are a direct sequel to amateurish bungling, which, in retrospect, actually seems to have been designed to make the communists dominant in Asia. As a matter of fact, John Foster Dulles told a Republican Senators' luncheon that a group in our State Department believed that "A dose of communism would be good for Asia." He simply confirmed what we had already suspected.

We would probably never had faced what President Truman calls this "threat to the peace of the world" at this early date had it not been for the gross blundering by the Administration in the field of foreign policy. At Yalta, with the advice of Dean Acheson's friend, Alger Hiss, since labeled a Red traitor, our ailing President "bribed" Stalin for the strategic importance of Formosa. He answered that he was not reporting on MacArthur's views; that he did not necessarily know them. He also said he had not talked to the Chiefs and did not know their views. Three days later, Mr. Acheson made the announcement that America's military defense line in the Pacific ran from the Aleutians to the Philippines, including Japan and Okinawa, but skipping Korea and Formosa. Undoubtedly, Stalin thought he had the nod from Acheson to go ahead. Everything points to that. But Acheson's position on Korea was suddenly reversed, and it may be presumed that he is not apologizing to the Hisses and his other communist friends.

Our foreign policy has been both casual and improvised. Furthermore, the State Department is unwilling to tell the American people just what commitments have been made.

As a matter of fact, it did not even tell General MacArthur that it had made commitments which might require a Korean campaign. Now, since the stupidity, or deliberate treachery, of the Asia policy makes, Hiss, Lattimore and Acheson, cannot be denied, the followers of this group have the unmitigated gall to spread the lying whisper that General MacArthur was responsible for the surprise attack on South Korea.

General MacArthur, far from shaping any of the policy, was not even consulted.

Is it General MacArthur who determined to withdraw our forces from Korea and leave an ill-equipped constabulary in their place? Is it he who ignored repeated reports of armed raids by communists across the 38th parallel, and the urgent warnings from Korean government officials that heavier attacks were imminent? The answers to these questions are as obvious as the whispered charges against MacArthur are ridiculous.

Now, it has since developed that General MacArthur warned the Washington Administration three months in advance that the South Korean invasion by the Reds was planned for the month of June.

Our State Department had never once consulted either of the two persons best qualified to advise us on our Far Eastern policy: General MacArthur and Admiral Badger.

The American people pay the penalty in bloodshed and loss of life and in damaged prestige throughout the world because of stupid incompetence as well as lack of foresight on the part of our State Department. The handling of the Korean threat is but another instance proving the unfitness of Mr. Acheson.
son for his high position. His administration has been wholly unsatisfactory. It is important that he be removed before other serious blunders are made.

The ideas of the Hisses, the Wadleighs, the Services and the Lattimores, activated by Acheson, follow a definite pattern. This clique favored giving Manchuria to the Reds at Yalta; they favored the partition of Berlin without any provision for international supervision; they actually opposed the measure which would arm Russia and consolidate her gains in her satellite nations for World War III.

Evidence of traitorous intent and purpose may be found in the fact that when it was exposed that British and other Marshall Plan countries were sending Russia war-making materials, not one of this influential clique lifted a finger to stop our money and materials flowing to those countries. In fact, they actually opposed the measure—S. J. Res. 151, the Malone Resolution—which would have stopped our indirect arming of Russia. War-making materials are still being sent to Russia, thanks to the lovers in our Administration.

Only the most naive or blind could now doubt that our opponents have been in powerful policy-making positions in the U. S. Government. Lee Pressman, the fair-haired New Deal official, recently confessed that he and others were communists while holding government office and that communists moved into Washington and took over key positions in the government in the early days of this Administration. It has been exposed that communists have held key positions in the Department of Agriculture, Commerce, Labor, State and Justice, in the Treasury, the OSS, Board of Economic Warfare, Air Corps Material and Service Division, War Production Board, OPA, WPA and many other government offices.

In their attempts to discredit American free enterprise and American industry, the smart pinkish members of the Administration were serving their Moscow masters well. It is interesting to observe that we have been led step by step into a socialistic government in Washington.

The amazing thing about all this is that communist associates and sympathizers are permitted to continue in high office and influence the President. Apparently, this deplorable situation will not be corrected until the American people themselves correct it at the polls.

The ultimate objectives of the communists and socialists are the same—government control, with the individual owning nothing. The difference is that a communist will shoot you to gain his objective, while a socialist will spend you into it. A communist is just an impatient socialist.

Until this country squarely faces its errors in foreign and domestic policy, until it abandons the spend-and-elect theories of welfare-statist, until it abandons the “One Economic World” Marxist program of “free trade”—and world distribution of our hard-earned wealth—we will continue to tremble before the threats of a people backward in production and culture.

We need to remind ourselves that our first and foremost task is to keep ourselves strong. The anti-communist forces of the world that are able and willing to fight are outnumbered. The defense of the free world must be achieved by the quality of training and equipment which can overcome quantity. We are not big enough to overwhelm our opponents by the massing of military power. Since we cannot hope to be bigger, our fate depends on whether we can be better trained and better equipped.

The United States of America should immediately establish a definite foreign policy, making the nations in Europe, Asia, the South Seas and Africa, if any, whose integrity is important to our ultimate safety, notifying the world that we would consider the attempt of any nation to extend its system of government into those areas an overt act against the United States. This would be a logical broadening of our Monroe Doctrine, which has served us well for 137 years in the Western Hemisphere.

Where is the greatest danger—at home or abroad? We have been repeatedly warned that we are in danger from within. Since 1932, there has been a constant war against America without our gates.

On the home front, the Red plot has been carried on within the Administration by a constant attack on American industry. This attack has come through, first, government regulations so designed as to eliminate venture capital, which made this country great; second, taxes so designed as to eliminate initiative; third, a foreign “free trade” policy so designed as to curtail domestic production; and, fourth, reckless spending on the part of the government so designed as to threaten our whole economic structure.

Let us clean up the home front, give assurance to American people that American industries and things American will be protected. Let us once and for all put a stop to the stupid foreign programs which weaken our position abroad and destroy our industries at home. Let’s fight for American ideals and for an administration that will uphold them when this war is at an end. The boys on the front have little to fight for unless they can know clearly that they are defending the American way of life. The American Legion must not let them down.

The American Legion and the veterans of this nation—nearly 20,000,000 strong—can do the job. Let us develop a few leaders who are for America like Churchill is for England. Only then will we have a basis for a sound international cooperation that will make some sense. Let us stop this senseless, stupid apologizing for America and for Americans who love America, and let us establish a real leadership that the world will be glad to follow and that conceivably could keep us out of a major conflict for a generation.

NATIONAL COMMANDER CRAIG:

Thank you, Senator Malone.

I am confident that your comrades of The American Legion are most happy to receive your splendid message.

Now if I may please, I would like to call upon the Reverend Father Carney to make a presentation.

PRESENTATION OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

By Rev. Father Edward J. Carney, O. S. A.

I have been given a very distinct honor. Today I am afforded an opportunity to present to the veterans’ during the outstanding award of The American Legion.

Inanimately I am going to give you some of the record that positively is most inadequate to describe this lovely lady, Congresswoman Edith Nourse Rogers of Lowell, Massachusetts, a service woman, a congresswoman, and a congresswoman of the American Legion.

She is a Representative of the Fifth Massachu-
setts District and was elected to Congress on June 30, 1925, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of her husband, the late Representative John Jacob Rogers.

Upon entering Congress, Mrs. Rogers was assigned to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Civil Defense, and the Committee on World War Veterans' Legislation.

She served on these committees until the 80th Congress, January 3, 1947, when the Reorganization Act limited her to one of the number of major committees upon which a member might serve.

In the 79th Congress, she was the ranking minority member of all three committees, and in the 80th Congress became the chairman of the newly-formed Committee on Veterans' Affairs. She is now the ranking minority member of that committee.

Aside from her well-known leadership in matters affecting veterans, Representative Rogers has been in the national spotlight because of her fearless fight for adequate military and naval defense. Long before World War II, Mrs. Rogers' name was among the all too few who voted for the fortification of Guam. Back in the early days of the New Deal, she made a successful and almost solitary fight—which was successful—to compel the Air Corps to relinquish the carrying of the U.S. mail to the commercial airlines, not, however, before many young Army fliers had lost their lives in flying the mail in planes not equipped for the purpose. She was one of the leaders in the fight for sufficient airplanes to make our Air Corps the finest in the world. Her advocacy of a large Navy and her voting record for large appropriations for naval defense are well known.

She was the first Representative in Congress to take the floor and urge that war be declared against Hitler and his nazi-controlled Germany. Her warnings against Japanese aggression date far back before Pearl Harbor. Mrs. Rogers' speech against communism was made long before the subject became a popular one to speak about.

Her 22 years of service upon the powerful Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives gave her a deep insight and an interest in our foreign problems.

Several years ago, she was named a delegate to the Inter-American Conference in Mexico City, and although today she is not a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, her counsel and judgment upon these matters are sought for by newer members of Congress.

In her own Congressional District—God bless that area of the country, and in a special way, that Merrimac valley, that neighboring town from where I come—her name is legend. She helped to industrialize that area of the Merrimac valley that produces most of the cloth and clothes that you wear.

She has been singularly successful in all her endeavors. Most of all, to us, we can look with awe and admiration to the lady who has never said no to the needs of the veteran.

Her work for the paraplegic, her work for the one who is detained in the hospital beds today, has been unparalleled. Those who climb walls figuratively speaking, maddened, still screaming and hearing those ghost guns of battle, can well look upon her as their patron saint, for she made things possible for them and all the others who clutch with stumps of arms who hobble with crutches, and who grope with blindness in the veterans' hospitals.

Never have we had such a staunch champion and may God bless her and continue to help serve for these cups of cold water given in God's name do not go unrewarded, and while we, Mrs. Rogers, take this occasion in the name of the national commander and the millions of American Legion members to present this award to you for your distinguished service, know that from the bottom of our hearts and what we give is just a token of what you deserve, Mrs. Nourse Rogers.

... National Commander Craig pinned the Distinguished Service Medal on Congresswoman Edith Nourse Rogers ... 

... Mrs. Ursula "Hi Ho" Silver came forward and presented to Congresswoman Rogers a lei of orchids ...
extinction of American freedom. The American Legion fought them with all of its force and energy, and so did I, in and out of Congress, throughout the country. But America failed to arouse itself, to the great detriment of America.

Hitler and the nazis, and the fascists and the war mongers of Japan came to power. They so completely mesmerized America that at the time of Pearl Harbor we were the weakest of the major nations of the world. Because of the enemy's military blunder in attacking Pearl Harbor, and due to the strength of character of the American people, our industrial power and our organizational genius, America assembled the greatest military machine in the history of the world and successfully met the challenger. Those blood-thirsty leaders of Germany, Italy and Japan were defeated and annihilated and their countries shattered to pieces.

America, however, failed to learn its lesson. Just as was the case after World War I, we demobilized our Army, Navy and Air Force after World War II. This time, however, America was not lulled to sleep by the presence of enemies, but made weak and unprepared by the administrative policies of those who were entrusted with the conduct of our government. We were told we did not need a large Army. We did not need a Navy. Whom would they fight if we had them? This was the daily question thrown at those of us who were entrusted with the conduct of our government. We were told we did not need a large Army. We did not need a Navy, or Marine Corps, at all; if any trouble started, the Air Force would easily take care of it. The Air Force then was not 70 groups, not 48 groups, but less than 40 groups. We were told by the Administration leaders that our Army, with less than 250,000 men; our Navy, with one battleship and five carriers in active service, a skeleton Marine Corps, and an Air Force of less than 40 groups, constituted a national defense team that was too fat. We must get rid of this excess fat, said the Administration. We must cut down our national defense because it is too expensive, they said. Because one admiral—Admiral Louis Denfeld—dared to come to Congress and, through the Armed Services Committee, tell us we were unprepared to meet the requirements of the hour, the admiral was summarily dismissed from his job, because he was living up to his oath as an officer, to protect his country. All of this took place with a cold war in progress which might at any moment break out into a hot war.

All of this unpreparedness took place while communist Russia, not only had challenged us in Berlin, but was developing the mightiest military machine ever known in the world.

All of this took place while communism was already on the march. All of this took place while the free way of life all over the world was being challenged by Russian communism and the threat to America was gaining in intensity by the hour. All of this took place contrary to the effort of The American Legion and a few of us in Congress, fighting to prepare America and make us equal to our responsibilities. All of this took place because the Administration leaders believed their policy of cutting down our national defense was the salvation of America.

They misjudged the American people. From now on I hope they will follow the sound advice of organizations such as The American Legion, who have faithfully and loyally, on the battlefield and at home, fought for the security of American freedom and the free way of life. This is not all. America was unprepared from another point of view. The failure of the Administration to coordinate our foreign policy with the national defense is now notorious and known to every American as well as the rest of the world. While our military forces were being cut, the State Department was committing the United States to greater military responsibilities in the Atlantic Pact in Europe, in sending military equipment to other countries, in the United Nations and in the Western Hemisphere. One of the most important objectives of the Unification Act was the bringing together of the State Department and the National Defense Department. In the National Security Council the foreign policy and the military policy of the United States is supposed to be coordinated step by step. This is very necessary. It must be done. If it is not done, because of the impossibility of the respective leaders to work together, then they should be removed from office. Certainly the security of the United States should not be placed in jeopardy as a result of individual personal failures.

It is my firm belief that if the Administration in charge of the government of the United States had accepted the advice of The American Legion and others in the minority, to keep America strong, so strong that no self-appointed world conqueror would dare to challenge us, there would not have been a second World War and the invasion of South Korea would never have occurred. It was because America was unprepared that Hitler began World War II and because America was weak Stalin started the communist drive on South Korea. If we had been prepared, if we were trained to do the job, if we had the equipment, if we were stronger than our enemies, war would not have occurred and thousands who have been sacrificed would be alive today. A bully is a coward. Hitler was a coward; Stalin is a coward. They fear character and strength just as does any bully. They fear power and might. A powerful America is a mighty America, which no deceitful bully will ever attack. It is through strength and power that we gain economy in the long run.

In this hour of our lives we are facing a cunning, patient enemy, determined to overthrow the American system of democracy and freedom. Stalin and his Politburo group, the leaders of communism, are anti-God, anti-freedom, anti-God. Their objective is to conquer the world, enslave the people, abolish freedom, abolish religion and the church, abolish honor, integrity and decency of life, abolish God and put Stalin in his place. We are now committed to this gigantic struggle between the forces of God and those that are anti-God. The time is late. The time is past for our Secretary of State to shake hands with the representative of Stalin who has American blood on his hands. Could you, members of The American Legion, some of you fathers of murdered sons in Korea—could you shake the hands of Malik and Vishinsky, the representatives of the bloody Stalin, at the very moment when their criminal acts were responsible for the murdering of your son in Korea—could you do this? Of course you couldn't. You are Americans. But our Legion has taken action already which proves how you feel about this. Stalin has caused the brutal
murder of thousands of fine American boys, unprepared for his brutality, and who, like all of us, wanted to live—live in peace and be free to worship God. Stalin and his group are murderers. If there is to be mercy, let Stalin be the first to ask for it.

The American men lost in Korea, however, have not sacrificed their lives in vain. Like Pearl Harbor, Korea has aroused America. We are now preparing. Day by day we are growing stronger. A mighty America is becoming powerfully ready.

I prophesy, Legionnaires, that the Congress will give you your Universal Military Training. We would not have the day where we are if we had followed your program of national defense, your defense against communism and your Universal Military Training.

As I conclude my remarks, I address myself directly to Stalin and his Politburo. You have tried to discredit, disarm and divide the free world as well as America. You have made the battleground the minds of men and tested it in Korea. Because you fear America, you have tried with your propaganda to turn the world against us. You have emphasized over and over again to the people of Asia that America is determined to execute all Asiatic people. You have falsified American principles. You have said, "America is hellbent on an imperialistic drive to enslave the world and kill the masses." I say you are very foolish men. By your name calling, your misrepresentations, your lies, you cannot defeat America.

In this fateful hour you must think—think of details and all things. Think—for if it is your desire to have war you will have to fight the greatest might and power in the world—which is America—together with other free nations. We will fight you over the broad expanse of the great oceans. We will fight you in the endless blue of the heavens. We will fight you over mountains and over plains and in the valleys. We will fight you in the snow, the rain and the mud. We will fight you in storm and in sunshine. We will fight you over mountains and oceans. We will fight you in the endless blue of the heavens. We will fight you in the snow, the rain and the mud. We will fight you in storm and in sunshine. We will drive you from this earth. Never, never shall free men be defeated.

Thank you again for the great and distinguished honor you have given me today. I shall try my best to live up to all it represents and stands for. I shall cherish it the rest of my life, because you men and women have saved our country. We would not be alive today if it were not for you. My love and God bless you!

NATIONAL COMMANDER CRAIG: Thank you, Mrs. Rogers and I think it is discernible to everyone just exactly how your friends of The American Legion feel for the great work that you have carried on so untiringly these many years.

For a long time, you, the members of The American Legion have been trying to tell the American people that they within their society and within their beds the germ of their own destruction.

You didn't call them "traitors" and well you could have—you chose to call them "commies," and the American people for many, many years put up with that weight about their feet, attempting to tread the waters of progress with all of the deterrent weight and effort that these godless people could generate.

Back a few years ago, it wasn't even popular for your lawmakers and officials in government to condemn them. It hasn't been too many years ago when it was considered "smart" by some to give some voice and lend an ear to the liberality, so-called of communism. So far did that go that we recognized the nation that was and is its author, its incubator, from which it spews the spawn of disease and desolation throughout this world.

But upon the first opportunity, there was a man who made it his No. 1 objective in personal and official life to call to the attention of the American people that which you as Legionnaires had been advised of these many years, one who indefatigably devoted his sole energies seeking the passage of laws and the enactment of measures that would give to the American people the legal tools and manner by which according, and in strict accordance with democratic processes and principles, you and all others who love God and this country could punish them, remove them from the midst of our society.

This was long before the day when the communist was so brazen and bold as to attempt to take upon the field of battle the life of your son.

It is popular now to be an anti-communist. It hasn't always been so.

The man I am introducing to you is not a Legionnaire, certainly through no fault of his own, but he is a great American, one of the greatest friends that The American Legion has ever known, one of the greatest Americans that ever lived, Senator Karl Mundt, of South Dakota.

ADDRESS BY KARL E. MUNDT
U. S. Senator from South Dakota

I am deeply moved by the very generous words spoken in your introduction of me by that gallant American and great leader, George Craig, for whom I have such a profound admiration and affection. And I am indeed happy to have a chance on this occasion to discuss with this great aggregation of sturdy Americans some of the problems which confront us down there, which I frequently call the wrong side of the Potomac River, as we deal with these subversive problems and subversive trends rampant around the world today.

However, first of all this afternoon, I want to join in paying tribute to Edith Nourse Rogers, because it happens that I served in the House of Representatives with Edith for eight years on
the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and we in South Dakota have a sort of special affection for Edith Nourse Rogers because of her great work in World War Veteran Legislation. We, as your constituents remember, the first great chairman of that War Legislation Committee was Royal J. Johnson, of South Dakota, one of the great Legionnaires, and we are proud to be associated in these words of tribute.

You know, these conventions that bring millions of The American Legion together are a great American institution, and this convention has been no different from the rest. It manifests all the characteristics of this great institution that we call the American convention, which has the happy faculty, as you well know, of turning night into day and turning day into night. We watch Americans at a convention and we find everything gets sort of topsy-turvy, upside-down. We find married men going to conventions acting like single men, and single men going there acting like married men, so everything gets all mixed up.

It's great to be a part of these conventions, and I have rejoiced in the privilege that has been mine so frequently to talk to conventions of this type. I think it's especially important that you get men like "Molly" Malone and me and Pat McCarran and other people in public life down here from Washington occasionally to discuss public problems, with the people who really feel they are important, and I have observed in my 12 years down in Washington, that the longer a person stays there, the more inclined he is to become a fellow who feels that after all, the government is his, that he is operating it. He has walked down those marble corridors so long and sat behind the mahogany desk so long that he comes to feel that government is something manipulated by him and for him and for his self-perpetuation. It is important, I think, that people in public office have to stand up before great sections of American opinion and discuss out loud the problems which we have around us. Everyone has gotten to be a city of pretty important individuals lately. We are the greatest capital in the world. We all recognize that. We have almost a million people in our metropolitan area. Washington has become the financial center of the world, the exchequer for democracy, the arsenal for democracy. Everybody down there playing a part in this great governmental apparatus in which he finds himself in the spotlight takes onto himself degrees of importance.

Take a taxi cab driver, for example. Most of you fellows have been down there in Washington. You know the taxi cab drivers down there in Washington. You can get a 30-cent taxi ride from the Union Station to the Statler Hotel, or to the Senate Office Building, or to the White House, if you are going to call upon the President. A 30-cent ride will take you all that distance, and you can pick up a college education for free. You do this. Washington taxi cab drivers get a question, and he will give you an answer on foreign affairs, national defense, balancing the budget, national legislation—anything you care to put to him, he will drive it to you with complete affirmation. He may be wrong, but he is never in doubt when he gives you an answer. He is an important individual, and he comes to recognize his importance, because of that position.

Take the members of the House of Represent

sentatives. They are mighty important people. Most of them sooner or later decide they want to run for members of the United States Senate, and that in itself makes them important individuals. Members of the Senate—those stuffed shirts that belong to the so-called upper body—all the members of the Senate, all the members of the President's Cabinet, consider themselves potential President of the United States, and that makes them important people.

Take our President. Our Presidents, of late, all seem to think they ought to have a lifetime lease on the White House, and that makes them important people.

So I think it's important that we get away from that environment and get out and talk to the people in America who really count, and who are important. I concur completely with what "Molly" Malone said a few minutes ago, when he said that in his opinion, next to the President of the United States, the Commander of The American Legion has the most responsible job in this country. If that be true—and I think it most definitely follows that we get out all mixed up—

night follows the day, that the members of The American Legion and the audiences comprised of The American Legion are the most important people that a man in public life can address, and I am honored and happy to have that opportunity today—honored to talk to the people who are important, the people who can make things move, the people who can get things done, the people who, when they make up their minds and act in unison, can pretty well compel Uncle Sam to walk down the path that they prescribe.

I am gratified, as I observe things from the governmental side down there, to find the Legion and its Auxiliary increasingly moving into legislative positions on matters of national defense and foreign policy, because who better than they can determine the proper procedures on that than the folks with the experience, enjoyed by some and suffered by many, in the processes of our World Wars? I think that what Commander Craig referred to in his very generous and altogether too generous introductory remarks helps bring out that point, because of the colossal job that the American Legion did in having enacted into law for the first time in the history of America certain legislation that the communists out into the open, or into jail where they belong. That legislation never would have passed had it not been for the attitude of The American Legion, for the great job done by The American Legion and its posts, the work done by your people down in Washington—Miles Kennedy and Olson and Taylor and the rest who came up day after day and conferred with us to see what they could do to be helpful.

I don't know how many of you know about it, because George is a sort of modest fellow, but I can tell you that when they had the filibuster and a great surge of wires coming from the left wing organizations of America to get the Senate at that late hour to sustain the Presidential veto, we found we had something as an offset, and we knew there was nobody who was making that important legislation to put the communists out into the open, or into jail where they belong. That legislation never would have passed had it not been for the attitude of The American Legion, for the great job done by The American Legion and its posts, the work done by your people down in Washington. Miles Kennedy and Olson and Taylor and the rest who came up day after day and conferred with us to see what they could do to be helpful.

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American Legion works by day and plays by night, but these communists work all night, and we've got to get busy." He made one jump out of his pajamas into his pants, got wet because all over the country, contacted the critical areas, and our lines held, and the whole filibuster failed to produce a single extra vote.

We wrote some American history that day. That's the first time, at least since 1932, and it might not go on for a lot longer than that, that a Republican-sponsored measure was ever approved by a Democratic Congress over a Presidential veto. That indicates what the Legion can do when it goes to work.

We have a bill, I think, of which we can all be proud, and I am mighty glad to say that one of the great associations in the early framework and architecture of that bill was a very illustrious member of the California Department of The American Legion, Congresswoman Nixon, with whom I was so happily associated in the early days.

Senator Bill Nolan was on the Senate floor all night long, and despite the fact that this synthetic effort by the left wing groups were directing a move to defeat the legislation, Senator Nolan received some 20 phone calls from your groups in California, telling him to stand firm and vote against communism and for the position of The American Legion. So I am glad to be here.

I am glad to be in the home state of that sturdy, hairy-chested, fiery-eyed crusader against communism, Jack Templeton. The harder you hit Jack, the higher he bounces, and I like that. We are in a good environment—and I know that—to discuss these problems which confront us, from the standpoint of checking the infiltration and espionage and conspiracy operating within our boundaries here in the United States.

Believing as I do in the important part that this great organization has played in creating this legislative framework for protecting the security of America, I sent a telegram to the White House yesterday morning, a wire to the President of the United States, suggesting that when he gets around to the appointment of the five members of the Subversive Activities Control Board, which is going to determine how effectively and how vigorously this legislation is to be enforced, that he appoint at least one member of that board to be nominated by the National American Legion, to be sure we have somebody there who will get the job done. You can be dead sure that if the President of the United States nominates some Legionnaire, one man in five is going to see to it, at least, that there is a vigorous and honest and clear-cut determination to force these secret conspiratorial communists out of their cellars in the dark, get them up in the open where they will wither and die, or get them into jail, where a lot of communists so richly belong.

I told the President in my message that it would be a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate his determination now that the bill has been passed over his veto, to give it a fair chance, and a full chance, and to enforce it vigorously and enthusiastically and sympathetically, because it's important that we have as members of that board, certainly, individuals who know what communism is.

If the President should, by some unfortunate chance, put in a crew to man this effective new weapon, these communists—if he puts in a crew that still considers communists some kind of "Red Herring," of course we are never going to catch the red octopus that communism actually is. You have got to have people on that board who know the difference between communism and a purple cow. You have got to have people who know, with the background that the members of The American Legion have, with the courage and the conviction to single out and separate disloyal Americans and sex perverts from public positions and put good, sturdy Americans in their place. You will get that from The American Legion.

If President Truman follows this suggestion—and I hope you will support it in your respective capacities—he can be sure that he is going to have a two-fisted, sturdy American who couples a realistic knowledge of communism with an active sense of fair play. If President Truman were to appoint, for example, some rugged guy like Father Carney or George Craig to that board, can you imagine what the reaction would be? If they want to test out the act, if anybody feels that it isn't going to work, there's a chance to put the kind of man power behind it that will give it a fair and honest test.

Now, because you and I are going to be called upon, in a lot of different meetings and a lot of different places, to explain some of the provisions of the act and how it works, I want to answer briefly this afternoon, just two criticisms which have been lodged against it. I want to suggest at least two things whereby we can be sure that this venture in which we have been so rightfully engaged will provide a sensible and a sound and an American freedom-protecting instrumentality against communism.

First, I want to point out an answer to the argument of those who say that the civil rights of individuals are being jeopardized because of this legislation. The frantic appeals and the shrieks of the communist Daily Worker and the left wing groups say this is going to be a thought-control 'proposition, a police control measure, this is going to invade the field of civil rights. Let me point out to you, my fellow citizens, that the Subversive Activities Control Board, set up as a part of that legislation which applies to macro-factionalism, that is the by the long-winded name, now, of the McCarran-Ferguson-Mundt-Nixon-Wood bill—but call it what you will—that legislation provides for the first time in American history, a form whereby a man or an organization which is unjustly accused, can have a public hearing and demonstrate his innocence. These people tell us that no legislation is needed, that we should continue the situation as it is, forgetting that the Attorney General today has a complete right, and uses it, to list any organization that he chooses as a subversive organization, and that organization has no place to go to demonstrate, no opportunity to demonstrate innocence if perchance it is innocent. Under this legislation the Attorney General presents his charges, not to the press, not to the public, but to the Subversive Activities Control Board, a group of distinguished Americans, bipartisan in nature, under the present Administration, three Democrats and three Republicans. If they follow the context of the law, those people will determine, after a public hearing has been held, whether or not there is a basis to list it as a communist organization or as a communist-front organization.

And so this legislation fortifies, rather than
imperils the civil rights of our Americans, and members of The American Legion believe those civil rights should be sustained, and they have supported legislation which does sustain them, but they have provided a vehicle in the act which, if the communists, to repeal or to modify the act, even before they have tried to enforce it, even before they have appointed a Subversive Activities Control Board. They say that they should repeal the act or modify it because there will be long delays involved in the legislation, because of the appellate processes of our American courts. Well, we believe in the American court system, we believe in trial by jury, we believe in the right of appeal, and while sometimes the appellate processes do seem unduly long and try our patience, in the final analysis the Americans believe that we have the greatest judicial system in the world, and we don't want it tampered with by politicians.

What, then, is the answer to the charge that delays are involved? In the first place, no more delays are involved in this legislation than in any other legislation which is ever passed, because the person who comes in conflict with the legislation can always appeal it through the courts. But the important thing for us to remember, as we explain this measure up and down the by-ways and the highways of America, is that the maximum delay is less than 60 days that the Attorney General is required to wait before he can list for hearing before the Subversive Activities Control Board an individual suspected of being subversive or communist controlled. And do you know, once the Attorney General has listed that organization and it is in the process of being heard in public hearings concerning its loyalty, it loses its effectiveness. It can no longer operate in secrecy. It can no longer infiltrate espionage agents into important positions of government, that is, without the definite and active cooperation of important public officials. So that the benefits of the act begin to flow to loyal Americans just as soon as the Attorney General decides to list the organization's name with the Subversive Activities Control Board.

And when the hearings are finally concluded, if by chance he has made a mistake and listed somebody who is not dialoyal, the records are cleared, and for the first time we can put a "Good-Housekeeping" label on organizations which have been accused by the Attorney General and actually found to be not guilty of the charges of which they are accused.

I want to turn to one or two other matters, because it seems to me that closely allied with the problem of communism, since it has become a world-wide military menace and an inside conspiratorial job, are a few other immediate challenges confronting loyal Americans of every section of the country, but especially that great leadership echelon which is The American Legion. The American Legion has a long unbroken record of constructive service to the cause of national security, to the cause of sound Americanism in peace. The American Legion has been consistently and courageously right about the need for adequate preparedness and alert national defense, all the time between the wars as well as during wars. The American Legion has been right throughout the years concerning the dangers of communism. The American Legion was right about Alger Hiss, when other people were refusing to put their backs upon him. The American Legion has been right in its insistence upon an open, understanding, consistent, positive foreign policy, a positive foreign policy based upon American interests, rather than on an appeasement formula which builds American policy as a series of reactions to something the Russian communists may be contemplating doing some 5,000 miles away. The American Legion has insisted from the start that we should have a foreign policy which we can understand, which protects American interests, which preserves the security of the world, which is dictated from America—not a series of reactions to what Joe Stalin thinks he can do, some place along the way. The American Legion wants a foreign policy which is going to put old Joe in the reacting business for a while. Let's sit down a while and see how he reacts to pressure, instead of always being on the reacting end of the business ourselves.

There are a few important challenges, it seems to me, immediately other than the challenge that threatens this great stronghold of ours, this great bastion of freedom which is America. Let me enumerate four of them to you, very quickly.

The first is that I think we must all of us, in our respective capacities, support the Justice Department in every vigorous effort it makes now to enforce this new Communist Control Bill. The Daily Worker and the communists, of course, are dumping in all kinds of money and getting all their groups and cohorts to work around surreptitiously to undermine the act. Why? Because the communists know that this act sounds the death knell for their most destructive conspiratory tactics. We must carry the fight on until every American communist is out in the open, or deported, or put in jail where he cannot be operative.

I think "Molly" Malone was correct in another statement he made in his address a few moments ago, when he said we have got to get busy and do this job, too, on the home fronts. The job is ever yet completed, by any means. Let me give you one statistic, a statistic which comes from a governmental source, an executive source, a statistic which came from young Jack Perry, formerly Assistant to the Secretary of State in Charge of Security, a man so good in that job that he was recently appointed as American Ambassador to Greece. He did a wonderful job for two and a half years as Assistant to the Secretary of State in Charge of Security. We asked him, in the Senatorial Committee with which I am connected, shortly before he took off for Greece, how well he had been able to get rid of the communists in the State Department. Because he is an honest young Democrat from South Carolina, a protege of Jimmy Byrnes, he gave us a prompt, courageous answer in a letter written over his own signature. He said, "Frankly, I can't say that we have removed all of the communists in the State Department. But I can tell you, members of the Senate, we have gotten rid of all of those that we know about. And in that process we have removed from the payroll in the State Department of the federal govern-
ment. 205 communists and disloyal agents who were employed there some time between Yalta and now."

This probably is not the occasion or the time to explore the question of how those fellows got their jobs or who put them there. But it is important that we ought to have in mind that 205 to them have been driven out of public office, and to those who minimize communism, say there isn't anything to worry about because they only got some 55,000 of them in America, let me point out the tragic chain of circumstances beginning at Yalta and Tehran and Malta and Potsdam, when by the State Department's own admission, 205 employees were there for the purpose of serving Stalin, rather than serving Uncle Sam.

Do you think that is important? Let me put it to you this way. Let me put 25 good, sturdy, members of The American Legion in Joe Stalin's Foreign Office in Moscow—let me keep them there for six months, and I'll have old Joe walking around Red Square waving the Stars and Stripes and singing "Yankee Doodle Dandy."

You don't like Joe, and I don't like Joe; but he's smart enough not to employ any American Legionnaires in his Foreign Office. He won't take the chance. And if he won't take the chance, some middle-minded, fuzzy-minded, liberal will tell me why we should take a chance with 205 of them now! It doesn't make sense to me.

The second thing I think we must do is establish relief to the front, the first being to make this act, to support it, to see to it that it is vigorously enforced, to keep the pressures on so that those who want to repeal it immediately, after the election, won't be able to succeed with their plots and plans.

The second thing we have to do is to toughen up, to tighten up, to clarify, to put on a positive basis the foreign policy of the United States. For a long time, it seems to me, our military leaders and our men and women in uniform have been winning victories in the war which diplomats and politicians have been losing at the conference table.

We have to have a West Point Academy of Diplomacy, or something. Maybe that would get the job done. Certainly, somehow or other, we ought to train the people whom we put into these jobs. It isn't enough simply to employ any American Legionnaires in his Foreign Office. He won't take the chance. And if he won't take the chance, some middle-minded, fuzzy-minded, liberal will tell me why we should take a chance with 205 of them now! It doesn't make sense to me.

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those schemes are schemes by guys in jobs like mine, to get enough power to push around guys in jobs like yours. That's what they amount to.

I don't apologize for being a politician. I have been a politician for a long time, and I rather enjoy it. I think it's a perfectly respectable profession. It's a lot of degrees higher than horse stealing, certainly.

We have got to have them if we are going to have government. I am a member of the Congress of the United States; I think it's a great body, and the greatest bastion for freedom we have in the whole governmental apparatus. It's a pretty typical organization, too, typical of Americans generally. We have had two of our boys in jail, one of them in the White House. We have them working in both directions.

In all my years down in Washington—12 years, now—I have yet to meet the first politician, Republican or Democrat, bureaucrat or executive, the first fellow in the Congress or in the Senate—and I have known them all by their first names, on both sides of the aisle; I have known most of the Cabinet members by their first names; I have known all the Presidents we have had down there in the last 12 years—there have been very many of them—and they are all good Americans basically and fundamentally.

But let me tell you this: In all that experience, I have yet to meet the first politician down there, Republican or Democrat, executive or legislative, to whom I want to turn over all my money and all my authority and say, "Okay, Joe; you take over and push me around."

But I have met some down there who would like to do it. I have met some who would like to have me say that. And let me point out that the two great powerwheels of totalitarianism, the two great drive-wheels of building up the importance of the politician, are the same in every country of the world and in every age of history.

I wonder if you have ever stopped to ask yourself, some time early in the morning when you're trying to shave that ugly thing you call yourself and it's about the only time of the day you think of things these days and have time to do it—have you ever asked yourself what it is that a politician uses when he wants to take over the supreme authority of the country, and make himself a Hitler or a Mussolini or a Stalin?

Just two things: In the first place, he goes out to the people and tries to sell them increasingly this idea: You should turn over to the politicians down there, Republican or Democrat, executive or legislative, to whom I want to turn over all my money and all my authority and say, "Okay, Joe; you take over and push me around."

But let me tell you this: In all that experience, I have yet to meet the first politician down there, Republican or Democrat, executive or legislative, to whom I want to turn over all my money and all my authority and say, "Okay, Joe; you take over and push me around."

He doesn't put it quite that honestly.

In South Dakota we are trained early to talk from the shoulder and shoot from the hip, and if you don't do both you don't live very long; so they don't tell it quite that honestly. But if you are smart enough to tie your own shoes, you can figure out that is what it actually means.

He wants to take away from you the dough you have been earning, and he wants to spend it. Obviously, if he told you he wanted to spend it to build a bigger office, or a better building, or a higher salary, you wouldn't part with the money; so, he says, "If you let me spend it I'm going to buy you some things that you aren't smart enough to buy for yourself." That's the challenge.

That is what they say all over the world.

A politician comes to town and gets himself in front of the people, sings "America," waves the stars and stripes, and stands up and says, "If you'll give me a little bit more authority, if you'll let me make a few more decisions in your own behalf, if you'll let me determine how long you can work, or how much you can farm, or how big a profit you can make, or what you can sell—if you'll just turn over to me down in Washington a little bit more power to make decisions for you, I'll make decisions in the public interest that you are too stupid or too selfish to make for yourself."

And that's what they tell us. That's the challenge.

The people were stupid enough, and silly enough, and dumb enough in Germany and Italy, to elect Hitler and Mussolini. That's how they got into power. They were elected. They didn't get in with the iron boot, or the sword; they elected those fellows into power, and then they realized what you and I know and have known all along—that freedom is measured not by the man's power to elect somebody to office, but by the man's power to elect somebody to office, they discovered too late in Germany and Italy that freedom cannot be determined as you analyze the attitudes of the country, as to whether or not the electorate has the power to put a man into office. They discovered what you and I have long known, that only those people are free who retain the right to take people out of office once they put them in!

That is what you and I, as Democrats and Republicans and Independents and Americans, have to begin to make understood to the immigrants coming to our shores, and the youngsters growing up in our midst. The basic fundamental concept of the American formula is a simple little formula: Individual initiative, the right to make decisions for yourself, and not have some politician make them for you.

Pride of ownership. The right to own a farm or a business or a bicycle or a blonde for yourself and not have some politician select it for you; and the right of political independence—the right to be a Republican or a Democrat or an Independent, or to be so badly confused that you move to California where you don't have any political party at all.

And that's the thing that we are trying to have sink into the American public. We don't care much whether they have Democrats or Republicans in power, just as long as they keep the old formula functioning the way it is.

Let me suggest now one other thing: There seems to me there is an immediate challenge before alert citizens, organized in a great group such as this, and that is the fact that we have found out, time after time, in time of war, that the first product which has always been available is the man power of America, and the last product to volunteer is the dollar bill. I think we ought to analyze that as good, hard, clear-thinking Americans.
I think we should consider the possibilities of thinking out in terms of peace thoughtful, reasonable, honest, enforceable, permanent stand-by legislation which will provide all-out, across-the-board tax profit and procurement authorities so that when we become involved in a shooting war, when we pull the trigger, we throw the whole mechanism of America into the fight at once. No profiteering!

If we think that out carefully, we can make it just as automatic as the calling up of the National Guard. We can make it just as automatic as putting fighting men into the trenches or into the planes, or wherever they have to go. Figure out a way so that, when we start in on self defense in active battle, we will move in simultaneously, clear across the board, with an equity of sacrifice which will protect our security and at the same time provide the men and the materiel and the money required, without any profit to any group within our midst. I think we need that in this kind of land.

I believe that was demonstrated in the Korean situation. You don't have time, in the heat and passion of war, to pass smart legislation which deals equitably with it; but when, as we do, thinking along in peaceful terms, we provide legislation for training men in the business of universal military training, as certainly we must, then certainly we also must provide stand-by legislation in case of war, which throws the whole economic picture of America into the battle with the sacrifice being as equitably distributed as possible.

I hope that in the United States we never allow our man power and our youth to become the cheapest and most expendable product of the land!

In the old countries of Asia, unlike them, in this country we have dedicated ourselves to the proposition that we should develop and maintain the dignity of the individual, the importance of the human being; and stand-by legislation which automatically takes profit and privilege out of war. It seems to me, moves along consistent with the American pattern. It means that on the one hand you are not going to have war profiteers with a lush living which they never had in peace, and on the other hand men in uniform risking their very lives to protect and perpetuate America.

May I say this in conclusion: I was impressed, as I know you all were, Monday night at the Commander's Dinner, by the great performance of Pat O'Brien, and especially by that new method that he taught us to use in voicing the sentiment of America, when he, reading to the slow, low background music of the theme, recited the words ending in "Let freedom ring." It just won't ring itself; it just won't protect itself; it just won't perpetuate itself if all the citizens are content to let it ring and let it ring.

But if The American Legion can resolve, as I know it has done, to see to it that in every country in which it has a post, and in every town and village of this land, those privileged to wear the blue and the gold of the Legion Emblem find a job some place in the organization or outside of it, some place in public or in private life, some place to pick up the cudgels for freedom, to see to it that we in America today will make freedom ring forever, that's a challenge indeed to which Pat O’Brien could have done justice had the poet written the words that way in the first instance.

Let's Make 'Er Ring!

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON INTERNAL AFFAIRS

G. Ward Moody, chairman, of Texas, reported as follows:

To the Thirty-second Annual National Convention, The American Legion, Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950:

Ninety members of your Committee on Internal Affairs met at 6:30 p.m., October 9th, 1950, in Matse Hall, 300 Olive Street, Los Angeles, California, and agreed on the following report, which is respectfully submitted for your consideration:

The meeting was called to order by Assistant National Adjutant Wm. E. Sayer, C. M. "Chuck" Wilson, director of Membership and Post Activities, and the Honorable Ralph B. Gregg, national judge advocate, assisted.

The first order of business was the election of a general chairman. G. Ward Moody, of Texas, was nominated and unanimously elected chairman.

Herbert Cook, Minnesota, was elected secretary.

Following the election of officers, the committee was divided into three sections—membership, department and national affairs, and constitutional amendments—as required by the rules of the 1950 Convention. The separate sections met immediately and elected officers, who will be identified in their reports.

The committee as a whole desires to make one recommendation for operation in future conventions, that the Constitutional Amendments Committee shall function as a convention committee within its own authority, and that the Membership Committee and Department and National Affairs Committee be consolidated into one committee.

The report was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON INTERNAL AFFAIRS

W. Frederickson, chairman, of Minnesota, reported as follows:

To the Thirty-second Annual National Convention, The American Legion, Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950:

Summary of Proceedings of the...
Twenty-nine members of your Committee on Membership met at 6:00 p.m., October 9, 1950, in Moose Hall, Los Angeles, California, and agreed on the following report, which is respectfully submitted for your consideration:

The committee organized, electing W. Frederickson, of Minnesota, chairman, and B. I. Golden, of West Virginia, secretary. The committee then, upon recessed until 9:00 o'clock, October 10, 1950.

The committee reassembled at the Moose Hall on October 10, 1950, at 9:00 o'clock.

Nine resolutions were considered by the committee.

Resolutions Nos. 101 and 731 were approved. They read as follows:

Resolution No. 101. Subject: "Membership quotas for 1951 be changed."

Whereas, For the past several years two distinct membership quotas have been authorized by national conventions and the National Executive Committee for use in determining membership quotas; and

Whereas, These two quota formulas, one based upon the percentage of eligibles within a state and the other based upon the previous four years' average, have brought forth criticism from several departments; and

Whereas, It is believed that where departments feel that they are faced with a quota which is far in excess of the previous years' quotas, or the percentages presented, it results in the dampening of membership enthusiasm; and

Whereas, It is believed that a combination of the two formulas, taking the percentage of eligibles or the quotas for the departments used in 1948 and 1949, that figure the average for the previous four-year period and then dividing the total by two, would be fair to all departments and more universally accepted; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9 through 12 inclusive, That the membership quotas for The American Legion for 1951 be changed to the combination of the two formulas set forth above and that all departments be immediately advised of this change so that all national membership contests and trophies will be judged on this basis for 1951.

Resolution No. 731. Subject: "Publicity regarding The American Legion College."

Whereas, The future growth and success of The American Legion depends upon a maximum number of its members being fully acquainted with the background of the organization and of the work of the organization in the field of rehabilitation of disabled comrades, as well as the manifold unselfish activities which are encompassed in our Americanism and community service programs—the child welfare work, national security, and other objectives; and

Whereas, This becomes more important with the great number of new members enrolling each year from the ranks of the veterans of World War II; and

Whereas, The American Legion College, which was established through action of the national convention of The American Legion in 1944, and The American Legion Extension Institute, which is a home study course covering all of these subjects, provide the most practical means of accomplishing this educational objective; and

Whereas, It is recognized that where department, district, county or post organizations of the Legion have an investment in the enrollment of Legion students either in the Legion College or in the Extension Institute, through the payment of enrollment fees, a more intensive interest is shown on the part of those enrollees; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That this Thirty-second Annual National Convention of The American Legion, assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, heartily endorses the continuation of both of these educational activities; and be it further

Resolved, That because of the importance of the entire membership of the organization knowing of the availability of these two avenues of education, The American Legion Magazine and the channels of publicity of the National Public Relations Division be utilized to publicize these projects; and be it further

Resolved, That department publications be urged to inform Legionnaires of their respective states of the availability of such courses of study.

Resolution No. 88—Subject: "Official Record and Membership Cards forms be changed"—submitted by the Department of the District of Columbia;—

Resolution No. 74—Subject: "March 15 as the date to compute average membership for quota purposes"—submitted by the Department of Arkansas;—

Resolution No. 681—Subject: "Change the assigned 1951 department quotas"—submitted by the Department of Minnesota; and

Resolution No. 225—Subject: "Change assigned 1951 department quotas"—submitted by the Department of Iowa, were rejected.

Resolution No. 239—Subject: "System be devised for reporting change of address and transfers"—submitted by the Department of New Mexico, was referred to the Committee on Membership and Post Activities.

Resolution No. 486—Subject: "Activation of records of all expulsions"—submitted by the Department of California, was referred to the Standing Commission on Internal Affairs.

Resolution No. 434—Subject: "National headquarters devise plan to screen applicants for possible communist infiltration"—submitted by the Department of Illinois, was referred to the Standing Commission on Internal Affairs.

The report was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Section on National and Department Affairs

W. Elliott Nefflen, chairman, of West Virginia, reported as follows:

To the Thirty-second Annual National Convention,
The American Legion, Los Angeles, California,
October 9-12, 1950:

Thirty-three members of your Committee on Internal Affairs (National and Department Affairs) met October 9-10, 1950, in the Moose Hall, and agreed on the following report, which is respectfully submitted for your consideration:

Forty-four resolutions were submitted for consideration by the committee.

The following resolution, on motion of the representative from Illinois, was withdrawn:

Resolution No. 432 (Illinois).

The following resolutions were referred to national officers, or standing commissions, or committees:

Resolution No. 98 (Indiana), to the national adjutant.

Resolution No. 210 (Arizona), to the National Contests Supervisory Committee.

The following resolutions were tabled:

Resolutions Nos. 56 (Panama), 89 (District of Columbia), 164 (Pennsylvania), 269 (Oklahoma),
12, 1950, That legislation should be enacted for the purpose of a memorial marker being provided of the armed forces; now, therefore, be it

Whereas, A member of the armed forces, who died while on active duty or after discharge; and

Whereas, The American Legion was organized for the purpose of carrying on four major programs, to-wit: rehabilitation, child welfare, Americanism, and national defense; and

Whereas, During the past few years the activities of The American Legion, locally and nationally, have so broadened that they now include practically every conceivable field of political, social and economic activity and endeavor; and

Whereas, The inclusion of such a vast number of programs requires the expenditure of large sums of money which should be used in the four major programs, and places undue drains upon the time of all officers and members of The American Legion, from the highest level to the lowest, depriving the four major programs of the services of the said officers and members; and

Whereas, It is felt that The American Legion can accomplish more and be more effective if it restricts itself to the carrying out of the four principal programs for which it was organized; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion, in national convention assembled at Los Angeles, California, on October 9-12, 1950, That The American Legion reduce the number and scope of programs to a point where sufficient time and funds are available for the major programs.

Resolution No. 8 (Colorado)—

Be It Resolved, by The American Legion, in national convention assembled at Los Angeles, California, on October 9-12, 1950, That Gold Star Mothers of World War I be given, by the United States government, a pin similar to the pins now awarded Gold Star Mothers of World War II.

Resolution No. 42 (Ohio), with which there were consolidated Resolutions No. 39 (New Hampshire), No. 260 (New Mexico), No. 293 (Minnesota), and No. 430 (Illinois)—

Whereas, A government headstone or marker is provided for the grave of a member of the armed forces who had active or peacetime service, and whose remains have not been recovered, or have been buried at sea, is honored only by an unmarked grave; and

Whereas, A member of the armed forces, who has made the supreme sacrifice for the community, state and nation, in the service of their country, and whose remains have not been recovered, or have been buried at sea, is honored only by an unmarked grave; and

Whereas, No provision for a government memorial marker is provided for use on a memorial grave that has been established by the next of kin for the purpose of paying homage, and the holding of services on memorial occasions in memory of their loved ones whose remains were unrecovered or were buried at sea while in the active service of the United States, but that in the past our efforts in behalf of law and order have been disjointed and uncoordinated in nature; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion, assembled in its Thirty-second Annual National Convention at Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11 and 12, 1950, That legislation should be enacted for the purpose of a memorial marker being provided by the United States government for use where a memorial grave has been established by the next of kin of a member of the armed forces whose remains were buried at sea, were not recovered, while in active service, and that said marker shall bear a fitting tribute and memorial to one who gave his life in the service of his country.

Resolution No. 44 (Ohio)—

Whereas, The Law and Order Committee was established by the passage of the following resolution of the National Executive Committee in 1933: "Be It Further Resolved, That the national commander of The American Legion appoint a Law and Order Committee to make a study of the crime problem and devise a plan wherein The American Legion, both state and national, can actively participate in the curbing of crime . . ."; and

Whereas, In succeeding national conventions and National Executive Committee meetings, the size and term of office of the members of the Law and Order Committee has been undergoing changes; and

Whereas, The records of the Law and Order Committee through 1949 indicate that the sponsored programs of this committee were as follows:

a. Control of crime.

b. Control of juvenile delinquency.

c. Freedom of speech.


e. Disabled veterans in crime.

f. Volunteer probation service for veterans and juveniles, and the coordination of efforts in their behalf; and

Whereas, It is the opinion of the Executive Committee of the Law and Order Committee that Legion participation and sponsorship in these Americanism programs have served their purpose, for it is now a fact that hundreds of agencies are engaged in research and study and are activating programs on a national scale to improve the status of the persons involved; and

Whereas, The United States is involved in a security effort that may reach the proportions of a national emergency, and in the Legion civil defense programs it is not now a specific provision for using the facilities and man power of the Legion to augment the legally established agencies of the nation in the event of national disaster; and

Whereas, Experience has shown that Legionnaires will, if given the opportunity, voluntarily assume certain obligations to help protect these United States, but that in the past our efforts in behalf of law and order have been disjointed and uncoordinated in nature; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion, in national convention at Los Angeles, California, on October 9, 10, 11 and 12, 1950, That the Law and Order Committee, because of the exigencies of war and the need to protect our internal, as well as external, security, be transferred to and made a subcommittee under the National Security Commission; and be it further

Resolved, That the membership of the said Law and Order Committee be limited to seven (7) persons and that the national commander and/or the National Executive Committee are hereby requested to appoint to the said Law and Order Committee such personnel as is qualified, by occupation or avocation, to serve on this committee; and it is further recommended that every effort be made by the Finance Committee and/or National Security Commission to arrange joint meetings of the commission and the Law and
Order Committee, to the end that their respective objectives may be coordinated into a concise, articulate, workable American Legion program which will attract the interest of Individual Legionnaires and Legion posts as well as law and order agencies throughout the nation.

Resolved No. 73 (Arkansas)—

Whereas, In the past it has been the policy of the national headquarters of The American Legion to promote the publicity of Legion affairs; and whereas, It is from time to time numerous occasions where the Legion is shown at work that would be good publicity if the same were taken on regular motion picture film; and

Whereas, If the national department could install a film exchange where a film could be withdrawn by the different departments to be assigned to the different posts showing these special occasions, it would be good publicity in education and membership at large; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion, in national convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, That a series of 16-mm, sound films be produced, depicting various activities and programs of the Legion which are carried on by posts, and that these films be made available to posts through a national film library service without cost to the posts, except cost of transportation, to the end that new interest and enthusiasm could be shown by pictures so as to assist in disseminating to all members and the public a better understanding of the purposes and accomplishments of the organization.

Resolved No. 99 (Indiana), as rewritten, with which there are agreed, Resolutions Nos. 29 (Mississippi), 43 (Ohio), 72 (Arkansas), 90 (District of Columbia), 121 (Maryland), 211 (Arizona), 270 (Oklahoma), 331 (Michigan), 488 (California), 544 (Delaware), and 569 (Massachusetts)—

Whereas, La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux is a subsidiary organization of The American Legion; and whereas, Hundreds of voitures locale have always been eager to assist and cooperate with The American Legion in promoting the various phases of the Legion program—in membership, child welfare, and the discharge of the disabled and needy veteran, or his widow and orphans; and

Whereas, Thousands of dollars have been invested by labor, materials and funds furnished by voitures locale and their members in constructing vehicles generally known as engines and box cars, and in the maintenance and operation of such vehicles in furtherance of the above described Legion programs, and also for the transportation of food, clothing and toys to orphan homes, and other public institutions housing orphans, to brighten the lives of our underprivileged children, and to assist in emergency cases of disaster caused by hurricanes, floods, fires and acts of God; and

Whereas, Such vehicles travel thousands of miles to participate in the many functions of national conventions; they furnish both uniqueness and an attractive feature of the national convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, That a series of 16-mm, sound films be produced, depicting various activities and programs of the Legion which are carried on by posts, and that these films be made available to posts through a national film library service without cost to the posts, except cost of transportation, to the end that new interest and enthusiasm could be shown by pictures so as to assist in disseminating to all members and the public a better understanding of the purposes and accomplishments of the organization.

Resolved No. 99 (Indiana), as rewritten, with which there are agreed, Resolutions Nos. 29 (Mississippi), 43 (Ohio), 72 (Arkansas), 90 (District of Columbia), 121 (Maryland), 211 (Arizona), 270 (Oklahoma), 331 (Michigan), 488 (California), 544 (Delaware), and 569 (Massachusetts)—

Whereas, It has been contemplated that the tomb of the Unknown Soldier of World War I be opened in order to place the body of the Unknown Soldier of World War II in the same; and

Whereas, By doing so, it would place the body of the World War II veteran under the body of the World War I veteran; and

1. That permission to so participate must first be obtained from the department commander, or his designated representative, on behalf of the department.

2. That such vehicles of the voitures locale within each department, if permitted to participate, shall be under the control and supervision of the department commander, or his designated representative.

3. That no intoxicating beverages will be transported within any such vehicle while going to, during or returning from a Legion parade.

4. That no commercial advertisements of any kind shall appear on or be a part of any such vehicle.

5. That no member of the crew, or other voyageur, riding on the vehicle, shall be under the influence of intoxicants.

6. That the only persons who shall be permitted on such vehicle during the Legion parade shall be the train crew, or necessary crew for the component units of engine and car or cars, except for disabled veterans who desire to be in the parade but are unable to walk.

7. That no explosives of any kind shall be carried in or used from such vehicle while going to, during or returning from a Legion parade.

8. That no women shall be in the crew, nor permitted on such vehicle, during a Legion parade unless she is a disabled veteran desiring to be in the parade and unable to walk.

9. That no female impersonators shall be permitted in any such vehicle while going to, during or returning from a Legion parade.

10. That all such vehicles shall be in place with their respective departments at the designated starting point at least one-half hour before the designated marching time.

11. That the placing of any such vehicles in a Legion parade shall be subject to any terms imposed by the local authorities on the National Convention Corporation as to traffic rules, or other municipal regulations.

12. That the responsible officers of the 40 and 8 shall cooperate with the Convention Corporation in making all necessary arrangements for a Legion parade.

13. That with the exception of the members of the train crew, or necessary crew for the component units of engine and car, or cars, no person in the Legion parade shall wear a smock of the 40 and 8.

14. That if any of these terms and conditions, or others of the local authorities, are broken at any time by any such vehicle, then the unit or units involved may be withdrawn from the Legion parade; and in the event of the refusal or delay in removing any such vehicle from the line of march of a Legion parade, then no such vehicle from any voitures locale in that department shall be permitted to participate in the Legion parade at the next succeeding national convention; and, be it further

Resolved, That similar regulations shall apply with equal force and effect to all floats, cars, vehicles and other participants in national American Legion parades.

Resolution No. 427 (Illinois)—

Whereas, It has been contemplated that the tomb of the Unknown Soldier of World War I be opened in order to place the body of the Unknown Soldier of World War II in the same; and

Whereas, By doing so, it would place the body of the World War II veteran under the body of the World War I veteran; and

Resolved, That similar regulations shall apply with equal force and effect to all floats, cars, vehicles and other participants in national American Legion parades.

Resolution No. 427 (Illinois)—

Whereas, It has been contemplated that the tomb of the Unknown Soldier of World War I be opened in order to place the body of the Unknown Soldier of World War II in the same; and

Whereas, By doing so, it would place the body of the World War II veteran under the body of the World War I veteran; and
Whereas, The United States is now engaged in another conflict as a part of the United Nations, which is in the war in Korea; and

Whereas, A great many lives already have been lost in that conflict, and it is anticipated that a great many more lives of American soldiers will be sacrificed in that conflict with the result that undoubtedly the body of one of our soldiers in that conflict will also be returned to the United States for proper honors; and

Whereas, It is doubtful that the body of an Unknown Soldier of the third conflict could be interred in the same sarcophagus; therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion, in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, That we request the proper authorities in the United States government that further action on the contemplated interment of the Unknown Soldier of World War II in the tomb of the Unknown Soldier of World War I be deferred until further date.

Resolution No. 428 (Illinois)—

Whereas, The United States of America has committed itself to the suppression and defeat of the North Korean communist armed forces for their breach of the peace of the Republic of South Korea; and

Whereas, The armed forces of the United States of America are daily being augmented through the draft law, recall of reservists, federalizing of the National Guard, and voluntary enlistments; and

Whereas, Daily new units of the armed forces of the United States of America are being activated for the purpose of reinforcing our forces in the battle for South Korea and for our own national defense against the acknowledged and further threat of an all-out war; and

Whereas, The American Legion by the preamble to its Constitution has dedicated itself to the service of the community, state, and nation; and

Whereas, The thousands of American men who are now a part of the armed forces of the United States and the still more thousands yet to come are entitled to some gesture and thought from their fellow veterans still enjoying the peace and comforts of an American free home life; therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion, in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 10, 11, 12, 1950, That The American Legion is dedicated to "God and Country," and is a patriotic and service organization, of which our Flag, "Old Glory," is the symbol, it is believed that this addition to the Manual of Ceremonies is most desirable.

2. That on page 64, paragraph six, of the current Manual, after the word "Cross" there be added the following words: "or a Star of David."

3. That in line five of page 29 of the 1948 revised Manual the word "religion" be deleted and the word "spirit" be inserted in lieu thereof, so that the text of line five shall read as follows: "American Legion, we preach and teach the spirit of patriotism."

4. That there be inserted in the section relating to "Ceremonial for Regular Meetings of The American Legion" under "The Order of Business the phrase "Introduction of Guests, and Prospective and New Members;" to add the following words: "or a Star of David."

5. That the Oath of Office be contained in the Manual and be administered as follows:

"You will raise your right hand and repeat after me, giving your name: I,do solemnly pledge myself to perform faithfully and impartially the duties of the office in The American Legion I am about to assume. And I further pledge that I am not a member of, and do not subscribe to, the
principles of any group opposed to our form of government."

The last line of the foregoing quoted paragraph is the new amendment and it is in keeping with the policy of The American Legion to do everything possible to suppress communist influences and activities within the United States and to further use the utmost care in selecting and screening the members elected to office in our organization.

Resolution No. 469 (California), with which there was consolidated Resolution No. 97 (Indiana).

Whereas, During the period of repatriation of our honored dead, it has been the practice and policy of service organizations who maintain firing squads to requisition from, and be furnished by, the Graves Registration Service of the United States Army, through the Ordnance Department, blank ammunition for use in firing the final salute to said honored dead when interred in private cemeteries; and

Whereas, The repatriation program is about to be completed; and

Whereas, No authorization for further allowances of blank ammunition is made in Army regulations, to be used in firing the final salute for those war veterans being buried in other than recognized national cemeteries where regular Army firing squads are furnished; and

Whereas, Firing squads are organized within service organizations to officiate where regular Army firing squads are not furnished or authorized; and

Whereas, The death rate of veterans of all wars is increasing, thereby demanding the services of the firing squads of the service organizations more frequently than ever before; and

Whereas, A great many deaths occur in localities in which there are no national cemeteries, or it is the wish of the next-of-kin that interment be in private cemeteries, for personal reasons; and

Whereas, It is an obligation and duty of all concerned that services be conducted in the manner prescribed and proper for deceased war veterans, and that these services require a final salute; therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion, in national convention assembled at Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, That those responsible be in-structed to place before the necessary party and/or parties within the government of the United States a request that blank ammunition be furnished, upon proper requisition by department adjutants or other comparable officers in other organizations, to responsible organizations for use by their firing squads in performing this official duty. . . . firing of the final salute; and be it further

Resolved, That the request also be made that said blank ammunition be furnished at no cost to bona fide recognized service organizations; and be it further

Resolved, That the national adjutant is charged with the responsibility of carrying out the purport of this resolution.

Resolution No. 568 (Massachusetts)—

Resolved, That this convention gives its endorsement to the Treasury Department plan for the continued sale of the United States Savings Bonds, and urges the several national, districts, and its entire membership to continue the active support and guidance it had so effectively given, to the end that all citizens be encouraged to buy and hold United States Savings Bonds.

Resolution No. 581 (national adjutant)—

The American Legion, in its 32nd annual national convention, assembled in the city of Los Angeles, California, hereby extends to:

The Honorable Earl Warren, governor of California;
The Honorable Fletcher Bowron, mayor of the city of Los Angeles;
The 1950 American Legion Convention Corporation, its officers, directors and committee members;
The American Legion of the Department of California and the posts of the Los Angeles area;
California State Police;
Office of the sheriff of Los Angeles County;
Los Angeles Police Department;
The Boy Scouts of America;
All radio broadcasting companies;
All news-gathering agencies and newspapers;
All working Legionnaires;
And all others who so splendidly and whole-somely contributed and gave their time and ability, our sincere thanks and appreciation for the part each and every one of them has contributed toward making this 32nd Annual National Convention so pleasant and outstandingly successful.

The report was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON INTERNAL AFFAIRS
Section on Constitutional Amendments
Seymour M. Heilbron, chairman, of Pennsylvania, reported as follows: To the Thirty-second Annual National Convention, The American Legion, Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950:

Twenty-eight members of your Committee on Constitutional Amendments met at 6:00 p.m., October 9, 1950, in the Moose Hall, Los Angeles, California, and agreed on the following report, which is respectfully submitted for your consideration:

The committee organized. Seymour M. Heilbron, Pennsylvania, was unanimously chosen as chairman, and Walter E. Wiles, Illinois, as secretary. The committee thereupon recessed to 12 o'clock noon on October 10.

The committee reassembled at the Moose Hall on October 10, 1950, at 12 o'clock noon, with 23 members present.

Samuel M. Birnbaum of New York, chairman of the Standing Committee on Constitutional Amendments, was in attendance and materially aided the work of the committee (of which he was as well a member) by his views and suggestions from time to time.

The committee considered eight resolutions. Five of these resolutions had to do with proposals for amending the eligibility provisions of the Charter of The American Legion and with corresponding constitutional amendment made necessary thereby to make eligible for membership those serving in the armed forces in the present conflict.

The adoption of Resolution No. 73 is recommended. It provides that in the event the eligibility clause in the Charter was amended, the Constitution should be deemed to be amended to conform.

The next resolution represented a consolidation of Resolutions Nos. 28, 76, 91 and 531, from the Departments of Mississippi, Arkansas, the District of Columbia and Wisconsin, respectively. These resolutions would amend the Legion's Charter so as to provide eligibility for members of the armed forces serving during the present conflict in Korea, and would amend the eligibility provisions of the National Constitution—Article IV, Section 1.

The proposition varied somewhat, but in essence they all urged that members of our armed forces engaged in the Korean conflict ought to be eligible for membership in The American Legion.
For the purpose of simplification, your committee consolidated the four resolutions into one, as follows:

"Be It Resolved, That the national judge advocate be directed to frame an appropriate Charter amendment to be submitted to the Congress so as to add to the eligibility provision thereof the period June 25, 1950, to and including the date of cessation of hostilities, or for those continuing to serve honorably thereafter; and for citizens of the United States on active duty in the armed forces of governments associated with the United States in the present conflict."

The committee recommends the adoption of the resolution as consolidated.

Resolution No. 530, submitted by the Department of Wisconsin, which had to do with the selection of delegates to the national convention, was amended to read as follows:

"Be It Resolved, by The American Legion, in national convention assembled at Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, That Article V, Section 3, of the National Constitution shall read as follows:"

"The delegates shall be chosen not less than two weeks before the national convention at department conventions or in any other manner specified by the department Constitution."

The resolution as amended is recommended for adoption.

The next resolution to be considered was Resolution No. 2, submitted by the National Executive Committee. This resolution proposes the amendment of the Congressional Charter to provide greater control over the emblem, badge and seal of The American Legion. The committee recommends its adoption.

The committee recommended that Resolution No. 682 be referred to the Standing Committee on Constitutional Amendments for study. This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution and By-Laws by providing that the rules contained in Demeter's Manual of Parliamentary Law and Procedure shall be used to govern The American Legion in all cases to which they are applicable. The committee did not attempt to pass upon the merits of the reference authority referred to, inasmuch as it had no opportunity to review and discuss the book. It was the thought of the committee that the standing committee would have such opportunity.

The committee recommended the rejection of a resolution which proposed to amend the eligibility provisions of the Constitution so as to include women who served in the Woman's Auxiliary Army Corps (WAAC). It was the sense of the committee that inasmuch as the WAAC was not a part of the armed forces, any such enlargement of eligibility provisions would not be appropriate.

There were handed to the committee, but not considered, because they had not been received and circulated as provided by the Constitution and By-Laws 30 days prior to the national convention, 18 resolutions numbers:

- 100 (Indiana)
- 137 (North Dakota)
- 242 (Kansas)
- 271 (Oklahoma)
- 290 (Vermont)
- 319 (New York)
- 330 (Michigan)
- 345 (Ohio)
- 354 (Washington State)
- 436 (Illinois)
- 485 (California)
- 585 (New Jersey)
- 609 (Oregon)
- 636 (Texas)
- 672 (Virginia)
- 683 (Mid-Pacific Post No. 1, Guam)

All of these had to do with enacting the eligibility by inclusion of service in the present conflict.

In addition, Resolution No. 435, from the Department of Illinois, was not received in time for circulation as provided by the Constitution and was, therefore, not acted upon. It proposed that the Constitution be amended to deny membership to applicants advocating the world communist movement or any other similar movement, and further providing that no advocate of any such movement shall be permitted to continue Legion membership, irrespective of whether or not such advocate is or is not a member of the Communist Party.

Resolution No. 635, submitted by the Department of Texas, also was not received in time to be circulated and was, therefore, not acted upon. It proposed to amend the Constitution by extending its eligibility provisions to members of the allied armed forces in World Wars I and II who were not at the time of such said service citizens of the United States but who presently do hold United States citizenship.

The committee instructed the chairman and secretary to prepare a report in accordance with the action of the committee and to submit same to the chairman of the Convention Committee on Internal Affairs or to the convention, as the said chairman shall direct.

The report was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Leonard Moody, chairman, of Arkansas, reported as follows:

To the Thirty-second Annual National Convention.

The American Legion, Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950:

Thirty-one members of your Committee on Finance met at 6:00 p.m., October 9, 1950, in the Lincoln Room of Patriotic Hall and agreed on the following report, which is respectfully submitted for your consideration:

Leonard Moody of Arkansas was elected permanent chairman, and Barney Breedlove of Indiana, permanent secretary.

Eleven resolutions were referred to the Finance Committee and were disposed of as follows:

- Resolutions 310, 85, 105 and 225 were referred to the Convention Committee on Americanism on account of policy involved.
- Resolution 265 was referred to the November meeting of the National Finance Commission.
- Resolution 294 was referred to the Convention Committee on Rehabilitation.
- Resolutions 226, 613 and 588 were referred to the Convention Committee on Constitution and By-Laws.
- Resolutions 589 and 521 were rejected.

A committee of three was appointed to audit the report of the national treasurer. In view of the fact that copies mailed to department headquarters in advance were not turned over to representatives on the Convention Committee on Finance for study, the committee advised that they could not properly analyze the treasurer's report in sufficient detail to make the proper report back to the whole committee.

It was moved and passed that the treasurer's report be accepted.

A motion was passed that the department adjutants be instructed to pass on to the representative on the Convention Committee on Finance the treasurer's report on receipt, prior to the convention, so the proper study can be made.

The annual national per capita tax was fixed at $1.25 (one dollar and twenty-five cents), to be allocated 25 cents to rehabilitation, 75 cents to publications, and 23 cents to general revenue.

The report was adopted.

The Colors were retired and the meeting recessed at 4 p. m.
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1950

The final session of the convention met at Shrine Auditorium at 10:10 a.m. with National Commander Craig presiding.

The Colors were advanced and the invocation was pronounced by National Chaplain Rev. Father Edward J. Carney, O.S.A.

The Clay County Post No. 2 Band, of Brazil, Indiana, rendered several selections prior to the opening.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION

Elmer W. Sherwood, chairman, of Indiana, reported as follows:

To the Thirty-second Annual National Convention, The American Legion, Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950,

Forty members of your Committee on Legislation met at 6 p.m. and 9 a.m., October 9 and 11, 1950, in a committee room in the Shrine Auditorium and agreed on the following report, which is respectfully submitted for your consideration:

The following resolutions were considered by your committee and APPROVED:

Resolution No. 437—New G M & S Hospital in Chicago be named in honor of late Albert S. Sprague;

Whereas, Cook County Council of The American Legion, of the Department of Illinois, has requested the Veterans Administration and Congress to name the new G M & S Hospital in Chicago in honor of the late Honorable Colonel Albert A. Sprague; and

Whereas, The necessary legislation passed the Senate on February 29, 1949, as S. 745, and is now before the Veterans' Affairs Committee in the House of Representatives; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, does hereby reactivate the original resolution:

Resolution No. 685—Oppose granting veterans' benefits to former members of non-military or quasi-military groups associated with armed forces;

Whereas, It has been the traditional policy of the United States to limit veterans' benefits to full-time active duty members of the armed forces of the United States; and

Whereas, Only those on active duty in the armed forces of the United States during wartime were subject to the complete dislocation and uncertainties for the future so characteristic of wartime service in the military and naval forces; and

Whereas, The members of the non-military and quasi-military groups were not forced involuntarily into combat conditions and were not subject to the exigencies of the military processes; and

Whereas, Members of the Merchant Marine received additional bonuses for service in war zones and bonuses on top of these for being exposed to enemy fire, and were not required to remain with their ship on returning to port; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion in national convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, That we are opposed to any legislation granting to former members of the Merchant Marine any veterans' benefits or any benefits akin to those normally granted veterans for their rehabilitation; and, be it further

Resolved, That The American Legion similarly oppose the granting of such benefits to former members of the American Field Service, Coast Guard Temporary Reservists (except those on full-time active duty), Civilian Air Patrol, Russian Railway Service Corps, American Red Cross, Office of Strategic Services (civilians), and other non-military or quasi-military groups.

The following resolutions, APPROVED, as amended:

Resolutions Nos. 83 and 104 consolidated—Resolution No. 104, as amended, approved: Non-commissioned men receive a $1,500 deduction from gross income for federal income tax purposes.

Whereas, The present Korean conflict with the United Nations has made it apparent that the United States must greatly enlarge its armed forces in order to defend itself from without and from within; and

Whereas, An inducement must be given to many persons to enter the United States armed forces; and

Whereas, The vast majority of those who will serve in the armed forces of the United States during the present emergency will receive appreciably less income than they would have received had they been allowed to follow their civilian pursuits; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, That we seek the enactment of a federal law excluding all wartime active service pay for non-commissioned service and commissioned pay for active service to the extent of fifteen hundred ($1,500.00) dollars from gross income for federal income tax purposes for the year 1950 to the end of the present emergency for all armed forces personnel of the United States.

Resolution No. 412, as amended—Investigation of loyalty of all officials and employees of State Department:

Whereas, Direct and explicit charges recently made upon the floor of the United States Senate raise the question of whether or not there are officials and employees of the State Department of the federal government who are disloyal to the United States; and

Whereas, Disloyalty or divided loyalty on the part of officials and employees of the State Department obviously constitutes a serious threat to the security of this nation; therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, That The American Legion go on record by a vote of its members in regular meeting assembled in favor of a comprehensive and impartial Congressional investigation of the loyalty of all officials and employees of the State Department and of the dismissal of any official or employee whose disloyalty is brought to light by this investigation, and that all personnel records be made available to the investigating committee.

Resolutions Nos. 15, 47, 156, 426, 570, 685, consolidated with Resolution No. 498, APPROVED, as amended—Oppose any legislation based on Hoover Commission reports that would weaken veterans' rights:

Whereas, It is the established policy of The American Legion to oppose those sections or recommendations of the Hoover Commission reports...
Summary of Proceedings of the

on the reorganization of the federal government which tend to weaken, destroy or adversely affect the rights and benefits of war veterans and their dependents; and

Whereas, The proposed changes or recommendations of the Hoover Commission reports relative to the Veterans Administration, the federal veterans' preference laws and civil service regulations, the government life insurance, the loans under the G. I. Bill of Rights, and the construction and operation of hospital and medical facilities for veterans will seriously disrupt and dislocate the services and benefits to the veterans and their dependents; and

Resolved, by The American Legion in convention assembled at Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, That we hereby reiterate and re-affirm our opposition to those sections and recommendations of the Hoover Commission reports which adversely affect the rights and benefits of veterans and their dependents, and that the National Legislative Commission is hereby authorized and directed to oppose any and all legislation or plans of reorganization emanating from the recommendations contained in the Hoover Commission reports, or any other sources, which legislation, or plans of reorganization adversely affect the rights and benefits of veterans and their dependents.

The following resolutions were considered by your committee and REJECTED:

Resolution No. 338—Loyalty of government officials.

Resolution No. 358—Replace Dean Acheson with one of unquestioned patriotism and integrity.

Resolution No. 469—Removal of Dean Acheson, Secretary of State, and others from State Department.

Resolution No. 633—Replace Dean Acheson with an official of unquestioned integrity.

The following resolution was considered by your committee and tabled:

Resolution No. 314—Property occupied by New York State Maritime College be transferred to state of New York.

The following resolutions were considered by your committee and REJECTED:

Resolution No. 217—Recognition for women in service with U. S. Army in World War I.

Resolution No. 335—Recognition for women in service with U. S. Army in World War I.

Resolution No. 301—Benefits be extended to women who served in the WAAC if they also served in the WAC.

Resolution No. 534—Veteran privileges (including membership in The American Legion) be granted WAAC’s.

Resolution No. 663—Any person pensioned by U. S. must end service in an honorable manner.

Resolution No. 580—Discrimination of customs and immigration duties for Americans living abroad.

The report was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

William Verity, chairman, of Ohio, reported as follows:

To the Thirty-second Annual National Convention, The American Legion, Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950:

Forty-two members of your Committee on Foreign Relations met at 6:00 p. m., October 9, 1950, at Patriotic Hall, and again at 10:00 a.m. on October 11 in Patriotic Hall, and agreed on the following report, which is respectfully submitted for your consideration.

William Verity, Ohio, was elected chairman. Charles Gonser, Washington, was elected secretary. After all the resolutions referred to the committee had been presented, upon authority of the committee, the chairman appointed a subcommittee to draft a report for the consideration of the full committee. The committee consisted of the chairman and seven additional members: Rogers Kelley, Texas; John F. Mulligan, Connecticut; William R. Black, Nevada; Robert Atkinson, Florida; Carl Matheny, Michigan; Ray Murphy, Iowa; Charles Gonser, Washington.

Subsequently the full committee met and thoroughly considered the report of the subcommittee. Resolutions Nos. 36, 566, 452, 38, for withdrawing recognition of the USSR, were rejected; 339, for the FBI to take over counter-espionage outside the U. S. A., was rejected; 258, for limiting numbers and privileges of Soviet diplomats, was rejected; 223, for setting up coordinating committee between State and Defense Departments, was rejected; 223, for ratifying convention on genocide, was again referred. Inasmuch as the same resolution had previously been referred to...
the Legislative Committee for study and action; 19, for commending UN Secretary-General Trygve Lie for peace efforts, was rejected. No. 37, on validity of Truman entered into by the U.S., and Nos. 222, 337, 423, for U.S. to establish an academy for the training of diplomats, is referred to the Standing Committee on Foreign Relations for study and their recommendation to the NEC at a subsequent meeting. All other resolutions are, in substance, embodied in the following report, which your Committee on Foreign Relations adopted and now presents to this convention and recommends its adoption:

The American people are faced with the grave responsibility of leading the forces of freedom to victory over the forces of totalitarian tyranny and Soviet communism. The real menace in the world today is the continued spread of "Kremlinism," which calls for the destruction of human liberties and eventual world conquest.

We believe that the American people have accepted such leadership. We believe that the desired goal of a free and peaceful world, which international law, based on the religious principles of justice and righteousness, can best be accomplished by the adoption of a foreign policy which is uniformly dedicated to the preservation of freedom—freedom of the individual, and of human liberties.

Our foreign policy must assume that the greatest contribution that can be made by the United States to a peaceful world is that through our moral, military and economic strength we shall preserve freedom for all who will be free, offer leadership in bringing about an effective international authority, and relentlessly destroy and eliminate the false and untruthful philosophies of "Kremlinism" and the forces of totalitarian evil that are loose in the world today.

Be it, therefore, Resolved, by the 32nd National Convention, The American Legion, assembled in Los Angeles, October 9-12, 1950, That:

1. We condemn the failure of the State Department to deal adequately with the grim and bloody advance of communism throughout the world. We submit that this failure is due fundamentally to a lack of understanding of communism itself and the refusal on the part of the Secretary of State to evaluate properly the dangers to democracy in America and all free peoples which communism presents. This tragic failure, or even indifference, together with the presence in the Department of State of men well known to possess communist leanings and tendencies or perhaps even communist party membership, has seriously undermined the confidence of the American people in the ability of the present Administration to deal with the dangers that confront us.

We demand that the President of the United States heed the clear lack of confidence and the misgivings of our people in the present administration, and promptly take all necessary steps to reorganize that department, to the end that the confidence of our people in the conduct of our foreign affairs be fully restored.

2. We believe that the United Nations can be made an effective world authority which can prevent aggression if the charter is strengthened to accomplish the suggestions made by The American Legion in November of 1946, and every year since then, to accomplish the following:

(a) Removal of the veto power in the two specific instances of matters pertaining to aggression and preparation for aggression.

(b) The adoption of effective international control of atomic energy and the establishment of arms quotas, both to be guaranteed through a system of positive international inspection.

(c) Establishment of an effective, tyranny-proof international police force. This force would consist of two parts, an independent active force to be under the direct control of a United Nations Police Authority, acting under the direction of the General Assembly, and a reserve force made up of the national contingents of the major powers and capable of backing up the United Nations forces when necessary. The result would be that the United Nations, through such an effective police force, could enforce its decisions, prevent aggression and the preparation of aggression, and so maintain the peace.

We believe that The American Legion plan for strengthening the United Nations provides the essential basic requirements of, and the first steps toward, true widespread enforcement of law and order, which is the immediate necessity.

The American Legion is opposed to any form of world federation or world government.

3. We favor the sponsoring of a resolution by the American delegate to the United Nations to the effect that further aggression in any part of the world by Soviet Russia will meet the full force of retaliation by the United Nations Police Authority, including, if necessary, the release of atomic weapons on Soviet Russia.

4. A major point of strategy of Soviet Russia is the destruction economically of the western world. We must guard against jeopardizing our own financial structure by attempting to give more financial aid to the countries of the world than is needed to meet the necessary requirements of our global military and economic strategy in the fight to destroy communism everywhere.

Marshall Plan aid to the countries of Western Europe should be continued until 1952, with the ever-present hope of reducing our commitments wherever possible. Marshall Plan aid should be limited to those countries of Europe which are rehabilitating themselves by their own substance and with our aid, who are contributing the necessary military and economic aid to the defense of Western Europe, and who are not trading in supplies on the government's restricted list to Soviet Russia or her satellites.

5. As a result of the North Atlantic Pact, the nations of Western Europe and of the North Atlantic area are militarily stronger than ever before. We urge the continued strengthening of the military and political effectiveness of the North Atlantic Pact and the implementation of the Pact with all appropriate and necessary armaments of both men and matériel.

Reiterating from the May report of the Standing Committee on Foreign Relations to the National Executive Committee, we urge the countries of the North Atlantic Pact to join forces within the United Nations to insist on the strengthening of the United Nations' Charter to accomplish the objectives of The American Legion plan as stated above.

We further urge these same democracies of the North Atlantic area to explore the possibilities of the establishment, within the framework of the United Nations, of an association for closer political cooperation among freedom-loving democracies.

6. The political, military and economic effectiveness of Western Germany should be strengthened, so that she can become a bulwark against further Soviet aggression and a potential ally for the forces of freedom. We urge the continuation of the education of the German people in the demo-
ocratic processes of government and the development of capable and trustworthy leaders who can lead Germany to her rightful place among the democratic nations of the world.

7. Aid to other countries of Western Europe, including Greece, should be carefully screened by these qualifications: (a) Will such aid strengthen the defenses of Western Europe as required by our defense chiefs? (b) Is the nation that is to receive it opposed to the ideologies of communism and the police state? (c) Can our national economy stand the burden of additional drains on the United States' Treasury?

8. We recommend full diplomatic recognition of Spain, including the appointment of an ambassador to that post, by the United States.

9. We commend the United Nations on their prompt and effective resolutions of June 25, 1950, and June 27, 1950, which recommended that the United Nations furnish such assistance to the Republic of Korea as was necessary to repel the armed attack against the Republic of Korea and to restore international peace and security in this area. We also commend the United Nations on their decision to occupy all of Korea and to restore peace in this area by United Nations forces until a free election can be held, so that an independent Korea can choose civil leaders of its own choice.

10. We oppose recognition of Red China by the United States. Our delegates to United Nations should be instructed to vote against, and to use our veto power if necessary, the seating of Red Chinese delegates for any purpose whatsoever in the bodies of United Nations.

11. We urge the continued defense of Formosa until the threat of free and independent nations in this area by the forces of aggression and communism has been eliminated.

12. We favor aid to the Philippine government to help them resist revolutionists and communist aggressors.

13. We urge support to any patriotic groups or organizations of Chinese, such as the Nationalists, who will vigorously and effectively fight outside aggression in order to obtain, and then preserve, a free and independent China.

14. We call for a speedy conclusion of a treaty between the peoples of the Americas. Such a treaty, all the American people have an opportunity to participate more actively in the world struggle to reinstate the principles of truth and freedom.

15. We urge the activation of this American Legion foreign policy declaration through all levels of American Legion activity. We again urge the national commander to encourage the development of the American Legion foreign policy declaration through all levels of American Legion activity.

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18. We believe that our own economy is served by furthering world trade and expanding world markets. To help constrain communism, to cut the cost of defense aid, and to preserve our resources and manpower, we urge the utilization of American technological know-how and the development of competitive and private enterprise in the countries of the world needing such aid from America and who are actively combatting the forces of "Kremlinism."

19. We call for more and better means and devices of American ingenuity to spread the American story of freedom and of human dignity. Such programs as the Voice of America, revitalized by the addition of radio and advertising experts from the field of private industry, the expansion to all the world of the freedom of speech, worship and enterprise, and closer political association of the freedom-loving democracies, should all be directed toward the gathering to us, as allies, all people who crave freedom and who will join with us in this most critical and perhaps last battle for liberty, justice and democracy.

We heartily approve of and recommend continued support in the "Crusade for Freedom." Through such a program, all the American people have an opportunity to participate more actively in the world struggle to reinstate the principles of truth and freedom.

20. We urge the activation of this American Legion foreign policy declaration through all levels of American Legion activity. We again urge the national commander to encourage the development of the American Legion foreign policy declaration through all levels of American Legion activity.

We ask in all humility that through divine guidance our words and actions may be dedicated to the furtherance of those God-given principles which have given this land of ours the opportunity to lead the forces of freedom in the world struggle to reinstate the common goal of mankind, "human dignity in a peaceful world."

The report was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REHABILITATION

Robert M. McCurdy, chairman, of California, reported as follows:

To the Thirty-second Annual National Convention, The American Legion, Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950:

Ninety-seven members of your Committee on Rehabilitation met at Patriotic Hall, 1816 South Figueroa Street, at 6 p.m., October 9, 1950. The committee was organized and recessed until 9 a.m., October 10, where the business of the committee was transacted. The following report was agreed on, and is respectfully submitted for your consideration:

In accordance with established procedure, National Rehabilitation Director T. O. Kraabel, North Dakota, acted as temporary chairman for purposes of committee organization. Charles W. Stevens, Illinois, assistant director, acted as temporary secretary, and called the roll. A quorum of the American Legion was not called. The report was read and approved by the committee and was then submitted to the convention for further action. The report was adopted.

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themselves into two subcommittees in order to expedite consideration of the resolutions. One subcommittee handled medical and hospital, hospital construction, and policy matters. The other handled claims and rating, insurance, vocational rehabilitation and education, prisoner of war claims, and armed forces boards of review resolutions. Robert M. McCurdy served as chairman of the medical and hospital subcommittee, Wilbur M. Alter, Colorado, serving as secretary. Klemmetson, Washington, was elected chairman of the claims and rating subcommittee, which Oscar R. Brown, Indiana, served as secretary.

Upon completion of the work of these subcommittees, the full committee assembled and adopted the final report. The committee had for consideration 233 resolutions. Of these, 112 were assigned the claims and rating subcommittee, and 111 to the medical and hospital subcommittee. They were grouped as follows:

- Claims and Rating: 54
- Insurance: 22
- Vocational Rehabilitation and Education: 17
- Boards of Review: 4
- Prisoner of War Claims: 5
- Medical and Hospital: 53
- Veterans Administration Hospital: 28
- Policy: 40

Total: 223

In pre-convention meetings, a total of 36 hours was spent by the Special Service Officers' Screening Committee in preparation of the rehabilitation resolutions for consideration by the Convention Committee. The analysis and recommendation made as to each resolution, after most thorough consideration, greatly facilitated the disposition of the resolutions by the Convention Committee.

The following action on resolutions was taken by the Convention Committee:

- Approved: 49
- Approved with amendments: 20
- Consolidated with above: 82
- Referred to Standing Commission: 36
- Rejected: 36

Total: 223

This year, the total of 223 compared to the number 177, considered by the committee of the 31st Annual National Convention at Philadelphia last year. It is significant to note that 82 resolutions were consolidated either with approved resolutions or resolutions approved with amendment. It is an indication that there was a unanimity of opinion of members of the Legion in a large number of departments that there was an obvious need for the goals sought by those resolutions which have been adopted.

The 223 resolutions include two which were referred after National Executive Committee action, the remainder coming from 37 departments. That this number of departments adopted rehabilitation resolutions in their own convention is indicative of the keen and abiding interest in the rehabilitation program.

In addition to the delegates who were members of the Convention Rehabilitation Committee, there were present many Legionnaires interested in rehabilitation and service work. Representing the Veterans Administration were: Willis Howard, assistant administrator for claims; R. L. Jarnagin, chairman, Board of Veterans' Appeals; Dr. R. C. Cook, assistant chief medical director for hospital operations; Guy H. Birdsall, assistant administrator for legislation; D. M. Turner of the Construction Division; and H. J. Cole of the Vocational Rehabilitation and Education Division, from the Denver office. Serving as a delegate from Massachusetts was John H. Walsh, vice-chairman of the National Rehabilitation Commission.

The committee expressed appreciation of the fine work of the Screening Committee, which proved a boon in the saving of time for the Convention Committee.

In the interest of conserving time, a summary is given of the resolutions approved and referred. As mentioned above, the resolutions listed as consolidated are covered by resolutions which were approved, or approved with amendments. These are listed showing the covering resolutions. Also listed are those rejected. If there is any question about any resolution, your chairman will be glad to have such resolution read in full.

The following resolutions were approved:

Policy

344. Reaffirms opposition to those sections of the Hoover Commission Report which recommend any change in the present unified control of all veterans' benefits and facilities in the one governmental agency, the Veterans Administration.

281. Reaffirms Legion policy asking decentralization of death claims to regional offices.

342. Reaffirms Legion policy of benefits for veterans having active military, naval or air service on or after June 25, 1950, and for dependents, as outlined in H. R. 9644, 81st Congress, second session, introduced for The American Legion.

399. Reiterates desire that disbursing activities be returned to Veterans Administration from Treasury Department.


Claims and Rating

138. Seeks amendment of legislation to provide exclusion of all commercial insurance in computation of annual income in determining entitlement to death pension.

140. Asks that the Veterans Administration provide one application form for use in filing claims for disability compensation or pension.

143. Seeks amendment of Veterans Administration regulations so that disability pension benefits will be awarded retroactively from the beginning date of hospitalization, where a waiting period is required to establish permanency, when total disability existed from such beginning date, where action has been deferred on a pending claim to determine whether the disability is permanent as well as total.

227. Asks that out-patient examinations made in state and municipal hospitals be accept-
able as Veterans Administration out-patient examinations for rating purposes.

284. Requests amendment of VA regulations to provide that the effective date of an award be the date claim is filed, or the date evidence is received showing entitlement, when a decision by a board of original jurisdiction is reversed upon administrative review in the claims service in Central Office.

377. Asks that VA regulations provide that when total disability is granted following a six-month period of hospitalization, under provisions of paragraph (g), page 75, 1946 Schedule for Rating Disabilities, it shall be made effective as of the beginning date of such six months' period.

380. Seeks modified VA procedure so that files when a decision by a board of original jurisdiction is reversed upon administrative review in the claims service in Central Office, following veteran's death.

382. Asks that Technical Bulletin 8-136 be cancelled and that it be VA policy that all evidence, submitted in connection with claims, be referred for rating board action.

443. Requires that The American Legion—Seek legislation to amend the National Service Life Insurance Act of 1940 to:

(1) Grant automatic insurance protection against death or total disability incurred in line of duty during first 120 days' active service on or after October 8, 1940.

(2) Remove requirement that a parent be dependent at time of death for award of automatic insurance.

(3) Provide for waiver of good health requirement if application for life or disability insurance or for reinstatement of such insurance is filed prior to July 1, 1945, if applicant is less than totally disabled and has a disability or disabilities for which compensation is payable or would be payable if 10 per cent or more in degree under Veterans Administration administered laws.

(4) Provide for payment of insurance proceeds, on contracts matured before August 1, 1946, to estate of insured if no beneficiary in permitted class survived.

(5) Require that any premiums paid for months during which waiver is effective shall be applied to payment of premiums subsequently becoming due unless insured requests refund.

(6) Extend time for application for automatic insurance.

(7) Allow premium waiver on account of total disability from October 8, 1940, to date of amendatory enactment upon application of insured or beneficiary filed within one year after such enactment.
(8) Permit insured persons to convert cash values to provide annuities, after policies have been in effect for 10 years. (9) Make refund of income option to endowment policyholders at maturity of contract by expiration of term. (10) Provide that waiver of premiums shall continue to date notice is sent registered mail to insured's last known address, when it is found he is no longer totally disabled. (11) Increase automatic insurance protection to $19,000 effective October 8, 1946. (12) Provide for waiver of premiums when death intervenes before total disability of insured has continued for six consecutive months. (13) Continue insurance protection of any person, where payment of his premiums by the government was discontinued by reason of his discharge to accept a commission, so long as he remained in active service prior to August 1, 1946. (14) Prevent forfeiture of insurance of any person sentenced by court martial for desertion if he was restored to active duty, required to engage in combat, totally disabled as a result of combat, or killed in combat.

Seek legislation to amend the World War Veterans Act of 1924 to:

(1) Permit insured persons to convert cash values to provide annuities, after policies have been in effect for 10 years. (2) Make available refund life income option to endowment policyholders at maturity of contract by expiration of term. (3) Reconstitute the liens on United States Government life insurance contracts of service-connected disabled World War I veterans under Section 304 of the World War Veterans Act of 1924, as amended, so that the principal sum shall be only the premiums due from the date of lapse to date of reinstatement and conversion, without interest, retroactively, and with simple interest prospectively at the rate established for policy loans.

Vocational Rehabilitation and Education

77. Respectfully recommends that the Congress of the United States amend the statutes to clearly express its intent regarding the veteran's right to training after July 25, 1951, to provide that an eligible veteran who has initiated his course of training by July 25, 1951, or four years after the date of his discharge, whichever is later, may continue his training continuously or intermittently, full time or part time, until completion of his education or training and attainment of his occupational objective or the exhaustion of his entitlement or until July 25, 1956, whichever is earliest, provided that the veteran's training shall continue to be satisfactory.

Armed Forces Boards of Review

440. Urges the National Rehabilitation Commission to seek necessary procedural changes so that Army cases will be given the same consideration under Section 307 of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 in the preparation of military records that are now extended to veterans of the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Air Force.

596. Seeks amendment of Section 302 of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, as amended, to provide for consideration by a board of review of the findings and decisions of any board or official which resulted in discharge, retirement, or release from active military, naval, or air service, of any officer, with physical disability, without retirement pay.

Prisoner of War Claims

279. Seeks legislation to (1) authorize extension of benefits of the War Claims Act of 1948 to military personnel who evade capture or escaped from enemy prison camps and to United States citizens who were taken prisoner of war while serving in the armed forces of an allied nation, subject to payment in like kind by the allied government in whose military establishment they served; and (2) to reopen for one year the date for filing claims under the Military Personnel Claim Act of 1945 for personal property lost by military personnel.

572. Requests that the national organization use every effort to see that funds are provided for expeditious handling and payment of prisoner of war claims under the War Claims Act of 1948.

Medical and Hospital

5. Asks discontinuance of the use of hospital summaries and urges that VA require full and adequate reports of hospital examinations and medical care for rating purposes.

13. Reiterates request that the Executive Office of the President of the United States and the Congress of the United States be urged to reactivate or to establish a Federal Board of Hospitalization.

78. Opposes the closing of any veterans' hospitals, or the curtailment of any existing facilities, until the veterans who are now in need of treatment can be adequately cared for.

134. Expresses criticism of the attitude and certain remarks by the VA Chief Medical Director regarding the program of more beds for veterans, as advocated by The American Legion, and the hospitalization of so-called non-service-connected veterans.

168. Urges that the proper authority be requested to set aside adequate facilities in VA hospitals for care of women veterans.

175. Requires that proper officials of the federal government be urgently informed that sufficient funds must be made available to provide dental treatment in service-connected cases.

217. Reiterates the long-standing policy that The American Legion opposes any form of compulsory health insurance or any system of political control of medicine.

245. Asks that The American Legion call upon the President of the United States to take advantage of his discretionary power to provide adequate funds for the needed increase in hospital beds for the care of veterans.

384. Asks that a centralized waiting list be established in regional offices where there is more than one hospital in the territory of such office to provide a better utilization of beds and avoid discrimination in admission.
after June 25, 1960, and for their dependents during present world crisis.

413. Amend laws relating to VA-administered insurance.

414. Amend laws relating to pension for non-service-connected disability.

415. Provide adequate basis for service connection of organic diseases of the nervous system.

416. Recommends chiropractic treatment under existing VA authorization and establishes minimum standards for such treatment.

417. Provide funds to pay POW claims expeditiously.

418. Elevate certain monthly VA death compensation rates.

419. Provide more adequate basis for review of officers’ retirement cases.

420. Revise basis for death pension awards and elevate monthly rates.

421. Reiterates stand on veterans’ pensions, with deferment of action during present world crisis.

**Referred Resolutions**

**Insurance**

The following resolutions relating to insurance were referred to the standing National Rehabilitation Commission in accordance with provisions of San Francisco 1946 National Convention Resolution No. 363 for study and recommendation by the Rehabilitation Insurance Advisory Board as listed by states and numbers:

- Iowa—229
- Kansas—346
- Massachusetts—681
- Michigan—341
- Mississippi—275
- Oklahoma—273
- Rhode Island—618, 619
- Texas—649

**Miscellaneous**

The following miscellaneous resolutions were referred to the standing National Rehabilitation Commission for study, necessary action and formal report:

- Requests modification of VA regulations so as to permit veterans, regardless of any attempt made to pursue a vocational course, to take full advantage of training to secure a high school education.
- Directs National Rehabilitation Commission to urge VA officials to provide a means of medical care for a veteran who may not qualify for domiciliary care and yet does not require hospital treatment, and to report progress made to the next annual National Rehabilitation Conference.
- Recommends addition of psychoneurosis to the VA list of chronic diseases, for purposes of service connection.
- Requests amendment of VA regulations to permit promotion of nurses.
- Asks adequate out-patient care be afforded veterans in Montana who have service-connected mental conditions.
- Requests extension for at least one year of the time limitation for entering farm training under the Servicemen’s Readjustment Act.
243—Asks that a reasonable statute of limitations be placed on claims of the United States Government against private individuals.


240—Requests that the Fort Snelling VA center be given jurisdiction over the Sixth and Seventh American Legion Districts in Minnesota.

239—Asks that all files referred to Central Office for administrative review be routed to accredited representatives of recognized organizations holding power of attorney before being transferred.

238—Asks that the chief medical officers of regional offices be granted authority to determine a veteran's legal and medical eligibility for hospitalization.

237—Seeks an immediate survey of the anticipated needs for hospital beds, especially for neuropsychiatric and tuberculosis patients.

236—Asks revision of VA regulations relating to the use of service cards by veterans furnished hearing aids for service-connected deafness.

235—Asks amendment of the VA rating schedule so that audiometric measurements of hearing acuity loss may serve as a basis for evaluation of disability.

234—Seeks to provide protection for service-connected deafness.

233—Asks that VA contact offices and personnel in Massachusetts be maintained at the same locations and level.

232—Provides educational facilities under the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 for certain veterans who were Philippine Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 for service-connected disabilities.

231—Deadline for starting educational courses under P. L. 346.

230 (Iowa) Rehabilitation program be not altered by Korean situation.

229 (Mo.) Optometric visual care be available to veterans.

228 (Okla.) Prompt action on VA appropriations prior to end of each fiscal year.

227 (Minn.) Monies due a veteran be applied to re-instatement of NSLI.

226 (P. R.) Federal medical and hospital service for wives and children of poor disabled veterans.

225 (P. R.) Reduce minimum service to 50 days to qualify for benefits.

224 (III.) P. L. 652 be amended to include veterans without dependents receiving care by U. S. VA doctors and nurses.

223 (Mass.) VA dental regulations include provisions for state veterans' homes.

222 (Mass.) Extend final date for entrance into educational training under the G. I. Bill of Rights.

221 (Mass.) Dependency amounts for wives and children be increased.

220 (Mass.) Investigate VA officials.

219 (Mass.) Attitude of VA Department of Medicine and Surgery.

218 (Texas) VA practice of passing along chronic cases be stopped.

217 (Texas) Action on VA appropriations be taken prior to beginning of fiscal year concerned.

216 (Texas) All death claims be handled in VA district offices.

215 (Texas) Extend date to start study under G. I. Bill of Rights.

214 (Texas) Improve pay and retirement benefits of VA doctors and nurses.

213 (Mass.) Eliminate requirement of notarized statements for establishing proof.

212 (Va.) Service and medical record of a veteran charged with crime be available to trial court.

The report was adopted.

Supplemental Report of Convention

Rejected Resolutions


3 (Ala.) Initiation of education course under G. I. Bill of Rights.

4 (Ala.) Reductions in allocations of funds in regional offices.

6 (Ala.) Presumption in certain chronic and tropical diseases.

17 (Ga.) Educational benefits for widows and children of deceased veterans.

18 (Ga.) American flag be draped on coffins of parents of veterans.

24 (Miss.) Deadline for starting education course under G. I. Bill.

30 (Miss.) Decentralization of death benefit cases of Korean war dead.

32 (Neb.) VA services in Nebraska be improved.

135 (N. C.) VA hospitals in North Carolina provide a period of training for arrested disease cases.

136 (N. C.) Extend deadline for starting institutional and/or on-the-Job training.

139 (N. D.) Administrative review of all Part III pension claims denied.

169 (Pa.) Deadline for starting education under G. I. Bill.

230 (Iowa) Rehabilitation program be not altered by Korean situation.

252 (Mo.) Optometric visual care be available to veterans.

228 (Okla.) Prompt action on VA appropriations prior to end of each fiscal year.

227 (Minn.) Monies due a veteran be applied to re-instatement of NSLI.

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The report was adopted.

Supplemental Report of Convention

Americanism Committee

Fourteen members of the Convention Americanism Committee met at 11:00 a.m., October 12, 1950, and considered Resolution No. 714, "SELL DEMOCRACY DAY," submitted by Comrade Richard S. Kaplan, of the Department of Indiana, through regular convention procedure.

The resolution read as follows:

Whereas, It is necessary to implement the various resolutions adopted by the 32nd American Legion Convention dealing with the elimination of...
communism, and the punishment of communist followers in the United States; and

Whereas, The first line of defense is an enlightened public; and

Whereas, An emergency exists because our people are not fully informed regarding communism and its dangers; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That a SELL DEMOCRACY DAY be held by every department and district organization of The American Legion, during which Day every means of publicity, including pamphlets, similar to those used by the Department of Indiana and the First District thereof, the newspapers, radio and speakers be employed in an all-out and intensive effort to educate our people; be it further

Resolved, That each department make every effort to obtain official proclamations of SELL DEMOCRACY DAY by their Governor and city mayors, and that each department shall have the right to select the date for celebrating SELL DEMOCRACY DAY.

By unanimous vote of the committee members present the resolution was referred to the staff of the National Americanism Commission for study and report to the next regular meeting of the commission.

The report was adopted.

NATIONAL COMMANDER CRAIG:
Now at this time the Chair recognizes Past Commander Warren Atherton, of California, for a presentation.

PRESENTATION OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

By Past National Commander Warren H. Atherton

I am proud to speak your words in honoring Major General Milton A. Reckord, who has made an outstanding record as a citizen and as a civic leader. General Reckord has attained distinction in many fields, but it is in the realm of the citizen-soldier that General Reckord has attained not only American, but international distinction. It is very fitting that The American Legion should recognize a great citizen-soldier, committed as we are to the support of the National Guard and the Organized Reserve, committed as we are to the training of every citizen for service in time of need.

From Lexington to Pearl Harbor, from 1775 to 1950, the nation has depended upon a thin line of National Guardsmen for its first line of defense. At the time of attack 49 years and nine months ago, Private Milton A. Reckord enlisted in the Maryland-Virginia National Guard. He is still a member of the National Guard. At that time the Militia was a small and scattered step-child. He worked for its expansion and growth, until today it has well-trained men numbering half a million, and exists today as a living, breathing monument to the untiring efforts of General Reckord.

He was a major at the Border in 1916. He was the colonel commanding the 215th Infantry in France in World War I. Upon his return from that war, he was made the adjutant general of Maryland in 1930, and he is still the adjutant general of the great state of Maryland.

In World War II he was a commanding officer of the 29th Division, a legion which held the Normandy Beach on D Day. Under General Marshall he was made commanding officer of the Third Corps Area. Under General Marshall he was selected to be the provost marshal of all Europe. He went through France with General Patton, clearing the roads for vital supplies. In the course of that campaign as provost, he eventually returned to the quarter million POW, and among the more distinguished of his barred wire guests were General Goering, Admiral Donetz, General Keitel, and General Vaughn Bavinger, who had a cottage in the Blue Ridge Mountains next to that of General Reckord's.

Upon his return from service from World War II, General Reckord was designated for service on the general staff, his fourth selection for duty upon that all-important activity.

Our comrade has been a long-time president of the National Rifle Association, and is a director of that association. He is today the chairman of the Legislative Committee of the National Guard at Washington, and likewise a life member of the National Council of the National Guard.

As a Legionnaire, he has been a department commander of Maryland. He has been your national chairman of national defense, and he is today a member of your Universal Military Training Committee.

Time does not permit a further recital of the accomplishments of this great citizen-soldier whom you have chosen to honor.

At the request of the national commander and on your behalf, I now present to General Milton A. Reckord the highest award within your power to grant. I present it to him as one of the nation's most valued citizen-soldiers.

Now it is my honor and privilege to pin upon your selectee The American Legion Medal for Distinguished Service.

RESPONSE BY GENERAL MILTON A. RECKORD

I have been signally honored by this great organization of veterans, far beyond my just deserts. I appreciate the honor and distinction you have conferred upon me and I shall forever be grateful.

This decoration has been awarded to me on the basis of my endeavors as a citizen in the interest of national defense. Therefore, I shall take advantage of the opportunity afforded to say a word to you, my comrades, with regard to the responsibilities of all of our citizens in preparing themselves to defend the privileges which we enjoy.

Since the days of Valley Forge, a century and a half have passed away, and in that period of time, brief in the lives of nations, this great American republic has risen strangely and gloriously, from the last to the first and highest place in all the world. Today she stands as the leader of all the free nations of the world. Pre-eminent for opportunity and security and blessed by Almighty God with the greatest potential resources and manufacturing ability ever known to man, our nation is now looked upon by all free peoples as the one bulwark between them and their way of life, against the ruthless ravages of the leaders of the communistic ideology. And how has all this been brought about? By the young men of the nation going out, facing death, that the country might be saved, but, to our shame, many of these young men went into battle unprepared. They were sacrificed upon the altar of indifference on the part of the people of this great nation.

If we are to accept our responsibility of world leadership in this war against communism—and we must accept it—then we must be prepared to pay the cost.

We must realize that only by keeping America strong can we hope for final victory. Strength in one arm is not enough; we must be strong all
over—in the air, on the sea and on the ground. And also we must keep our economy strong, for without a strong economic structure we would fail eventually to maintain and support the needed military strength.

Throughout my entire adult life I have supported the principle that all who are privileged to enjoy freedom, our life under our Constitution, should accept the responsibility of preparing themselves to defend those freedoms. In the past, except in time of war, this responsibility was accepted only by a small portion of our people—those who volunteered for military training or military service.

But today there is too much at stake. With Stalin and the communistic ideology definitely committed to the destruction of all the things in which we believe, it is my opinion that we should put forth our greatest possible effort. This is just another way of saying: we must have Universal Military Training of all young men of this Republic, without exception, and that training should be military training for battle, in order that for many years to come we will have available at all times, trained men in all departments of the armed forces, and in sufficient numbers with which to meet any emergency. Strength, military and economic strength, is the only thing Stalin and his cohorts understand.

My comrades, if we would be free, we must keep America strong!

NATIONAL COMMANDER CRAIG: We are happy to have the opportunity of recognizing such a valued citizen-soldier. At this time, I will recognize the Commander of the Department of Illinois, Larry Fenlon.

PRESENTATION BY LAWRENCE FENLON
Department of Illinois

My comrades, as the commander of the Illinois Department, I have been afforded a very, very great privilege. Those of you who have been attending Legion national conventions for the past quarter of a century have probably noticed a Legionnaire in uniform along side of our flag during all of our sessions and in a rather slight figure. He is a great Legionnaire. He is the oldest enlisted man serving overseas who belongs to the Legion. He was born back in Illinois in '61 and he will be 90 in March. He served as a sergeant in a machine gun company of the 33rd Division and he has served as post commander and as county commander. A short time ago, I attended a district convention, his district convention, and in order for him to go there he had to hitchhike 120 miles. If we could but get that same interest in the younger veterans of World War I and younger veterans of World War II, just imagine the great force this Legion would be with our three and a half million members willing to hitchhike 120 miles. I am very proud to present to you a great Legionnaire from Illinois, Daddy Sergeant John Newcombe!

NATIONAL COMMANDER CRAIG: Thank you. We are awfully happy to have you here, Sergeant Newcombe. Like The American Legion, your spyry condition at your age, makes some of us a little less than half your age feel mighty old.

During the many years that our American Legion has worked so sincerely for the preservation of our principles of government, we have at many and most junctures of controversy received the warm support and active cooperation of what I believe to be the most—next to the ministry—important profession in the United States. The profession, if you please, that has the custody and is charged with the responsibility of conveying to the children and young people of this nation those principles of justice, freedom and democracy which will, as they go through life, spell the difference between making contributions to our society, and failing to recognize or appreciate its virtues.

We are happy to have with us this afternoon, the outstanding leader of the National Education Association which is the legitimate association of the teaching profession in the United States. At this time I introduce Miss Corinna Mowrey, president of the National Educational Association.

ADDRESS BY MISS CORINNA MOWREY
President of National Education Association

I am happy to bring you the greetings of the National Education Association. Your organization and the NEA have always had much in common. At no time in history have our objectives been identical in so many areas nor more vital to the national welfare than today. More people are engaged in education than in any other profession. There are nearly a million educators in the United States. They fill every type of position from the kindergarten through the graduate schools of our colleges and universities.

Like The American Legion, the NEA is represented in every American community. At the community level, teachers cooperate with members of the Legion and its Auxiliary in such educational projects as the Boys and Girls State and the National Oratorical Contest. Our local organizations may be found working together for the improvement of community life, and laying the basis for sound and loyal American citizenship.

The inflated dollar placed many school systems in straitened circumstances. Immediate increase in financial support was imperative. Only the appropriation of a larger amount of state revenues has enabled many schools to maintain adequate standards. The departments of The American Legion and the state education associations have worked side by side to obtain this increased aid in many states.

Nationally, cooperation of The American Legion and the NEA began with the inception of the Legion itself. For many years the organizations have exchanged speakers at our national conventions. Commander George N. Craig was one of the featured speakers at our St. Louis meeting last July. The members of our profession are honored in my invitation from you to represent them here today.

The most fruitful cooperation of The American Legion and the National Education Association, however, began nearly 30 years ago when the two
organizations planned a continuing crusade against illiteracy in America.

As all of you know, the idea of The American Legion originated in Paris while the weary members of the AEF waited for ships to take them back home. The leaders of the military forces had grown impatient at the roadblocks raised by ignorance. They looked forward to the elimination of this handicap to effective military service. Modern warfare is increasingly technical and scientific in character. It demands knowledge and skill. The uneducated soldier is often a liability. Small wonder that one of the first objectives of The American Legion was adequate schooling for every American youth, and a program of education which would be a bulwark of the national security.

In 1921, representatives of The American Legion invited the NEA to join their organization in this crusade against illiteracy. The week which included the Armistice Day of World War I was designated as American Education Week. Its purpose was to focus the attention of theAmerican people upon the educational opportunities they were providing for their children. Later the United States Office of Education and the National Congress of Parents and Teachers were invited to join in this project; in this economy there is no more effective project of its kind. Each year more than 10,000,000 adult citizens in 4,000 communities visit their schools. Great public leaders promote the observance of American Education Week. The President of the United States annually issues a proclamation or releases a statement in support of it. As many as 33 state governors have issued such proclamations in a single year. Newspapers, radio, and magazines help make the occasion a success. Aids for the celebration are printed at national headquarters of The American Legion. Local posts cooperate.

Each year a theme is chosen for the programs of American Education Week. The theme for 1950 was Government of, By, and For, the People. There has never been a time in national history when sympathetic understanding and devotion to the ideals of the kind of government represented in these simple words of Abraham Lincoln were more important than they are today.

The American Legion is dedicated to the maintenance of the American freedoms upon which democracy depends. Your national convention itself is an evidence of this great concern for our national security. You have heard many speakers point to the threats which beset us, and recommend measures for the national defense. The educators feel that they, too, have a responsibility in the maintenance of the American way of life. Popular government is dependent upon an educated citizenry. Our educational institutions are a bulwark of the freedoms we prize. The conflict which now threatens the world is ideological. There are 2,000,000,000 people in the world. A large percentage of them have already accepted, or seem willing to embrace, government by dictatorship. The remainder still hold to the freedoms which are basic to the worth and dignity of the individual. Understanding and respect for these freedoms among the largest and most important goals of education in a democracy. The teachers of America recognize this responsibility. Ideologies cannot be changed by any kind of material weapon. Ideology is precisely the field in which the schools operate. The American way cannot be secured except by a vigorous American citizenship for which the basis is laid in our American schools. That defense must be greatly strengthened now.

The American teachers recognize that loyal American citizenship will not be taught by teachers who are themselves disloyal. At our national meeting in St. Louis, the following resolution was adopted:

"The National Education Association strongly asserts that all schools have an obligation to teach the rights, privileges, and the responsibilities of living in a democracy.

"The responsibility of the schools is to teach the value of our American way of life, founded as it is on the dignity and worth of the individual; our youth should know it, believe in it, and live it continuously.

"As a measure of defense against our most potent threat, our American schools should teach about communism and all forms of totalitarianism, including the principles and practices of the Soviet Union and the communist party in the United States. Teaching about communism does not mean advocacy of communism. Such advocacy should not be permitted in American schools.

"Members of the communist party should not be employed in our schools. Communist organizations and communist front organizations should be required by law to register with the Attorney-General of the United States.

"The association charges the teaching profession with the obligation of providing the best defense of democracy through full participation in making democracy really live and work.

"The association again reminds the public of the repeated pronouncements of our military leaders and statesmen that education is the basis of our national security and that a well-planned, adequately supported system of free public schools is fundamental to the perpetuation of our American way of life."

Final decision regarding the employment of teachers who belong to the communist party must rest with the thousands of the legally constituted school boards who are responsible for the schools in their own communities. However, the profession reserves the right to pass upon the fitness for membership in its own national organization. A by-law which includes the following statement was adopted at our last convention:

"no person shall be admitted or continued in membership in the NEA who advocates or who is a member of the communist party of the United States or of any organization that advocates changing the form of government of the United States by any means not provided for in the Constitution of the United States."

The concern of the American teacher for the invasion of communist ideals extends beyond the classrooms which they serve. By another resolution adopted last summer by the National Education Association:

"records its support of the United Nations Security Council and of the United States government in their decisions to resist and repulse aggression in Korea.

"The association reaffirms its belief that adequate preparedness is necessary for national security and remains convinced that the American people must be alert to the need for such security; that defense must be greatly strengthened now.

"The association reaffirms its belief that adequate preparedness is necessary for national security and remains convinced that the American people must be alert to the need for such security; therefore, it calls upon the federal government to administer a program that will provide adequate national defense to assure peaceful working relations with other nations of the world."

American teachers are convinced, however, that merely eliminating subversive influences is not enough. There must be a positive, constructive
program of education in citizenship for young and old. Such a program is not the result of vilification, of harsh and unfavorable criticism, or of condemnation because some schools do not do as what they do that counts. The teachers of the United States ask all those who are interested in the contribution of the schools to sound citizenship for aid in strengthening and extending a constructive program.

To make such a program possible the teachers have asked for financial support which will make the ideal of universal education a reality. There are more than 2,000,000 young people of elementary school age who are not in any school at all. There is little likelihood that they will ever enroll in school, unless provisions are made which do not now exist. Many communities and states have done what they can to provide adequate educational opportunity for all their children, but educational opportunity in the United States is far from equal. The discrimination against millions of children merely because of the place of their birth or because they are remote from centers of wealth, cannot be taxed for their education, is an injustice out of accord with American democracy and which can certainly not be called upon to preserve or strengthen it. Equality of educational opportunity is achieved nowhere in the country without federal financial aid. The federal government is the only agency which can tax wealth wherever it is for the education of children wherever they are.

The long arm of the federal government reaches out at this moment to the most remote village and countryside of this nation to summon youth to the ideal of universal education a reality. There exist. Many communities and states have done what they can to provide adequate educational opportunity for all their children, but educational opportunity in the United States is far from equal. The discrimination against millions of children merely because of the place of their birth or because they are remote from centers of wealth, cannot be taxed for their education, is an injustice out of accord with American democracy and which can certainly not be called upon to preserve or strengthen it. Equality of educational opportunity is achieved nowhere in the country without federal financial aid. The federal government is the only agency which can tax wealth wherever it is for the education of children wherever they are.

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"The critical situation in American education caused by the shortage of teachers is undermining the educational opportunity of millions of children and constitutes a threat to the individual competence which is a cornerstone of national defense. The reason for present exodus from the teaching profession is primarily an economic one. We therefore reiterate the action taken by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in 1945 in adopting the following resolution:

"We recommend the consideration of legislation before the United States Congress providing for federal participation in school support, and urge that legislation which protects the schools from federal domination and secures the continued existence of local control of schools receive the support of The American Legion."

The American Legion in bringing adequate educational opportunity to millions of children now denied it has been an encouragement to the teachers who have seen this proposed legislation time after time abandoned for various reasons unrelated either to the welfare of the children or to the welfare of the nation. Final adoption of the legislation is imperative for national security in war and for prosperity in peace.

As the years pass, we shall find many other opportunities to work together for the preservation of those high ideals to which our organizations are alike pledged. For this cooperation The American Legion has now, as always, the deepest appreciation of the American teachers.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY

Bruce Henderson, chairman, of Ohio, reported as follows:

One hundred and forty-three delegates served on the Convention National Security Committee. Bruce Henderson, Ohio, was elected convention committee chairman, and John E. Davis, of North Dakota, was elected secretary.

Resolutions pertaining to the affairs of each of the National Security Subcommittees were assigned to temporary chairmen and these subcommittees met separately. The subcommittees elected their officers as follows:


Chairman Henderson appointed a special subcommittee to consider Universal Military Training resolutions, with Granville Ridley, Tennessee, as subcommittee chairman, and Wm. W. Welsh, Alabama, secretary.

Each of these convention subcommittees considered the resolutions which were referred to them as well as the reports of the corresponding standing committees. At the conclusion of their separate meetings, all subcommittees reassumed as a committee of the whole and each made its report and recommendations relative to resolutions considered.

Statement of Policy

The American Legion recognizes its obligation to recommend to the nation a military policy in balance with our world leadership, designed to maintain our national security and the maintenance of our free institutions, and in keeping with such obligations as we may accept as a member of the United Nations supportable by our economy.

Our experience in two world wars and the trend of world events convinces us that a sound national security policy may mean the difference between the survival or the destruction of our free institutions; and we know from the lessons of history that weakness invites attack.

To establish and maintain peace, we recommend that the national security policy of the United States be based upon the following principles:

1. That Universal Military Training in accordance with The American Legion Plan of National Security Training and based upon findings of the President's Advisory Commission on Universal Training, be established as the basic source of military manpower.

2. That Civil Defense legislation, based upon the principle of civilian control and local autonomy be enacted into law by Congress at the earliest practicable date; and that The American Legion devote its unremitting effort toward the enactment and implementation of such legislation.

3. That research in nuclear energy and in other scientific fields be continued and expanded in

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order to contribute to the best interest of the nation in peace as well as in war.

4. That the Merchant Marine be expanded for military service as a vital arm of our national defense.

5. That the Central Intelligence Agency be strengthened in accordance with the purpose of the National Defense Act of 1947.

6. That all phases of our transportation systems, domestic and foreign, contributing to the national security be expanded.

7. That the National Security Resources Board acquire at the earliest practicable date and maintain adequate stockpiles of strategic materials.

8. That, in the interest of an economical and efficient use of the nation's resources, there be established a single supply catalog system for the national military establishment.

The following resolutions were adopted by the Convention National Security Committee:

No. 335, as amended, it is hereby
Resolved, by The American Legion in convention assembled at Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, That General Douglas MacArthur is hereby commended and cited for his outstanding leadership and loyalty in the performance of his duties as supreme commander of the armed forces of the United States in the Asiatic and Far Eastern command;

No. 360, as amended, which incorporates No. 306, and reads as follows:

Whereas, The Honorable Louis A. Johnson has served in the Cabinet of the President of the United States as Secretary of Defense;

Whereas, During his entire life, as a private citizen, and in positions of high responsibility for his country, he has devoted himself to our nation's security with great industry, intelligence and patriotic fervor; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion in convention assembled at its 32nd National Convention in Los Angeles, California, expresses to the Honorable Louis A. Johnson its appreciation of the services rendered by him as a public servant as Secretary of Defense in the Cabinet of the President of the United States.

No. 713:

Whereas, Major General Lewis B. Hershey has been Director of Selective Service since 1940; and

Whereas, He has proven himself to be a student of the man power problems of the United States of America; and

Whereas, He has conducted the administration of the Selective Service System in such a manner, regardless of politics, as to inspire the confidence of all branches of the federal government and of the American public; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, That we commend Major General Hershey for the intelligent, impartial and understanding manner in which he has administered his duty as Director of Selective Service, and express the confidence of the Legion in him.

Aeronautics

We reaffirm our declaration of policy contained in the 1949 report of this committee and in the bulletin of The American Legion entitled, "The Fifties—Decade of Air Decision," as follows:

Air power is everything within the nation that has to do with air. It includes air education, commercial transport, private flying, maintenance facilities, research laboratories and the military establishment for air. No nation that merely has airplanes in the hands of its professionals can be said truly to possess air power. A nation must also understand air power and its significance.

The job of The American Legion is to develop that "statesmanship of the air" within our own ranks. We must recognize that without a healthy aircraft manufacturing industry, a financially stable air transportation industry and a genuine research program, military aviation cannot be supported.

The current appropriations for the air force and naval aviation are for immediate needs. There is yet to be established, by legislation, a succession of five-year programs, reviewable yearly, for research, development and procurement of aircraft for the Air Force and the naval air arm for the purpose of maintaining a rapidly expandable production industry, and we renew our recommendation made in 1949 that such a program be established by the Congress at the earliest practicable date.

We note with approval that the Congress has enacted legislation to develop prototype cargo and transport aircraft, primarily for commercial use, but suitable for military use in the event of emergency, to be administered by the Secretary of Commerce in conjunction with the Air Force in line with our recommendation of 1949.

In the interest of both civil and military aviation, we recommend that the Civil Aeronautics Administration and other appropriate agencies of the government be given adequate funds to continue and complete research and development in the field of all-weather flying devices.

We recognize that in the interest of military effectiveness the Air Force must maintain complete control, jurisdiction and command of all its present components, and to that end we recommend that the present structure of the Air Force be maintained without change.

We have herefore recommended that the Air Force and the Naval Air Arm be expanded in accordance with the principal recommendations of the President's Air Policy Commission and the Joint Congressional Aviation Policy Board, and we record with satisfaction that considerable progress has been made toward the attainment of those objectives. We recommend that the goals set by the board be further reviewed and the program be adjusted to meet the present and reasonably foreseeable world conditions.

We renew our recommendation that the appropriate agencies of the government explore fully and establish an adequate program for military, naval and commercial airships under our flag.

We recommend to the National Membership Committee of The American Legion that it establish effective liaison with the Air Force in order to aid the Air Force in its recruitment program.

The above statement of policy was agreed upon by your Aeronautics Committee and was adopted.

Resolution No. 54 was consolidated with Resolution No. 804, which was approved and reads as follows:

Resolved, That The American Legion in national convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, recommend that a United States Air Academy be established.

Resolution No. 439 referred to the standing committee.

Resolution No. 180 rejected.

Civil Defense

Under the declaration of policy and the mandates contained in the resolutions adopted, the job of The American Legion to defend now is to help procure earliest possible enactment of civil defense legislation proposed to Congress, and to
give every aid on the state and local levels in the completion and accomplishment of civil defense preparedness.

The resolutions approved are as follows:

Resolution No. 610 adopted.

A Single Catalog for the Armed Forces

Whereas, the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the government reports that the use of a single catalog and a single cataloging system is of crucial importance to national defense;

Whereas, the same commission reports that without a single catalog, efficient property management is impossible; and

Whereas, The same commission states that the present supply procedures of the armed forces can be operated more efficiently with a single catalog at vastly considerable savings in men, material and money, possibly exceeding three million dollars annually; and

Whereas, The experience of two world wars has shown that without a single catalog for military supply it is difficult, and in some cases even impossible, to supply the armed forces; and

Whereas, The procurement subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee and the Hoover Commission, in their report of March 1, 1948, reported that, because of duplication in procurement procedures resulting from absence of the single catalog system, it was estimated that taxpayers paid out some 40 billions of dollars unnecessarily during the last war; and

Whereas, It appears without question that cataloging is "the key to an efficient supply system," but that bitter resistance is and has been encountered at high levels from bureaucratic agencies which are loath to surrender their separate "supply empires"; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion in national convention assembled in Los Angeles, October 9-12, 1950—

(1) That the Secretary of Defense proceed immediately to develop and install a single catalog system to meet the supply needs of the armed forces; and

(2) That in order to insure the program against sabotage by generalization, the definition of a single catalog be that given in the report of the federal supply subcommittee of the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the government, to-wit:

(a) "That in the national defense department catalog each property item shall have but one name and one identification number, and that no other names and identification numbers shall be used"; and

(b) "That all agencies concerned with part or all of the processes of supply shall use the national defense catalog, and that no other catalog shall be used";

(c) "That all reports to Congress or to the President on production export, import, procurement, utilization and disposal of commodities shall be submitted in terms of the nomenclature of the national defense catalog."

(3) In order to prevent duplication of functions, of responsibility and of publication costs, each item of supply assigned to a single technical service or bureau and that technical service or bureau have sole responsibility for cataloging those items assigned to it, and for preparations of the material to be included in the supply catalog; and

(4) Each technical service or bureau publish within the policies of the Secretary of Defense a section of the supply catalog to contain only those items assigned to it; but each technical service or bureau may draw upon the material in any section for inclusion in its working supplements or unit publications to be approved by the Secretary of Defense as part of the national defense publication plan; and

(5) The numbers or symbols adopted as a means of identification shall be limited to those whose primary functions are to identify items of supply and to facilitate the economical and efficient distribution and utilization of material, and that numbers or symbols that serve primarily for statistical purposes alone shall not be included; and

(6) That the technical services of cataloging include those presently pertaining to item identification, description patterns, item descriptions, standardization, specifications, packaging, units of measure, and the preparation, publication and distribution of the data therefrom; and

(7) When the national defense single catalog has been developed and installed, it be applied to all federal supply operations; and all existing catalogs with their numbers, names and descriptions be replaced; and

(8) That the national defense catalog shall be in book form consisting of sections to be prefixed and published in accordance with policies, procedures and schedules of the Secretary of Defense by each supply agency to whom catalog responsibility has been assigned; and, be it further

Resolved, That in order to support, direct and insure the establishment of a single catalog system for the armed services, appropriate legislation be enacted by Congress so providing and directing.

The above resolution is known as No. 610 and was adopted by the committee.

Resolution No. 610 adopted.

Whereas, Developments in Korea have thrust upon us the realization of the uncertainty of future world developments; and

Whereas, The instruments of modern warfare are such as to place the civilian population in jeopardy in any future war; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, That all posts of The American Legion be encouraged to provide leadership in the development of civil defense and emergency relief plans for their respective communities, working in conjunction with the governing bodies of their municipalities and acting in such a way as to elicit that active cooperation of other local civic organizations and handling the publicity in such a way as to highlight the sound, level-headed principle of preparedness, and not in such a way as to excite public hysteria; and, be it further

Resolved, That this project be adopted as an integral part of The American Legion program.

The following resolutions were adopted: 698, 697, 712.

No. 698—

Whereas, Present world conditions require the immediate strengthening of all phases of our national security; and

Whereas, Adequate civil defense is a vital part of our national security structure which, under the uniform plan formulated by the federal government, is properly the responsibility of local civil authority; and

Whereas, Any emergency, whether a peacetime natural disaster or wartime emergency, imposed tremendously increased burdens upon the law-enforcement agencies who are responsible for
the protection of life, preservation of order, prevention of panic, maintenance of mobile communications and traffic control; and

Whereas, The American Legion has available military-trained man power, many of whom by reason of age and physical disability will not be called for active military service, but who could readily be re-trained and utilized in this phase of civil defense, especially in active auxiliary police units, to protect the state and local agencies of the nation, to serve in any type of emergency other than the policing of labor disputes, political assemblages, protest meetings and similar categories; and

Whereas, The Department of Ohio, for eight years, has maintained an American Legion auxiliary state highway patrol, which is recognized as a constructive contribution to the solution of this problem of survival and which could serve as a blueprint for similar cooperation throughout the nation; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the departments and posts of The American Legion be strongly urged to cooperate with constituted authorities in the establishment of state and local auxiliary police units.

No. 697—

Whereas, The American Legion at every national convention since World War II has consistently and unreservedly and insisted that a sound and acceptable national plan for civil defense be organized and implemented as an integral part of our national security; and

Whereas, The American Legion in these demands has without exception insisted that in such a plan the following principles should be incorporated:

(a) The federal government should give leadership, guidance and support through a civil defense operating agency to the end that necessary coordination be effected with all the elements of government concerned with supporting a war effort;

(b) The primary responsibility for organization and operation of this plan rests with state government and its political subdivisions;

(c) A primary obligation of the individual to participate in the protection of his family, home and community under the leadership of established government is inherent in American citizenship; and

Whereas, The American Legion has deplored the delay in establishing a plan of the federal government in its failure to implement a sound plan for civil defense, although such a plan was presented by an authorized planning group as early as November, 1948; and

Whereas, Such a failure has placed our citizens in jeopardy in event of enemy attack; and

Whereas, The President of the United States has now (on September 18, 1960) presented to the Congress a plan entitled “United States Civil Defense,” and requested the Congress to give immediate attention to adequate legislation for its implementation; be it therefore

Resolved, That The American Legion in regular convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1960, That inasmuch as the concept of the President’s proposed plan is consistent with the principles which The American Legion has repeatedly urged, be it therefore

1. Vigorously demand the Congress on its reconvening immediately pass the legislation as requested by the President and appropriate adequate funds for the carrying out of its provisions.

2. Urgently request the President of the United States under his executive powers to establish an interim federal civil defense administration consistent with the proposed legislation and appoint a competent administrator to assume leadership.

3. That all departments and posts of The American Legion shall vigorously demand that their state and local governments immediately assume their responsibility to establish civil defense organizations, and supply necessary funds for their effective operation.

4. That all departments and posts of The American Legion also wholeheartedly offer their personnel and facilities to the state and local civil defense authority for active participation in all volunteer activities; and, be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to each Senator and Representative member in the Congress with the request that passage of the subject legislation be vigorously and unremittingly pursued.

No. 712—

Whereas, The American Legion has always cooperated with the American Red Cross; and

Whereas, There may be an emergency or disaster at any time in the present world crisis; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That inasmuch as there is immediate urgency for stockpiling of blood as a part of civil defense preparedness, The American Legion proceed at once with a blood donor recruitment program in cooperation with the American Red Cross.

Resolution No. 593 referred to the National Security Commission for attention and guidance.

Resolution No. 55 consolidated in No. 688.

Resolutions rejected: No. 113, No. 183, No. 611, No. 612.

Merchant Marine

Resolutions Nos. 513, 520 and 583 were consolidated into Resolution No. 695, which resolution was adopted by the committee and follows:

Whereas, In light of the serious international situation, The American Legion recognizes now, more than ever before, the necessity for greatly increased military preparedness, and the urgent need for a strong and adequate American Merchant Marine as a vital component part thereof; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion request—

1. That the Congress of the United States enact promptly sound, long-range shipping legislation in such terms as will encourage private enterprise to construct, maintain and operate American merchant ships of sufficient numbers, sizes and types to fully meet all demands of our national security; and promote the domestic and foreign trade and commerce of the United States;

2. That with respect to the present deficiency in fast passenger steamships suitable for conversion to troop transports, we urge that the United States take immediate steps to insure the availability of such vessels as are necessary for the transportation of troops with maximum safety and reasonable comfort; and we condemn the practice born of necessity in World War II of transporting America’s military man power in partially converted cargo vessels;

3. That present laws requiring government-financed cargoes shipped to or from the United States be carried in American vessels shall be continued as national policy and effectively implemented by the executive departments of the U.S. Government;

4. That as a matter of national policy, and especially in light of world conditions today, our reliance upon unconverted shipping for military purposes and national defense be placed upon United States vessels, and primarily those of private ownership;
and upon our shipbuilding and ship repair facilities;
5. That the armed forces make full and com- plete use of American shipping services when available and adequate to meet military require- ments, that they maintain good preservation vessels and that the American Merchant Marine should be ready and available to meet the demands of war;
6. That the armed forces shall be given priority for transportation services necessary to support American military activities in event of war.

Resolved, That the United States advocate a policy toward the rehabilitation of the Merchant Marines of Japan and Germany which has a direct bearing upon the ocean transportation requirements of these nations in the revival of their own import and export trade, and that they should not be permitted to engage in the carriage of unrelated international commerce, or to build and operate merchant shipping of such numbers, sizes and types as might again threaten the peace of the world;
12. That we commend the prompt and forthright action of the Congress in effectively implement- ing prior resolutions of The American Legion for a fair Panama Canal tolls policy; for funds to maintain good preservation vessels in the national defense reserve fleet; and for legis- lation designed to assure that all personnel em- ployed aboard American merchant ships are loyal to the United States;
13. That we support and encourage, and pledge our cooperation to, the newly-created Federal Mar-

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time Board and Maritime Administration in their work of implementing Congressional policy respect- ing the American Merchant Marine:
14. That in event of total mobilization of all the nation's resources and man power, that the nation's merchant marine, including vessels and personnel, be made a part of the armed services;
15. That in order to implement the broad and extensive educational campaign by The American Legion on behalf of the American Merchant Ma- rine, we recommend that the maritime industry effectuate a positive promotional campaign to in- form the American public of the need for an ade- quate maritime industry as a component part of our national defense; and

Whereas, The American Legion has adopted and intends to continue a program of direct action for a strong American Merchant Marine; now, there- fore, be it
Resolved, That the Director of the National Se- curity Commission of The American Legion be, and he is hereby directed, to continue to seek and obtain from all possible sources such information and assistance as will insure the effectiveness of the nation's armed forces; and that the mandates of this convention concerning the American Merchant Marine, and further that the Director be, and he is hereby authorized, to par- ticipate in all public hearings affecting the said program; and, be it further
Resolved, That The American Legion at its 32nd Annual National Convention assembled in Los An- geles, California, October 9-12, 1950, instructs the national headquarters of The American Legion to continue to prepare and carry out an extensive educational campaign in the interests of the American Merchant Marine, and to acquaint the Ameri- can people with the necessity for, needs of and requirements of that service.

Resolution No. 696 adopted.

Whereas, The Senate of the United States caused a resolution to be adopted authorizing a "Merchant Marine investigation and study"; and

Whereas, The Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee selected one of its members, United States Senator Warren G. Magnuson of Washington State, and appointed him chairman of a subcommittee on Merchant Marine and maritime matters; and

Whereas, U. S. Senator Warren G. Magnuson did faithfully, energetically and objectively carry on for more than one year the most thorough and intensive "Merchant Marine study and investiga- tion"; and

Whereas, U. S. Senator Warren G. Magnuson devoted particular study and emphasis upon the needs of and requirements of the American Mer- chant Marine for our national security; and

Whereas, By diligent effort under the chairman- ship of U. S. Senator Warren G. Magnuson, said subcommittee did hear hundreds of witnesses and record thousands of pages of testimony, conduct- ing an investigation and study of unparalleled fairness, objectivity and in the public interest, and did make recommendations of transcending national importance for the requirements of the American Merchant Marine as a vital auxiliary to our armed forces; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the National Merchant Marine Committee of the National Security Commission of The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, October 9-12, 1950, does hereby take cognizance of U. S. Senator Warren G. Magnu- son's outstanding and exemplary efforts to create and maintain the American Merchant Marine ade- quate for national security, and requests that The
American Legion Merchant Marine Committee directed Senator Magnuson a special commendation in recognition of his work, and further that this National Merchant Marine Committee of The American Legion awards such special commendation on behalf of the national commander of The American Legion.

Naval Affairs

First, the committee wishes to express its appreciation to the standing Commission on Naval Affairs, in particular to its chairman, Arthur Duffy of New York, for their fine help, assistance and cooperation. Second, we appreciated the advice and assistance of Vice-Admiral C. T. Durgin, USN, commander of the First Fleet. Third, the committee wishes to point out that recent events have emphasized the fact that an adequate fighting Navy be maintained at all times and that sufficient reserve strength be maintained for national emergencies.

That the safety of our essential trade routes and the maintenance of our communications lines have demanded a Navy adequate to the task. Control of the seas must be maintained if we are to protect areas of strategic importance. Korea has dramatically pointed out that our Navy must have:

1. Amphibious forces with which to transport troops to overseas positions and land them against opposition.
2. Carrier air forces as a highly effective mobile tactical arm for support of amphibious ground forces and carrier forces, and to furnish gunfire support for amphibious landings.
3. Surface fighting ships to support the amphibious forces and carrier forces, and to furnish gunfire support for amphibious landings.
4. Submarine forces of great power and a high degree of technological development.
5. Anti-submarine and naval reconnaissance forces, surface and air, capable of effectively covering the approaches to our coast and our essential supply lines at sea and under cover and supporting our ships. This to include an adequate “hunter-killer” group.
6. Supply ships and auxiliaries for the logistical support of all forces overseas, including the land armies and land air forces.
7. A Marine Corps maintained in numbers sufficient to assure a fighting force in readiness for any emergency.
8. An expanded naval and Marine Corps air arm for support of amphibious ground forces.

Only through training, the accumulation of a man power reserve and the stockpiling of materiel can our Navy maintain control of the seas. The excellent reserve training program, facilities for training and training cruises have maintained a ready pool of naval man power. The Navy’s wholesome attitude toward its reservists has stimulated and held their interest.

In the consideration of adequate national defense in this era of international crisis, we believe that budgetary appropriations must be sufficient to maintain our defense structure at a level consistent with our position in world affairs.

We abhor the practices of arbitrarily slashing defense department appropriations out of proportion to those of other departments of the federal government.

We insist that sufficient financial support be given to the department of defense consistent with our national economy, and if at any time it is considered necessary to reduce budget appropriations, that all other departments of the federal government be reduced first. In this connection the committee adopted the following Resolution No. 516 of California as amended:

Whereas, After months of study and evaluation, our naval experts had determined a flush deck carrier was vital to a modern, long-range striking fleet and was given first priority; and

Whereas, This program was approved by the Congress and for its building made; and

Whereas, The construction of this carrier was cancelled after its keel had been laid; and

Whereas, The Korean war again emphasizes the vital need for such a long-range carrier; now, therefore, be it Resolved, That The American Legion in national convention assembled at Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, reiterates its stand of last year and urges the construction of a flush deck carrier with all modern improvements.

Military Affairs


Resolution No. 58—

Resolved, That The American Legion in national convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, urges that the National Guard, both ground and air forces, remain under the jurisdiction of the various states except in time of war or national emergency.

Resolution No. 512—

Resolved, That the Selective Service Law be changed so that those conscientious objectors now allowed to remain at home will be ordered to work of national importance.

Resolution No. 690—

Now, therefore, be it Resolved, by The American Legion in national convention assembled in Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, That our naval experts had determined a flush deck carrier was vital to a modern, long-range striking fleet and was given first priority; and

Whereas, The construction of this carrier was cancelled after its keel had been laid; and

Whereas, The Korean war again emphasizes the vital need for such a long-range carrier; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion in national convention assembled at Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, reiterates its stand of last year and urges the construction of a flush deck carrier with all modern improvements.
and Intelligence be included as a part of the training course, which will stress the necessity of our form of government over all others, the responsibilities of citizenship and the ideals for which they are serving, and so many heroic predecessors have fought and sacrificed.

Resolution No. 516—Therefore, be it Resolved, That The American Legion in national convention assembled at Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, urge amendment of Title III, Public Law 910, 80th Congress, to provide that any veteran, who honorably served in either World War I or World War II with a minimum of 20 years' acceptable service since the effective date of the Dick Law in 1903 shall be credited with all such actual service in the Organized Militia or National Guard.

Resolution No. 617—Now, therefore, be it Resolved, by The American Legion in national convention assembled at Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, that in view of the above expressed desire of said Philippine Scouts, The American Legion will take the necessary steps with the executive and legislative branches of the United States Government to initiate with the Philippine Government, proceedings necessary to reactivate the Philippine Scouts as an organization of the United States armed forces for immediate service in Korea or at such other place as the President of the United States shall direct.

Resolution No. 660—Resolved, by The American Legion, in convention assembled at Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, That the armed services make such changes in the physical and mental requirements of individuals drafted or desiring to enlist in the active service of their country as to more nearly meet the needs of the situation and to be more in line with the democratic ideals of our nation; and be it further Resolved, That these changes be placed immediately in effect so as to relieve the serious injustices and inequalities which now embarrass our social and economic life.

Resolution No. 556—Sections 1 and 2 of the resolved portion of this resolution have been amended and approved, approved as such, however, referred to the standing National Security Commission for further consideration and final decision by the National Executive Committee.

Be it therefore, Resolved, by The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, October 9 to 12, inclusive, That they propose the following changes be made at once in the courts-martial systems of our armed forces:

1. That appointment of special courts-martial in the Army, Navy and Air Force be made by the commanding officer of the next higher echelon of command above the accusing officer or enlisted man, or above the accused's organization, whichever is the higher.

2. That findings and sentences of such courts be reviewed and approved or disapproved by a judge advocate of a higher command.

3. That general courts-martial of five members be appointed by the President of the United States and approved by Congress for terms of 10 years, and one such court assigned to each Army, Air Force and Naval Unit in time of peace and increased in time of war, traveling from command to command as needed, and each such board shall have competent defense counsel travelling with it to represent such defendant at each command as may be required.

The following resolutions were referred to the standing Committee on Security:

Resolution No. 536—Be it therefore, Resolved, by the American Legion in national convention assembled at Los Angeles, California, October 9-12, 1950, That veterans of World Wars I and II are ready, willing and able to serve their country wherever, whenever, and in whatever capacity they may be needed; and

That because of the large number of men who did not see active duty in the uniform of their country during the past wars for reasons set forth above, the said men should be given the first opportunity to serve their country during this emergency.

That the proper authorities of the government should urge war industries and employers of men in essential occupations that it should be their policy to employ in such categories, first, disabled veterans of World Wars I and II, and secondly, other veterans of World Wars I and II with families, with the view of making available for military service men of military age who have not previously served their country in uniform.

That there should be set up within the Selective Service System and the Department of Defense a system whereby all men who were not in active service during World Wars I and II should be called to such service prior to considering the recall or redrafting of any veterans of World War II, including those in the inactive reserve.

Resolution No. 556—Be it therefore, Resolved, by The American Legion in convention assembled in Los Angeles, October 9 to 12, inclusive, That they propose the following changes be made at once in the courts-martial systems of our armed forces:

1. That appointment of special courts-martial in the Army, Navy and Air Force be made by the commanding officer of the next higher echelon of command above the accusing officer or enlisted man, or above the accused's organization, whichever is the higher.

2. That findings and sentences of such courts be reviewed and approved or disapproved by a judge advocate of a higher command.

3. That general courts-martial of five members be appointed by the President of the United States and approved by Congress for terms of 10 years, and one such court assigned to each Army, Air Force and Naval Unit in time of peace and increased in time of war, traveling from command to command as needed, and each such board shall have competent defense counsel travelling with it to represent such defendant at each command as may be required.

Section 3 of the above clause of the resolved portion of the resolution has been approved for referral and study to the standing National Security Committee.

The following resolutions were rejected: Nos. 59, 232, 289, 328, 344, 458, 499, 584, 638, 659, 678. Resolutions Nos. 116 and 352 are incorporated in No. 690.

National Security Training

We recommend consolidation of Resolutions Nos. 70, 129, 179, 215, 247, 285, 324, 338, 359, 461, 514, 539, 553, 583, 657 into one statement of policy and Resolution No. 633, which is as follows:

Statement of Policy

World leadership has been thrust upon the United States of America. The free nations of the world are looking to us for assistance in preserving their liberty.
In this position of leadership and assistance, we are challenged by the most aggressive, imperialistic and predatory foe ever known.

In order to maintain our position, to fulfill our obligations to the United Nations and to encourage our democratic allies, we must have a system of training that will provide manpower for the regular and the federal components of the armed forces on a basis strong enough to meet our responsibilities.

We must abandon the temporary and make-shift planning heretofore used, to meet each recurring crisis and must adopt a program as long-ranged as the wisdom of man can devise.

Whereas, For more than 30 years The American Legion has advocated a program of Universal Military Training to provide for the security of our nation and the peace of the world because it is the only means of so-doing which is in keeping with our democratic ideas and can be financially borne by our economy based on a system of competition and free enterprise;

Whereas, The United Nations offers the present best hope of the world for peace and a government by law instead of by force, but the means of enforcing this organization must be provided by its members and they look to us for material assistance in providing this police power;

Whereas, World leadership has been thrust upon us and we have assumed this leadership of the democratic nations;

Whereas, The incidents in Greece, Iran, Germany and the military action in Korea are only reactions in a threatening third world war;

Whereas, A plan of Universal Military Training will provide an incentive to pass mental, intelligence and physical tests at the highest possible level because of the advantages afforded to those indicating high abilities; and will close up the loop-holes presently existent under Selective Service, wherein inductees find it to their advantage to fail the several tests, with the result that 60 per cent of those now called are rejected for all reasons and 44 per cent of this total are rejected for mental and intelligence defects; and

Whereas, Under the constitution of the United States, it is the duty of every citizen to devote a part of his life to the defense of his country, and it is the responsibility of his country to provide for every citizen the mental, moral and physical training to prepare him for the proper performance of that duty; and

Whereas, A system of Universal Military Training will materially improve our military manpower potential and serve to correct the existing defects in our Selective Service System which permits the avoidance of military service and will better fit the individual to protect himself in battle; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion in its 32nd annual national convention assembled in Los Angeles on October 9-12, 1950, That we reaffirm our belief in The American Legion’s principles on Universal Military Training and do hereby authorize and direct the national commander and other officials of the Legion to take all necessary steps to introduce and promote the universal implementation of legislation embodying these principles.

The following resolutions were referred to the standing Security Committee for re-study:


The following resolutions were rejected:

Nos. 120 and 117.

The following additional resolutions were initiated by the Convention National Security Committee and were adopted: Nos. 681, 716, 715.

Whereas, The National Security Commission includes in its membership the Military Affairs, Naval Affairs, Aeronautics, Merchant and Civil Defense committees; and

Whereas, Under the present structure no provision is made for these committees to meet except upon the eve of the national convention; and

Whereas, Under this arrangement these committees are unable to establish and carry out any program implementing the policy decisions of the national convention in their respective fields; and

Whereas, The influence of The American Legion is diminished and impaired by the failure of these committees to establish and carry out programs in support of Legion policies in their respective fields, with resultant loss of prestige and of the interest of the members of these committees; now, therefore, we

We do urge and request the National Executive Committee to revise the structure of the National Security Commission as follows:

1. To provide for a sufficient number of meetings of the various organizations throughout the Legion years to establish programs, to administer them and to evaluate them.

2. To establish the National Security Commission as a coordinating or Executive Committee, consisting of the chairman and vice-chairman of the respective committees, with such additional members as it may deem appropriate.

And we do further request—

1. That the National Executive Committee refer this resolution to its appropriate committee for study and report at the November, 1950, meeting of the National Executive Committee.

No. 716—Be It Resolved, That in order to make available to the convention committees the year’s work of the standing National Security Commission and its findings, the members of the standing committees (if not delegates assigned to the convention committees) be invited in the future to participate, without vote, in the work of the respective convention committees.

No. 715—Whereas, Thousands of servicemen and women in the last war owe their lives to medical advances made possible by research on living animals; and

Whereas, The present and future treatment of thousands of veterans now in hospitals depends on the continuance of that use of animals in research; and

Whereas, The health and welfare of our children depends on medical research and the standardization of drugs made possible by the use of laboratory animals; and

Whereas, Many vital research projects of the defense services now in progress, dealing with high-speed and high-altitude flying and atomic warfare, depend entirely on the use of animals for their continuances; and

Whereas, The health of the nation in war and peace is utterly dependent on medical research made possible not only by the use of animals and

Whereas, Knowingly or unknowingly, those persons advocating anti-vivisectionism are, in effect, actually sabotaging our national defense; and

Whereas, Thousands upon thousands of unclaimed and unwanted animals are being destroyed uselessly in our city pounds while the qualified medical research and training institutions have been forced to delay vital life-protect-
ing studies for the want of a few hundred such animals; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That The American Legion is in favor of the adoption of necessary legislation to provide warranted and claimed impounded animals to qualified, inspected research laboratories and medical institutions for the protection of the health and welfare of our peoples, and the furtherance of vital research necessary for our national defense.

Referred to standing committee.

Of the 82 resolutions considered by this convention committee, 48 were approved, 15 were referred and 19 rejected.

The report was adopted.

BRUCE HENDERSON (Department of Ohio): If I may have your attention again while the Sergeant-at-Arms is filling the seats, we have a presentation by Mrs. Helen Munger, chairman of the Indiana Foundation of Hoosiers in Southern California.

PRESENTATION OF INDIANA SOCIETY

By Mrs. Helen Munger

On behalf of the 4,000 some Hoosiers of Southern California, we welcome and take pride in Indiana’s share as the home of the National American Legion and its Auxiliary. We are proud of the achievements of our Hoosiers, and especially our Brazil Hoosier, your national commander, George N. Craig.

Representing the Indiana Foundation, composed of the Indiana State Society, Purdue, Indiana University, Butler and other Hoosier college alumni groups, I present for this ceremony a 1949 recipient of our greatest Americanism honor—this Hoosier, whom you all love as Judge Hooker on the Great Gildersleeve Radio Show, is one of the pioneers in promulgating the doctrine of Americanism in AFRA and Equity, in both of which unions he is a charter member—Earle Ross, Hoosier.

MR. EARLE ROSS: I feel very proud and very grateful that I have been chosen as the one to make this presentation. I also feel very humble when I think I was born a Hoosier and, as a Hoosier, an American, and thus a part of this the greatest nation that has ever been known on God’s green footstool. Many of us have devoted time and energy fostering the ideal called Americanism. Others have taken it as a matter of course.

George N. Craig, Hoosier, American, is known throughout the world as being a two-fisted fighter, with the ideals of America uppermost in his mind and heart. He has given time and energy and effort to make others see the same America as he sees it and knows it. He has given to The American Legion the greatest organization for good, a wonderful year as national commander, and it is for his closeness to the heart of America and its people, its ideals and its ideologies that the Indiana Foundation presents this plaque.

To you, George N. Craig, may a continued objectivation of your ideals be manifested and made a physical symphony of a great spiritual idea, always remain close to your heart.

The award reads: “Americanism award presented to George N. Craig, Hoosier, for fostering American ideals and bringing credit to the state of Indiana.

“The Indiana Foundation of Southern California, 1950.”

NATIONAL COMMANDER CRAIG: Thank you so much, Mrs. Reed.

And now it is my pleasure and privilege to introduce to you the new Chef de Chemin de Fer of the Forty and Eight, from Indiana, Harold Haines.

REMARKS FROM NEWLY-ELECTED CHEF DE CHEMIN DE FER OF THE FORTY AND EIGHT

I realize fully that time is precious here in this final session, so let me just say that I appear before you today as just another Hoosier Legionnaire who sincerely hopes that in the next 12 months I will be able to give to The American Legion my greatest contribution of service. I hope that on some other occasion we may meet again and, until then, thanks for everything, and God bless you!

PRESENTATION FROM VICE-COMMANDERS AND CHAPLAIN TO NATIONAL COMMANDER

By National Chaplain Carney

I have been asked in the name of the national vice-commanders, Doc Moriarty, Dave Fleischer, Milton Boock, Doc Perry and General Lowe, who is now over in Korea serving with the forces, to make a presentation of appreciation from us to our grand national commander.

During the year he has set his sights upon many projects. He pulled the trigger and, thanks to him, we put to sleep the Hoover Commission task force report to wipe out service by divide-and-conquer, that the veterans so worthily should have. He also set his sights on the Universal Military Training program that we have practically prom-
ised to us, with a little more work to be done in the incoming Congress.

The Tide of Toys program and the all-American conference program will be something that The American Legion will look upon in retrospect and say that they were awfully proud to be participants in it as long as they wore the emblem of this great organization.

We are going to continue with that Tide of Toys and we are going to ask your assistance—and we will not only gather three million, but fifteen million toys this time, to sell America to those children and every other instrumentality in the world that when statesmen and politicians fail, maybe a little child will lead them to good friendship with the rest of the world.

And last, but not least, he has given his blessing, and he was the originator and gave the original impetus of boys' world work that we are now launching. He set his sights on this project, and God be good to him for the blessings that will rebound to each and every one of you members of this organization, as well as to him personally.

For that reason we have a little present to give him today, from us to him, from the national officers as we doff our red hats and say, "Adieu" to this highly honored position which he has been given. It's a shotgun.

I know he won't use it in Crown Point, Indiana, where there are so many shotgun marriages, but I hope there is good hunting wherever he goes, because he has been a good hunter for the cause of The American Legion, and its history will always be written in glory when you associate the Legion's history with George Craig, our national commander.

NATIONAL ADJUTANT DUDLEY: For a presentation on behalf of the First District of California, I am going to call on Carroll Ornbaum, vice-commander of the First District, California.

MR. CARROLL ORNBAUM: For the department commander of the greatest department, the Department of California.

We, too, have a little presentation to make to our great masterful commander, George Craig. We know that you have enjoyed everything that has been provided for you in Los Angeles, Southern California. I come from the northern part of the state and one of the directives that I was given was to present to our national commander, the gavel that was made from a burl, a redwood burl, a giant tree 2,000 years old.

Los Angeles is a great city. Los Angeles is perhaps even greater, but up in the north, some of them call Northern California "Superior California."

We would like to have our national commander have a little memento of that great northern part of our state where we have a million and a half acres of giant redwood trees, and with this gavel, George, goes an invitation to visit our great northern part of the state.

On behalf of the Legionnaires in the Redwood Empire, I present this gavel to you.

NATIONAL COMMANDER CRAIG: Thank you very much, commander, and I want you to know that we have all enjoyed being here with you in California.

I was just told by the Chief of Police and the Chief of the Fire Department, that this convention that we had here, the last week, has been far more orderly than the last convention of the Ministerial Association in Los Angeles.

1951 MEMBERSHIP PREVIEW ROLL CALL

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Total                                      892,994
REPORT OF TROPHIES AND AWARDS

COMMITTEE

Clyde E. Rankin, chairman, of Pennsylvania, reported as follows:

Hanford MacNider Trophy
Awarded annually to that department that has the highest percentage of membership for the period October 20 to December 31 of each year as compared with the total number of members in said department on December 31 of the year just then closing.
Winner: Department of North Dakota. Percentage, 93.71.

Alvin M. Owsley Trophy
Awarded annually to that department having the highest percentage of membership on December 31 for the ensuing year as compared with the average membership for the immediate preceding 10 years.
Winner: Department of North Dakota. Percentage, 134.37.

John G. Emery Trophy
Awarded annually to that department having the highest percentage of membership on January 31 as compared with the average membership for the four preceding years.
Winner: Department of North Dakota. Percentage, 96.73.

Henry D. Lindsley Trophy
Awarded annually to that department having the highest percentage of membership for the period January 1 of each year to March 1 as compared with the total number of members in said department on December 31 of the preceding year.
Winner: Department of Montana. Percentage, 94.50.

General Henri Gouraud Trophy
Awarded annually to that department first exceeding its membership quota as assigned by national headquarters of The American Legion.
Winner: Department of North Dakota (November 15, 1949).

North Carolina Trophy
Awarded annually to that department, not included among the several state departments or the Department of District of Columbia, that has the highest percentage of members by the close of business March 31 each year as compared with the total number of members in the department on December 31 of the preceding year.
Winner: Department of Mexico. Percentage, 85.90.

O. L. Bodenhamer Trophy
Awarded annually to that department within the continental limits of the United States designated to lead the parade at the time of the ensuing national convention.
Winner: Department of Colorado. Percentage, 103.58.

John R. Quinn Trophy
Awarded annually to that department having the highest percentage of membership on June 15 as compared with the average membership for the four preceding years.
Winner: Department of Colorado. Percentage, 104.60.

Henry L. Stevens, Jr., Trophy
Awarded annually to that department within the continental limits of the United States attaining the highest percentage of its membership quota at the time of the Annual National Telegraphic Roll Call as finally confirmed.
Winner: Department of North Dakota. Percentage, 105.99.

General John J. Pershing Honor Award
Awarded annually to that department of The American Legion having the greatest percentage of its posts receiving the Honor Ribbon — the Honor Ribbon awarded to posts that have 100 percent or more of their previous year’s membership by December 31.
Winner: Department of Alaska. Percentage, 65.00.

Arthur D. Houghton Sons of The American Legion Trophy
Awarded annually to that detachment of Sons of The American Legion which on January 1 of each year has attained the greatest percentage of increase over the previous year’s total membership.
Winner: Detachment of Oklahoma. Percentage, 400.00.

Franklin D’Olier Trophy
Awarded annually to that department attaining the highest percentage of eligible ex-servicemen in said department for the period ending January 1 of each year that is 30 days prior to the national convention.
Winner: Department of South Dakota. Percentage, 39.31.

Spafford National Trophy
Awarded annually to that department of The American Legion having within its jurisdiction the winner of the National High School Oratorical Contest.
Winner: Department of Oklahoma.

Dan Sowers Junior Baseball Trophy
Awarded annually to that department which has the greatest percentage of increase of Junior Baseball teams as compared with the number of Junior Baseball teams in the same department one year previous.
Winner: Department of Mississippi.

Ralph T. O’Neil Education Trophy
Awarded annually to that department within the continental limits of the United States showing the greatest Americanism activity in use of The American Legion School Medal Awards.
Winner: Department of Mississippi.

Hearst Trophy
Awarded annually to that department which performs the most outstanding Americanism accomplishment during the Legion year.
Winner: Department of Pennsylvania.

Howard P. Savage Trophy
Awarded annually to that department having within its jurisdiction the Junior Baseball team which becomes the champion as a result of playing in The American Legion “Little World Series.”
Winner: Department of California—Capt. Bill Erwin Post No. 337, Oakland, California.

Albert B. Chandler Trophy
Awarded annually to that department having within its jurisdiction the runner-up team in the semi-finals of the Junior Baseball program.
Winner: Department of Missouri—Fred W. Stockham Post No. 248, St. Louis, Missouri.

Paul V. McNutt Rifle Trophy
Awarded annually to that team winning the National Postal Rifle Match.
Summary of Proceedings of the

American Legion Naval Academy Award
(Set of military and scientific books)
Awarded annually to that cadet of the graduating class at the United States Military Academy with the highest standing in Chemistry.
Winner: Cadet Robert Maris Wilson, Kingston, Rhode Island.

American Legion Military Academy Award
(Wrist watch)
Awarded annually to that Midshipman of the Third Class at the United States Naval Academy who stands first for the course in United States Foreign Policy.

American Legion Coast Guard Academy Award
(Wrist watch)
Awarded annually to that cadet of the graduating class at the United States Coast Guard Academy who is considered to have excelled personally in athletics.
Winner: Cadet Sidney B. Vaughn, St. Petersburg, Florida.

Lemuel Bolles Trophy
Awarded annually to that American Legion band winning first place in competition with all other bands during the annual national convention of The American Legion.

Arch M. Cantrall Trophy
Awarded annually to that American Legion band winning first place in competition with all other American Legion bands during the annual national convention of The American Legion.

Russell G. Creviston Trophy
Awarded annually to that American Legion drum and bugle corps winning first place in competition with all other drum and bugle corps during the annual national convention of The American Legion.

J. Guy Griffith Trophy
Awarded annually to that sponsored Junior drum and bugle corps winning first place in competition with all other sponsored Junior drum and bugle corps during the annual national convention of The American Legion.
Winner: Holy Name Cadets Drum and Bugle Corps, Garfield, New Jersey.

Alonzo Cudworth Post No. 23 Trophy
Awarded annually to that American Legion chorus winning first place in competition with all other American Legion choruses during the annual national convention of The American Legion.
Winner: Sioux Falls Post No. 15, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Cleveland National Convention Trophy
Awarded annually to that Sons of The American Legion drum, fife and bugle corps winning
The American Legion drum, fife and bugle corps Chicago, Illinois. first place in competition with all other Sons of The American Legion, Son of Thirty-Second Annual National Convention which shall have done the most preliminary competition during the annual national and Bugle Corps winning first place in the pre-Marine obtaining the best score in the Inter-Denational Tournament of The American Legion. 
Winner: Department of Tennessee.

Patrick J. Hurley Golf Trophy Awarded annually to the former soldier obtaining the best score in the Inter-Departmental Tournament of The American Legion. 
Winner: Dr. Wendell Aldrich, Angola, Indiana. 

The Straford Cup Awarded annually to The American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps winning first place in the preliminary competition during the annual national convention of The American Legion. 
Winner: Raymond A. Garbarina Memorial Post No. 1523, New York City.

American Legion Golf Championship Trophy Awarded annually to that department whose member wins the National Golf Tournament. 
Winner: Department of South Carolina.

The report was adopted.

Report of GEORGE N. CRAIG, National Commander

Comrades of The American Legion: 

Tremendous strides in its program of building for the future have been made by The American Legion during the year it has been my proud privilege to be national commander. The accelerated advance by this greatest of all veterans' organizations has been made upon a broad front, under the inspiring leadership of the officers of our posts, departments and national commissions and through the unswerving loyalty and untiring devotion and hard work of Legionnaires in the field.

Traveling more than 125,000 miles through 38 states, during the course of which I have addressed some 225 American Legion and other gatherings, I have had the opportunity to witness personally the evidence of increasing allegiance to the lofty principles of service to the community, state and nation to which The American Legion is dedicated.

Words are inadequate to express the depth of my gratitude for your wise counsel and unbounded cooperation and support. Toward the close of this year of almost unprecedented activity, The American Legion moved into its magnificent new National Headquarters Building in Indianapolis late in August, the $2,500,000 gift from the state of Indiana. Shortly afterward, the cornerstone of the beautiful new American Legion Building in Washington, D. C., was laid.

In addition, there have been dedicated more than a thousand new post homes in 41 states, and several of our departments have moved into new and more spacious headquarters.

REHABILITATION

No part of the national program of The American Legion is of greater general concern to our members than the service work performed under the direction and supervision of the National Rehabilitation Commission. Down through the years, the hallmark of service has inspired veteran confidence in our organization. This confidence is reflected in the position of pre-eminence occupied by our organization in this field.

The Philadelphia National Convention of 1949 gave special attention to the national rehabilitation program and directed that a specified portion of the national dues should be devoted to this service to our disabled and to their dependents. Extraordinary circumstances have somewhat delayed, to the extent that staff work and financial resources were necessary diverted, the projected expansion in the work of this national headquarters agency.

The impact of the generally favorable reception of the reports of the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government (the Hoover Commission) made far more difficult our consideration of those portions of the report dealing with veterans' affairs.

At least 38 of the some 300 recommendations of the Hoover Commission dealt with some phase of veterans' benefits and their administration. Even prior to my election as your national commander these specific recommendations had been a matter of critical concern to our National Executive Committee. At Philadelphia, your 31st National Convention expressed its further disapproval of these recommendations, the net effect of which, had they received the approval of Congress in new legislation, would have been to dismember the Veterans Administration, and thus destroy an agency that had been dealing with the administration of veterans' affairs since 1921.

It is a source of gratification to me, as it should be to every reasoning Legionnaire, to know that our organization, through the individual efforts of its members, and through the action of its posts and departments, gave unhesitating support to the convention resolution directing that we oppose the Hoover Commission recommendations as they affected veterans' rights.

My discussion of this phase of the year of work necessarily is limited. However, it is my sincere desire to pay tribute to the thousands of individual members and to the posts and departments for their coordinated efforts in resisting the enactment of federal legislation which would have put these recommendations in operation.

As of August 1, 1950, it appeared that no major Hoover Commission recommendation opposed by The American Legion had been adopted. It is our feeling that this at least temporary measure of success should not lead to the building of any feeling of over-confidence. The American Legion must remain constantly alerted to the dangers inherent in future efforts to secure legislative approval of these recommendations.

The combined experience of our National Rehabilitation Commission and staff members furnishes an amazing reservoir of technical and administrative skill to deal with the manifold details of this huge program.

National Rehabilitation Commission Chairman Robert M. McCurdy has brought to his assignment a wealth of experience and mature judgment, based upon the many years he has devoted to this
ever-challenging program. It has been a pleasure to work with him during my year as national commander. I am associated with him on the Rehabilitation Commission Executive Committee is a fine group of equally well qualified Legionnaires. And the general composition of the National Rehabilitation Commission is such as to inspire confidence in the future of this program.

The same may be said of the staff. There are 89 employees in the Rehabilitation Division, a substantial number of whom are World War II veterans who have developed a fine capacity for and demonstrated sincerity in their work. Their collaboration with the older members, who have had many years' experience in rehabilitation matters, exhibits real teamwork, which in turn is reflected in quality of performance.

In the handling of many thousands of claims dealing with every phase of the federal veterans' benefit program, these staff members have secured an enormous total of dollars recovered for disabled veterans and their dependents. Some idea of the size of the workload is gained from consideration of the fact that there are more than two million veterans with service-connected disabilities.

In policy matters, the National Rehabilitation staff has been successful in giving assistance to the National Legislative Commission on technical details of the rehabilitation legislative program, and in handling policy matters with officials of the Veterans Administration. In at least 31 instances, staff conferences with VA officials have resulted in changes in rules and procedure and in other details affecting veterans' benefits administration. It is practical to estimate how many thousands of claimants will benefit from these policy changes, though the number will inevitably run into the thousands during the years.

The National Rehabilitation Commission and staff have sought the best advice possible in dealing with medical and insurance questions. Both the Medical Advisory Board and the Insurance Advisory Board of the National Rehabilitation Commission are composed of nationally recognized experts in their fields. Their advice has been sought and followed throughout the year.

The Hardy Committee in Congress has made extensive study of the National Service Life Insurance program, and in handling policy matters with officials of the Veterans Administration. In at least 31 instances, staff conferences with VA officials have resulted in changes in rules and procedure and in other details affecting veterans' benefits administration. It is practical to estimate how many thousands of claimants will benefit from these policy changes, though the number will inevitably run into the thousands during the years.

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No conclusive decision has been reached on the effort to have restored the 16,000 beds removed from the Veterans Administration hospital construction program by executive order in January, 1949. It has been demonstrated, however, that the real shortage affecting our disabled veterans is in medical and technical personnel.

Early this year, the President of the United States assured The American Legion that he would agree to provision of additional VA hospital beds when he was shown that they could be adequately staffed by the necessary medical personnel. Studies now are being made of a possible solution of this problem, and it is anticipated that resolutions designed to stimulate production of doctors and other medical and technical personnel will be introduced at this national convention.

Fighting in Korea against hostile forces of communist aggressors has produced many casualties among those in our armed services. Simple justice demands that these men are treated as war veterans. Our National Rehabilitation staff has studied the technicalities of the legislative proposals needed for presentation to the Congress to accomplish this. An American Legion-drafted omnibus bill to correct the status of those serving in Korea has already been submitted for the consideration of Congress. Already we have supported the successful movement to provide family allotments for those engaged in this operation.

While the danger of a developing program to effect unwise decisions for so-called economies in the operation of federal veterans' benefit programs is at least temporarily averted, I know we shall be on guard always to protect the disabled and their dependents. At the same time, I believe we should at all times be aware of the need to see that constructive economies are supported in the administration of these programs.

The principles upon which our rehabilitation program is based are sound. So long as we adhere to those principles we shall continue to be successful in discharging our obligations to the disabled. We can do no less.

**AMERICANISM**

The fidelity of The American Legion's solemn dedication to the American philosophy of life and government is now bearing fruit after 31 years of consistent effort "to foster and perpetuate a one hundred per cent Americanism."

Two outstanding achievements in Americanism during the past year have been the organization of the All-American Conference to Combat Communism and recently, at long last and in the face of stiff opposition, enactment into law of a communist-control bill by the Congress.

The All-American Conference, comprising more than 60 national organizations of all strata of American life and representing more than half the population of the United States, held its first meeting in New York in January, and at Chicago in May the conference was perfected as an organization. The gathering together of these civic, business, labor, industrial, educational, professional and other patriotic groups into the first united front against the spread of communism in America has been termed comparable in historic significance to the Boston Tea Party. Under the able leadership of Dr. Daniel A. Poling, the All-American Conference already has made great steps in its campaign to crush subversive institutions. The American Legion is justly proud of the part it played in bringing this conference into being.

The American Legion fervently supported the Internal Security Act of 1950, designed to bring communists into the open and punish spies and saboteurs, which last month was passed with overwhelming majorities by both houses of Congress over a presidential veto.

Within the past year, there has been a marked expansion of both the protective and positive phases of our Americanism program. Allen Willard, active in American Legion affairs in New Hampshire and New York, has been appointed Director of the Americanism Division, succeeding W. C. (Tom) Sawyer, who returned to accept an executive position with Freedom Foundation.

To cover briefly the positive phase of our Americanism program, I should like to direct your attention to the Boys State and the Boys Nation programs. Each of these programs has been materially strengthened. The intense practical study
courses in state and federal government offered in the two programs are contributing factors in development of our future leaders.

The Junior Baseball program also continues to expand. The general acceptance of this program by devotees of our national pastime has resulted in it becoming one of our most highly publicized activities. The number of registered teams participating in the program rose to an all-time high of 16,456 this year.

The intensity of public interest in all phases of community life is reflected by the vast number of inquiries received concerning our Americanism program.

The Un-American Activities section of our Americanism Division has been rendering yeoman's service in its efforts to uncover, expose and publicly inform the people of the nation about the true character of individuals and groups who preach a doctrine inimical to American principles.

Because of its protective program, The American Legion has been subjected to cruel and harsh abuse for its opposition to a conspiratorial movement which has been gnawing away at the very foundation of American institutions.

The communists and their fellow travelers, dupes, opportunists, and so-called progressive liberals have long resisted the glare of the light of exposure being focused on their activities. In attempting to focus the attention of the people of America on the activities of these termites, The American Legion has been subjected to vilification which is without parallel within the past score of years. We have withstood the barrage of abuse, and by doing so have strengthened our position in the all-out offensive against those subversive forces.

For 31 years we have been warning an apathetic people that there was a menace in their midst. More often than not those warnings were like a cry in the wilderness and went unheeded.

Today we find a confused and frightened people turning to The American Legion for the leadership they so sorely want, and, thanks to our foresight, we are in a position to assume our responsibility of leadership.

NATIONAL SECURITY

Cornerstone of The American Legion's program for national security throughout the history of our organization has been Universal Military Training.

During the past year, UMT probably came closer to enactment into law than at any other time, and it behooves us to bend every effort to make sure that passage is effected when Congress returns from its vacation.

Feeling that every Legionnaire should know the truth of the Universal Military Training situation, I shall reiterate what I have written to the commanders of our 17,455 posts.

Before the Korean situation, national headquarters was planning upon a revitalization of the drive for UMT. The beginning of the war hastened their support of it. Secretary Johnson was both instrumental and helpful in pushing proposed legislation to a position of priority during what appears to be the few remaining days of this present Congress.

As the Senate Armed Services Committee was meeting, the President sent a letter to its chairman, again stating that he was for Universal Military Training, but that "It does not seem to me immediately necessary for the Congress to enact Universal Training legislation... Legislation of this character, however, should be placed upon the statute books at an early date so that we can put it into operation as soon as circumstances permit. Accordingly, I hope that your committee will continue its active consideration of this legislation, with a view of seeing final action on it in January."  

While it is my personal belief that this legislation would have passed the present Congress, I believe that with the President's indicated assistance for January, you now have the luxury of time to make better and more thorough preparation for the legislative showdown after the first of the year. This will give you the opportunity to talk with all candidates for Congress and Senate as they campaign your state and district. We will commit a great error, I believe, if we do not now accelerate our efforts, taking advantage of the time that has been offered by the action of the President and converting it through industry and hard work into a program that will insure the passage of UMT immediately after the first of the year.

Too high praise in the UMT campaign cannot be paid to Chairman Erle Cocke, Jr., and members of the National Security Commission, Chairman William R. Johnson of the UMT Committee, Chairman Elmer W. (Doc) Sheridan and members of the National Legislative Commission, Directors Martin B. Buckner of the National Security Division, Director Miles D. Kennedy and John Thomas Taylor, consultant, of the National Legislative Division, and Watson B. Miller, who this year was appointed special assistant to the national commander with headquarters in our Washington office.

A most important part in the program was played by the National Public Relations Division, which under the able direction of Director Edward F. McGlinn, prepared an "ammunition belt" of talks, news releases, editorials and other material which will be duplicated and amplified in our forthcoming campaign.

The American Legion long has fought for an adequate civil defense program for the nation, providing up-to-the-minute plans for defense in the event of atomic warfare. A civil defense blueprint closely approximating The American Legion plan finally has been presented to Congress, and the
President has proceeded with plans to establish a temporary civil defense administration to carry on the civil defense work until permanent legislation is enacted by Congress. Subsequently civil defense organizations have been planned in many states and cities.

Recognizing the need for a balanced air team—including the Air Force, the Navy’s arm and civil aviation—the American Legion has launched an educational program to convince both government and the people that “Air Power is Peace Power.”

For many years The American Legion has recommended training facilities and incentives that will keep the National Guard and the Organized Reserve at authorized strength. The calling of the National Guard and Reserve units to active duty to prosecute the Korean war dramatizes the important role of these organizations.

The American Legion’s insistence that an adequate fighting Navy be maintained at all times has been emphasized by recent events, as has our plea for a merchant Marine sufficient to carry our own troops and their equipment and supplies without having to call on other nations for help.

TIDE OF TOYS

Shortly before Christmas of 1949, The American Legion announced through the press and radio of the nation that our organization would endeavor to collect and send abroad a “Tide of Toys” as an expression of friendship from the children of the United States to the pleasure-starved children of war-ravaged Europe.

We went into that program cold—without prior experience, without even precedent. All we had was a conviction that war scars were not healing and that the spirit of helpfulness behind ECA (the Economic Cooperation Administration) and other American aid programs at the government level was not getting through to the people abroad. We believed that by sharing their playthings with toyless tots over there American children would be building a bridge of friendship that would permit new generations to understand and trust one another before being taught to hate and doubt.

That was the idea of the “Tide of Toys,” and for making it a flood tide The American Legion is indebted to the thousands of posts throughout the country whose members spurred interest in the benevolent project and helped to collect the gifts, and also to the transportation agencies which made the tremendous movement possible. During the six weeks following Christmas, more than 3,000,000 toys poured into our local posts. They came by truck, by bus, by taxi, by every means of community transportation—and almost everywhere the service was voluntary and free. The toys had to be carefully packed and crated to stand overseas shipment. Legionnaires had that job made less difficult for them by professional airmen who served as shipping director of TOT, and drobi, then Pennsylvania Department Commander, who served as shipping director of TOT, and George J. Kelly, Assistant Director of Public Relations in our Washington office.

The American Legion is deeply indebted to the noted newspaper columnist Drew Pearson for development of the idea of the “Tide of Toys,” and to the entire staff of our National Public Relations Division for seeing the program through to its successful conclusion.

DIVINE GUIDANCE APPEAL

An appeal to the people of America to join together in seeking Divine Guidance in the period of world crisis was made by The American Legion early in March.

Our National Chaplain, Rev. Edward J. Carney, O.S.A., urged all state chaplains to aid in organizing and carrying out this unique program. We called upon all American Legion posts and Auxiliary units to lead the way in communities throughout the nation in making religion the guiding force of American life. A “Divine Guidance Week” was set for the week of April 16, in which all our people were urged to attend church, the movement was designed as a mighty and continuing rededication of our faith in God.

The press and radio, as well as religious leaders, hailed the program as “assistance from an unexpected but strategic quarter.” The response was most gratifying.

Great credit for the success of the Divine Guidance program is due both our National Public Relations and Child Welfare Divisions.

MENTAL HEALTH FOUNDATION

The blight of mental illness has been a major problem of both the rehabilitation and child welfare programs of The American Legion. In 1950, the National Executive Committee decided that aggressive steps must be taken to meet this greatest remaining health problem.

Even though one-half of all hospital beds in the nation are occupied by mental patients, there had been no broad mental health program comparable to the work being done by voluntary organizations in the research and prevention fields of tuberculosis, cancer, polio and heart disease.

A plan was presented to The American Legion for a merger of three already existing mental health agencies and the organization of a nationwide program for the prevention and cure of mental disease. This new, independent movement, however, was without funds to carry on its humanitarian work. Convinced that the time for action was at hand, The American Legion contributed $25,000 to launch this movement. This was the first major contribution to the newly-created National Association for Mental Health.

The American Legion hopes that the impetus which it has given to the mental health movement will have the same success as similar help provided to meet the problem of heart disease. Five years ago, The American Legion joined with its Auxiliary in a $60,000 gift to launch the program of the American Heart Association. This contribution met the initial organizational expense of the Heart Association and financed basic research in rheumatic fever. This program is now on a going basis with continued support provided by public subscriptions.

The American Legion has now given the same type of initial backing to begin a mental health program. With public support, this program...
CHILD WELFARE

For more than a quarter of a century The American Legion has been a major force for improvement of the welfare of children. In this field The American Legion has achieved universally recognized leadership. Its standards have become the measure of enlightenment child welfare activities throughout the country.

During the year ending May 1, 1950, The American Legion and its affiliated groups—the Auxiliary, the Forty & Eight and the Eight & Forty—provided emergency financial help for needy children amounting to $6,810,180—the greatest amount of aid ever given to and for children by The American Legion in any single year. Most of this money went for food, clothing and medical care in the effort of The American Legion to assure "a square deal for every child." Most of the children aided during 1950 were the sons and daughters of veterans of World War II.

Since 1925, The American Legion and its affiliated organizations have expended almost $80,000,000 in providing for the emergency needs of the children of America.

And noteworthy project sponsored by the National Child Welfare Division during the past year was the nation-wide program for the curbing of sex crimes against children. At five area conferences covering all states of the Union, roundtable discussions were participated in by welfare, education, mental hygiene and law enforcement leaders and plans for a universal campaign were outlined.

Remarkable legislative successes in the interest of children also have been achieved by The American Legion. As an instance, The American Legion fought for three years before it was successful in 1950 in obtaining an amendment to the Social Security Act making military service in World War II "covered employment" for old age and survivors' insurance. This single legislative success will result in benefits of $300,000,000 primarily for widows and orphaned children of World War II veterans. Other laws, both federal and state, to protect the rights of all children have been successfully sponsored.

During the past year, Miss Emma C. Puschner, veteran Director of the Child Welfare Division, retired and was succeeded by Randel Shake as director and Charles W. (Pat) Gelle, Jr., as associate director. To all three I wish to extend my deep gratitude for their efforts in these achievements, and also for the Tide of Toys and Divine Guidance programs mentioned elsewhere in my report.

On behalf of this 32nd Annual National Convention, I also express sincerest appreciation to the 50,000 child welfare workers of The American Legion and the Auxiliary, whose efforts have brought The American Legion to a new peak in service to the children of America.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The American Legion's community development program has made sure and steady progress since it was established in 1948. Under this program, and with no undue hanky-panky, American Legion leadership on the local level continues to spur small and perhaps isolated communities to attract more business enterprises, produce more jobs and provide long-needed civic improvements.

The community development program at Springfield, South Dakota, is a good example. Springfield, South Dakota, is a good example. Springfield now hopes to attract several manufacturing plants to the area.

The community development program at Burnet, Texas, is history. Encouraged by such heartening results, The American Legion National Economic Commission, with the cooperation of departments and posts over the country, has expanded this program to at least 50 community programs in 20 states. These include: Marquette and Big Rapids, Michigan; Polson and Helena, Montana; Koscusko, Mississippi; Laurel, Delaware; Mooreville, Indiana; La Crosse and Wisconsin; Houma and De Queney, Louisiana; Paxton and North Chicago, Illinois; Newhall, California; Farmville, Virginia; Cumberland, Maryland; Fairmont, West Virginia; Frenchburg, Kentucky; Wiscasset, Bath and Waterville, Maine; Wickford, Rhode Island; Slater, Missouri; New Brunswick, New Jersey; Terrell and Bay City, Texas; Oronville, Winnebago, Lake City and Pine City, Minnesota.

With traditional American self-reliance, initiative, thrift and hard work, the community development program can bring a new look, new life, new spirit and new hope to any American town.
posts by the membership section at headquarters this year than ever before.

This is true also of the staff members in the National Field Service who have worked so diligently in the field of membership promotion.

Recently it was pointed out that every conceivable idea and promotional stunt was used during the period since the last national convention. Beginning early in the past Legion year, departments and posts were urged to get under way with a program using the theme "The Crusades of '50." This program outlined every step of a membership campaign, and it is felt that had the posts throughout the country placed these suggestions into operation in their respective communities, the organization would have rolled up a much greater membership.

In discussing membership it is important always that we give consideration to the all-important phase in this work, the stabilization of our members and, in this connection, I know of no finer way to stabilize membership than through Legionnaires enrolling in the American Legion Extension Institute. This is a home study course in the background and the programs of the organization, and to date about 20,000 members of the organization have completed this course of study.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Foreign Relations Commission, at its first meeting in Washington, D. C., May 1 to 3, 1950, after weighing many resolutions and considerable debate, prepared a policy statement which was accepted unanimously by the National Executive Committee. A personalized copy of this report was sent to every member of Congress and its contents were printed in the June issue of The American Legion Magazine.

This foreign policy statement called for a strengthening of the United Nations and the formation of an International Police force to curb aggression. The commission's report also demanded an end to the appeasement of communism anywhere in the world, that the island of Formosa is vital to our Pacific defense, and urged the formation of a "Pacific Pact" of freedom-loving nations to band together to stop communism in the Pacific and Far East. The commission's statement also endorsed the North Atlantic Pact and suggested that that political association be strengthened with military weapons and supplies. Finally, the commission called for a more direct and forceful approach in America's propaganda warfare.

At its May meeting, the Foreign Relations Commission also proposed a national school for career diplomats, various means and methods to improve hemispherical relations and recommended abandonment of the "cold war" in which would have brought 50,000 German children to study in American grade schools under American Legion sponsorship.

The Foreign Relations Commission completed plans to institute committees similar to itself in all departments of the Legion. The commission commended such commissions already functioning in Pennsylvania and Texas.

Finally, the Foreign Relations Commission is confident that if the Philadelphia Convention (1949) statement on foreign policy had been adopted and implemented by our State Department, the United States would not be fighting a war in Korea today. The commission also urges wider circulation of foreign policy statements of The American Legion since the thinking of 3,000,000 veterans should have a great influence in moulding American policy in the pursuit of world peace and prosperity.

LEGISLATIVE

In its liaison with Congress, The American Legion's National Legislative Commission, of which Elmer W. (Doc) Sherwood is chairman, has served well the interests of veterans and their families, indeed the entire nation.

Anti-communist legislation — strongly supported by The American Legion — has become the law of the land despite a presidential veto. Our housing program, with the exception of certain cooperative ventures that Congress has enacted into law. Virtually the entire child welfare program was approved by Congress and signed into law by the President on August 28, 1950.

The Senate Armed Services Committee delayed Congressional action on Universal Military Training legislation until January, but with strong support in both houses, we are confident of the eventual passage of UMT.

The Legislative Commission succeeded in diverting certain recommendations of the Hoover Commission Report which were detrimental to veterans. Thus, Congress failed to pass the United Medical Administration Bill which would have dismembered the Veterans Administration. The American Legion also successfully opposed a bill which called for the creation of a Veterans' Insurance Corporation, which would have supplanted the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs with respect to Government Life Insurance and National Service Life Insurance. The proposal to improve the personnel policy of Federal Civil Service likewise was blocked.

The National Legislative Commission awaits the 82nd Congress determined to continue and intensify its efforts to safeguard the rights of the nation's veterans.

NATIONAL FIELD SERVICE

The National Field Service during the past year performed outstanding work in all programs of The American Legion. Principal among these activities were the efforts of all field representatives in the tremendous task of informing both Legionnaires and the general public on our stand regarding the Hoover Commission recommendations affecting veterans.

Constantly alert to determine that veterans are receiving the very best in care, treatment and service, the field representatives made regular visits to all Veterans Administration hospitals, homes and regional offices during the past year. Comprehensive reports covering these visits were submitted to the Veterans Administration and many of the recommendations contained therein were placed in effect. Additional activity in the field of rehabilitation is represented in the many claims handled and services performed by field representatives in behalf of claimants.

The versatility of the National Field Service, under the able leadership of Director Jack Oakey, has manifested itself in the broad scope of activities in which they engaged during my administration. The assistance they rendered in the furtherance of the activities of the Child Welfare, Americanism, Membership, Security and Economic Commissions has been a vital factor in the continued success of these programs.

During my term of office, I have had occasion to call on the field representatives to perform many tasks and special services, all of which were concluded expeditiously and successfully. Well trained and qualified, these men stand ready...
to help whenever and wherever they are needed by the department and national headquarters.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Public reception of the programs of The American Legion depends in large measure upon how and when and where those programs are presented to the public attention. In The American Legion nationally, this is the function of the National Public Relations Division. Under the able leadership of Director Edward F. McGinnis, that division during the year of my commandship has performed an outstanding task in this field.

We have had many matters in which The American Legion needed the understanding of the public during the past year—some of them bordering on the controversial. The handling of these matters by our National Public Relations Division has resulted in general public support in most of them, and in all of them this division has succeeded, in the main, in making the position of The American Legion properly understood.

Some of the matters important in a public relations sense during the past year have been The American Legion's opposition to proposed dismemberment of the Veterans Administration, our advocacy of Universal Military Training, the position of our organization on subversive movements and the All-American Conference to Combat Communism, the Tide of Toys, the Divine Guidance crusade, Boys State and Boys Nation, Junior Baseball and other youth activities, our theatrical enterprise—"Red, White and Blue," and many others.

Through 35 national and 30 regional radio broadcasts and four television presentations arranged by the National Public Relations Division, through the Clipsheet sent to all American Legion posts, publications and officers, through releases to the press and wire services, through the provision of pictures, mats and special articles, and in other ways available to the division, The American Legion position has been made clear and understandable to the American people.

The clipping services to which the division subscribes reveals the interest of the press in the activities of The American Legion on every level; editorialists have generally been found to be in support of the position of The American Legion on matters of great importance. In the National Public Relations Division, though operating with decreased manpower and with a budget much smaller than it once had available for its activities, has done a magnificent job for The American Legion.

PUBLICATIONS

The Publications Division of The American Legion, which operates The American Legion Magazine and The National Legionnaire—the latter as an insert—managed to maintain its high standards during the year despite an adverse tendency in the monthly publication field.

The quality of editorial content is steadily improving, and independent readership surveys indicate that the Magazine is now enjoying not only more interest among the Legionnaires, but also among the non-Legionnaires who, in most instances, only see the Magazine by chance. We have another year of experience with The National Legionnaire as an insert, and there is additional proof of its acceptance in this form by the rank and file membership.

Although there was a slight decline in advertising revenue as contrasted to the previous year, savings in operational costs have almost completely offset the diminishing return. The prospects for the remainder of the year are brighter, and there is every reason to believe that The American Legion Magazine will end 1950 with more advertising dollars than in 1949.

In addition, the Magazine has assumed a place of pre-eminent note in the field of publications and is recognized as being one of the great magazines of general interest in the country.

During the past year, the New York headquarters of the Magazine moved from 1 Park Avenue to 580 Fifth Avenue—Fifth Avenue and 47th Street. The Magazine staff now finds itself housed in the publishing area of New York City in close proximity to those with whom the editors and advertising salesmen must be in contact.

Past National Commander James F. O'Neill was made Director of Publications on July 1, 1950, in view of the forthcoming retirement of James F. Barton, who had served as Director since 1932. Past National Commander John Stelle was named chairman of the Publications Commission to replace Mr. O'Neill, who resigned in accepting the Directorship.

The printing contract with the C. T. Dobling Printing Company of Louisville, Kentucky, continues to be a satisfactory and economical arrangement for The American Legion.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE NATIONAL COMMANDER

Of inestimable assistance to this administration has been the wise counsel of the Advisory Committee to the National Commander.

A commander would indeed be remiss if he failed to extend his deepest appreciation to such an outstanding Advisory Committee as has served diligently and most efficiently during the past year.

To Past National Commander Perry Brown, the able chairman of this committee, and to each of its members—Leo V. Lanning, William Stern, Roy T. Anderson, George L. Cleere, William J. Dwyer, Leon V. McCord, Clarence E. Cross and Harold P. Redden—I give my most heartfelt thanks.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Without the cooperation and devotion of the American Legion Auxiliary, with almost one million women enrolled in its 13,625 units, The American Legion could not have attained the achievements of which it is so proud.

Rare leadership and wise counsel has been demonstrated by Mrs. Norman L. Sheehe, National President of the Auxiliary, and The American Legion cannot be too lavish in its praise of her outstanding efforts.

As in previous years, the American Legion Auxiliary has been our staunch ally and supporter in the fields of rehabilitation and child welfare. In this year alone the Auxiliary has contributed $30,000 to The American Legion for its rehabilitation program and $10,000 for child welfare work.

The Auxiliary has a trained staff of 8,531 volunteer hospital workers and the organization has expended $2,206,381 in this work during the past Legion year. These trained volunteers are on duty in Veterans Administration hospitals throughout the country, performing many services for hospitalized veterans and keeping them in touch with the outside world.

More than three and one-half million poppies were sold by Auxiliary workers in 1950 to assist in carrying out The American Legion rehabilitation work. At Christmas time, Auxiliary gift shops in the hospitals make it possible for veterans to send gifts home.
Summary of Proceedings of the

The disabled veteran and the needy youngsters will applaud the objectives of "Red, White and Blue." Those who witness the show will have pleasant memories of it for many years to come.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENLARGING NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

National headquarters of The American Legion has moved into the beautiful new building erected by the Indiana World War Memorial Commission on the Indiana World War Memorial Plaza through the generosity of the people of Indiana. It was dedicated in impressive ceremonies and presented to The American Legion by Governor Henry F. Schricker on behalf of the state of Indiana on August 20, 1950. Past National Commander Paul V. McNutt, former Governor of Indiana, delivered the dedicatory address, and the key to the building was officially presented to National Commander George N. Craig. Among the distinguished guests in attendance was former Governor Ralph Gates, under whose administration the $2,500,000 appropriation was made available and the plans for the building initiated.

This new national headquarters building is an imposing structure of Indiana limestone, four stories in height and 360 feet in length. The November, 1950, meetings of the National Executive Committee will be held in the new building.

Savings approximately $500,000 under a budget of $1,000,000, the Building Committee is effecting the construction of a new seven-story, air-conditioned office building of steel, concrete, brick and Indiana limestone construction on our property located at 1005 K Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. Its Indiana limestone front will be enhanced by a 13-foot stone statue of a veteran standing on a ledge some 40 feet above the street level, beneath the large bronze words, "American Legion." The entire cost of approximately $750,000 includes furnishings and equipment, and most of the rental cost of temporary headquarters. The cornerstone of this new building was laid by National Commander Craig on September 15, 1950. We expect to move in by the first of the year.

NATIONAL JUDGE ADVOCATE

During the past year, the national judge advocate has participated in several litigation cases in which The American Legion was either a party or in which it had a vital interest. These cases are reviewed in his separate report to the convention.

In addition, he has rendered invaluable service in the preparation of a number of contracts to which the Legion was a party, and has attended numerous conferences throughout the year at the request of the national commander.

Many official opinions have been rendered by him to the departments and intra-departmental organizations covering internal questions affecting The American Legion.

His office has made a careful check on the misuse of our insignia, and whenever violations have occurred the parties involved have been advised of our exclusive right to the use of our emblem and to the name "The American Legion." This has resulted in a reduction of violations on the part of commercial concerns.

NATIONAL CONVENTION COMMISSION

The problem of securing cities for the convention that can accommodate our expanding organization is still an acute one, and a determination of the questions presented by the National Convention Commission to the 1949 Convention relat-
CONCLUSION

A year ago you bestowed upon me the greatest honor that could have come. And this is not the parting of the ways. The comradeship of my fellow American Legionnaires—your loyal friendship, your wise counsel, your wholehearted cooperation—will remain forever enshrined in my heart.

During this year, fraught with frustrations as well as marked by achievements, there has been, too, a full share of sorrow. We have heard "Taps" sounded for some great Legionnaires, among them Milt D. Campbell of Ohio, John A. McCormack of Colorado, J. Fred Johnson, Jr., of Alabama, Robert A. Adams of Indiana, Edward R. Stirling of Pennsylvania, Rev. William P. O'Connor of Ohio, Rev. George F. Kettell of New York, and many more. As a result of their experiences, we hope to stimulate a greater interest in American Legion history still to be made and recorded in the future.

We do emphasize that we must now expect the wholesome, honest, forthright—always for God and Country.

COCKE UNANIMOUSLY ELECTED

Guy Stone, National Executive Committee member, of Georgia, nominated Erle Cocke, Dawson, Georgia, for national commander. The convention adopted a resolution to make it unanimous and elected Erle Cocke, of Georgia, national commander.

ADDRESS OF ACCEPTANCE

My Fellow Legionnaires: It is with a feeling of humility, gratitude and determination that I accept the responsibility just accorded me.

The American Legion was two years old when I was born. You might say that we grew up together. From the very first, the American Legion ideals and traditions. Therefore, I enter upon my new responsibilities with a deep sense of humbleness. You have appraised me as being worthy of doing the kind of job that must be done in the critical days ahead.

OURS IS A FIGHTING JOB! In going forward, I must rely heavily upon you. I will give you my unbounded devotion to the principles of The American Legion, unlimited enthusiasm for its endeavors, and the strength and vigor of my whole being with which to fight for its objectives.

You have produced here in Los Angeles a bold and constructive new program for American Legion prosecution during the year of 1951. It is a program that seeks peace and strength and continued freedom for America—and it needs and deserves the active support of not only 3,000,000 Legionnaires but 150,000,000 Americans. If hard work on our part can put it over—and I think it can—then you can look forward to a year of progress.

This convention took the first step to make eligible for American Legion membership the American veterans of the fighting in Korea. We shall welcome them into the brotherly ranks of The American Legion with open arms. They have earned the right to belong to our posts.

But let me emphasize this: The all-American program adopted by this convention, which, with God's help and your support, I am determined to accomplish, is designed to prevent any further manufacture of American war veterans!

There is only one way in which this can be accomplished. That is by the courageous program of bold action laid down by this convention for PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH!

America must have the COMPULSION POWER FOR PEACE as long as force is the only language recognized by all in this troubled world!

The American Legion demands United States Military Training for our young men. Only on that framework can we build an invincible modern American peace establishment. Coupled with this, there must be industrial mobilization of our nation to produce the adequate arms and equipment for the use of our trained man power. These objectives cannot be reached without valiant sacrifice. Their achievement does not permit politics as usual, business as usual, and living as usual. Our government must set the example in reducing non-essential expenditures. Our civilian population must follow this lead and accept the necessary degree of "tightening up" to do the job.

As to World War III, anything may happen. We do emphasize that we must now expect the
worse. We can now find consolation only in the thought that the ships, the planes, the tanks, the guns, the bombs and the other arms which we must produce, may never be used, but that each of these weapons will represent part of the roadblocks that may keep war from engulfing us again.

We must also strengthen the internal security of our country. Congress has at long last, and at our never-ceasing beseech, given us a communistic control law. We must be militantly alert, now, that this law is enforced, so that every communist beachhead within the United States is wiped out.

Our dollars from now on must be fighting dollars. The American Legion will support energetically the sale of government savings bonds.

We shall also take the lead in helping to build an effective civil defense, so that our people may achieve the benefits of protective planning and panic-proofing. If war comes, the enemy will try to bring it to the doorsteps of our homes. We must be prepared to survive any such attempt.

The path before us is rugged. It is no highway for weaklings. Only free men, resolute in their will to remain free, can trod it. We are going into an unrelenting battle. There is no place for shirkers.

I believe in having a definite plan and in going about without delay in carrying it out. You have given me that plan. I am going to start working on it immediately.

Sunday, I am leaving Los Angeles on a nationwide motor tour of 18 states to enlist the support of the American people for our program and to personally invite all eligible veterans to join The American Legion actively in its fight to keep America American.

This is a rigorous trip. We will average 200 miles a day and half a dozen talks a day. Our department officers will meet us at every state line and set up our visits in their departments.

It took hard work, thrift and enterprise to found America. It took these same qualities to found America. It took these same qualities to build The American Legion into the largest veterans' organization in the world. These are specifically American traits. We've got 'em in The American Legion, because it is a genuinely American organization.

The orders you have given me here are challenging but difficult. I accept them gratefully—humbly—and with confidence. I place my faith in the willingness of all Americans to join in contributing all that God has permitted us of energy and talent and determination to make their fulfillment a means of strengthening our beloved United States of America.

NATIONAL ADJUTANT DUDLEY:

We will now have the ceremony of Presentation of Flags. Past National Commander John Stelle, of Illinois, will present the flags to the outgoing national commander, George N. Craig.

PRESENTATION OF COLORS TO OUTGOING NATIONAL COMMANDER

By Past National Commander John Stelle

I have the honor of making a presentation that has become traditional down through the years. This particular one, it seems to me, has uncommon significance.

The Colors of the United States and of The American Legion have never received more faithful or effective care than was given them this past year by our immediate Past National Commander, George Craig proved his respect for the Colors when he fought under them across the battlefields of Europe. It remained for The American Legion to test him here on the home front, where the combat is less dramatic but just as vital to the principles of Americanism we are all sworn to safeguard.

He has done a magnificent job. As the first strictly World War II veteran, he faced a handicap and a challenge that most of us who preceded him never knew. He and the Colors came through flying.

This young man has given us a year of fighting leadership that, in my judgment, is unexcelled in terms of courage, eloquence and personal service.

Under his command, The American Legion upheld and successfully defended the veterans' rehabilitation program, which is the reason for our existence.

Behind his aggressive lead, we rallied with renewed spirit and drive to the causes of national security and realistic foreign policy. It is a reflection of his own deep-down patriotism that under his stewardship we made our influence felt at the same time for a spiritual reawakening and a positive crackdown on the Communist Party.

... The Colors were presented to Past National Commander Craig ...

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER STELLE: Commander Craig, you have earned every bit of the affection and gratitude that these Colors convey to you from the hearts of 3,000,000 fellow Legionnaires. We commend them to your keeping—and we trust, sir, that we will have the privilege for many years to come of working and fighting with you in their service.

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER CRAIG: Fellow Legionnaires, I want to say to you that it is with the deepest of gratitude and respect that I state to you that this year will always remain in my memory as the year of my association with the finest people in the world, with the greatest objective on earth. I am confident that we will have many years of happiness working together in the cause of our nation and in the cause of The American Legion.
PRESENTATION OF COLORS TO INCOMING NATIONAL COMMANDER

By Past National Commander Roane Waring

National Commander Cocke, you are standing upon the threshold of a year of service to The American Legion and to the service of God and country. I know it will be a great year, but a year that will demand of you every ounce of your courage, your ability and your leadership.

I emphasize leadership because especially in times like these, not only your comrades of the Legion but the country look to the Legion and to you for leadership. I need not tell you that we are living in a time of crisis. Every discussion upon the floor of this convention, every action taken, the whole atmosphere that has surrounded its deliberations, have been charged with tension.

We are facing the most serious hour in our nation's life. We have reached the turning point in our nation's history. The crossroads are here.

Either we must unite our people in a common cause, gird for battle and march straight down the road that leads to aggressive action, determined to challenge and destroy communistic aggression wherever we meet it, or we must falter at the crossroads, divert our line of march, and take the road of indecision and uncertainty, the road that leads to appeasement.

This, pray God, we shall never do. We must unite with other God-fearing nations in a common cause and for a common purpose. We must march to battle that means either complete annihilation of the enemy or our own destruction. There shall be no compromise. Not only our own lives and our freedom rights, but the lives and the rights of all people, to live their own lives as God gives them the right to choose, is being challenged.

Mr. Commander, the American people are looking to the Legion and to you for leadership.

Mr. Commander, the Colors are yours. Guard and treasure them as I know you will; and may the Almighty God, in His Infinite Wisdom, protect and guide you in this, your year of leadership in the Legion. Take these Colors and bear them ever aloft, and ever be mindful of what they stand for.

The white—for the purity of American ideals.

The blue—for the trueness of American principles.

The red—for the American courage that will spill the enemies' blood on a thousand fields, if need be, to defend this land of ours, and to protect and sustain the freedoms of all God-fearing people.

Mr. Commander, here are your Colors.

NATIONAL COMMANDER COCKE: I sincerely accept these Colors of The American Legion and of the United States of America. I assure you that their Colors are brilliant in their newness, and may the scars of the year mean a great year of service to the Legion before they are furled in my keepsake of memories of The American Legion.

The Colors were retired and the convention adjourned at 5:45 p.m.
### Financial Statement

#### of the

#### National Organization

for the

#### Period Ending December 31, 1949

**The American Legion, National Headquarters**

**Statement of Income and Expense**

**Year Ended December 31, 1949**

#### Exhibit A

**Income:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National dues</td>
<td>$750,005.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sons of the American Legion dues</td>
<td>1,281.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earnings—reserve fund investments</td>
<td>20,579.90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Net income:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Publications Division—exhibit D</td>
<td>366,388.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emblem Division—exhibit E</td>
<td>93,739.85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Income:**  

$771,866.90

#### Expense—schedule A-1:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>467,063.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic</td>
<td>41,035.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americanism</td>
<td>138,052.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>58,481.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislative</td>
<td>71,965.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive</td>
<td>163,543.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public relations</td>
<td>109,398.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security</td>
<td>35,262.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees retirement trust</td>
<td>101,260.98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Expense:**  

$1,186,064.01

#### Other Income:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash discounts</td>
<td>509.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inter-divisional interest</td>
<td>16,391.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain on sale of capital assets</td>
<td>149.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental income</td>
<td>2,018.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checks cancelled</td>
<td>639.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous income</td>
<td>629.99</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Other Income:**  

$20,338.62

#### Deductions from Income:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excess of expenditures in connection with Rehabilitation and Child Welfare</td>
<td>$331,945.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>allocated for these purposes, year ended December 31, 1949, schedule A-2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Deduct:**  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allocation from Unrestricted Surplus</td>
<td>192,055.78</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Deductions from Income:**  

$141,998.20

#### Excess of expense over income—exhibit C—see note 1

$75,728.67

---

**Note 1:** The excess of expense over income of $75,728.67 is after a transfer from unrestricted surplus. The amount of $192,055.78, so transferred, is shown above as an allocation from unrestricted surplus and is deducted from the excess of expenditures in connection with Rehabilitation and Child Welfare over funds otherwise allocated for these purposes.
### Summary of Proceedings of the

**THE AMERICAN LEGION, NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION**

at December 31, 1949

#### ASSETS

**Current Funds:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash on hand and on deposit—schedule B-1</td>
<td>$1,573,829.09</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>105,848.57</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checks returned unpaid by banks</td>
<td>262.40</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications Division</td>
<td>$239,491.01</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emblem Division</td>
<td>191,592.28</td>
<td></td>
<td>431,083.29</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture, fixtures, and equipment—schedule B-2</td>
<td>432,496.81</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deduct: Accumulated depreciation</td>
<td>163,435.09</td>
<td></td>
<td>269,061.72</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real estate:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building—Indianapolis</td>
<td>172,199.30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deduct: Accumulated depreciation</td>
<td>28,369.16</td>
<td></td>
<td>143,830.14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expense, supplies, and advances—schedule B-3</td>
<td>70,538.35</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due from other funds:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted</td>
<td>209,137.06</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total current funds—general</td>
<td>$2,803,590.62</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**New Building:**

| Building site—Washington, D. C. | 80,000.00 | |
| Architect's fees for plans and drawings | 37,636.07 | |
| Due from current funds—general | 282,731.64 | |
| Total current funds—new building | 400,367.71 | |

**Restricted:**

| Due from current funds—general | 250,068.56 | |
| Total current funds—restricted | 250,068.56 | |

**Trust Funds:**

| Pershing Hall Memorial Trust fund | | |
| Overseas Graves Decoration Trust fund: | | |
| Cash in special deposit not invested—schedule B-6 | 9,110.81 | |
| Investments—schedule B-7 | 244,074.36 | | 253,185.17 |
| Employees Retirement Trust fund: | | |
| Cash in special deposit not invested—schedule B-8 | 10,875.20 | |
| Investments—schedule B-9 | 1,041,269.46 | | 1,052,144.66 |

**Reserve and Restricted Funds:**

| Reserve fund: | | |
| Principal cash awaiting investment | 556.23 | |
| Investments—schedule B-11 | 739,024.53 | | 739,580.76 |

| Restricted fund: | | |
| Principal cash awaiting investment | 23,008.91 | |
| Certificate of beneficial interest | 115.20 | |
| Investments—schedule B-12 | 199,036.09 | | 222,160.20 |

Indianapolis, Ind.

February 18, 1950

$5,721,097.68
## Exhibit B

### The American Legion, National Headquarters

#### Statement of Financial Condition

**at December 31, 1949**

### Liabilities

#### Current Funds:

**General:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>$145,420.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees deductions for savings bonds</td>
<td>1,260.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued unemployment and old age insurance taxes</td>
<td>8,347.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal, city, and state tax withheld</td>
<td>13,032.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal excise tax payable</td>
<td>3,247.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commissions payable—National Auxiliary</td>
<td>1,074.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department credits</td>
<td>10,466.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emblem merchandise undelivered</td>
<td>18,167.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposit—Shaef Trading Corporation</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Convention appropriation</td>
<td>77,092.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due to other funds:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New building fund</td>
<td>$282,731.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current funds restricted</td>
<td>250,068.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total current funds—general</strong></td>
<td>532,800.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Deferred income:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1950 national dues paid in advance on 1,661,292 members @ $1</td>
<td>1,661,292.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950 national dues for rehabilitation</td>
<td>225,388.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-member subscriptions to magazine</td>
<td>368.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sons of the American Legion, 1950 dues</td>
<td>289.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislative Bulletin subscriptions</td>
<td>6,301.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950 film receipts</td>
<td>275.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unrestricted surplus—exhibit C</strong></td>
<td>1,893,914.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total current funds—new building</strong></td>
<td>400,367.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total current funds—restricted</strong></td>
<td>250,068.56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Trust Funds:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pershing Hall Memorial Trust fund, schedule B-5</td>
<td>253,185.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overseas Graves Decoration Trust fund:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund balance</td>
<td>253,185.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees Retirement Trust fund:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund balance</td>
<td>1,052,144.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserve and Restricted Funds:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserve fund:</td>
<td>739,580.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted fund:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due to current funds—general</td>
<td>209,137.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund balance</td>
<td>13,023.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total current funds—restricted</strong></td>
<td>222,160.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total current funds—general</strong></td>
<td>2,803,590.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total current funds</strong></td>
<td>$5,721,097.68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

*Note: The amounts are in USD.*
Exhibit C

THE AMERICAN LEGION, NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
ANALYSIS OF UNRESTRICTED SURPLUS
Year Ended December 31, 1949

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance, January 1, 1949</td>
<td>$771,259.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Addition:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excess of prior years charges to operations for depreciation of Washington Building over amounts expended from general funds for such building</td>
<td>6,213.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deductions:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excess of expense over income, year ended December 31, 1949—exhibit A</td>
<td>$75,728.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer to current income, shown in exhibit A as allocation from unrestricted surplus</td>
<td>192,055.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers to new building fund:</td>
<td>$267,784.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts previously carried as unrestricted surplus, representing amounts transferred as part of an authorized withdrawal from the reserve and restricted funds, for the purpose of acquiring a building site in Washington, D.C., and erection of a monumental type building thereon</td>
<td>281,922.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portion of cost of Washington office building representing value originally assigned to building site</td>
<td>80,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To write off portion of cost of Washington office building representing value originally given to improvements</td>
<td>50,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance, December 31, 1949—exhibit B</td>
<td>$97,766.96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE AMERICAN LEGION, NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
BALANCE SHEET
June 30, 1950

ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Increase Decrease</th>
<th>Decrease</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash: Cash:</td>
<td>$461,240.84</td>
<td>$468,123.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American National Bank</td>
<td></td>
<td>$668,409.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana National Bank</td>
<td></td>
<td>$458,982.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merchants National Bank</td>
<td></td>
<td>$17,187.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riggs National Bank</td>
<td></td>
<td>10.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fidelity Trust Co.</td>
<td></td>
<td>104.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revolving Funds and Advances</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Office Deposits</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emblem Accounts Receivable</td>
<td>42,892.96</td>
<td>490.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theatrical Accounts Receivable</td>
<td>108,206.79</td>
<td>7,486.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising Accounts Receivable</td>
<td>58,129.10</td>
<td>26,296.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions Receivable</td>
<td>18,973.50</td>
<td>2,084.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checks Returned Unpaid</td>
<td>178.32</td>
<td>96.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manuscripts, Arts and Photos</td>
<td>24,891.89</td>
<td>50.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper, Books and Binders</td>
<td>152,860.53</td>
<td>5,723.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emblem Merchandise</td>
<td>182,045.02</td>
<td>2,205.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invested Funds:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schedule 5 (Market Value $1,480,061.96)</td>
<td>1,472,246.12</td>
<td>499,997.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent Investments:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overseas Graves Decoration Trust</td>
<td>248,038.40</td>
<td>2.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash on Deposit</td>
<td>3,978.21</td>
<td>1,407.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees Retirement Trust Fund:</td>
<td>1,203,076.49</td>
<td>2,654.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved Real Estate:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Reserve for Depreciation</td>
<td>377,376.90</td>
<td>26,203.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Reserve for Depreciation</td>
<td>435,188.09</td>
<td>1,485.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Charges:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid Expense</td>
<td>71,741.53</td>
<td>8,587.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Convention Expense</td>
<td>22,003.89</td>
<td>5,668.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Supplies</td>
<td>5,643.32</td>
<td>252.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Charges:</td>
<td>99,388.74</td>
<td>14,507.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>$5,069,408.47</td>
<td>$142,299.78</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Assets
**LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INCOME AND NET WORTH**

**June 30, 1950**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Increase</th>
<th>Decrease</th>
<th>Increase</th>
<th>Decrease</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Liabilities:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable—Trade</td>
<td>$162,975.98</td>
<td>$9,854.15</td>
<td>$951.41</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable—Special</td>
<td>1,843.06</td>
<td></td>
<td>46.44</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees Payroll Allotment for Bonds</td>
<td>1,355.68</td>
<td>19.42</td>
<td>95.57</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit Balances—Accounts Receivable</td>
<td>707.12</td>
<td>120.00</td>
<td>1,043.70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emblem Sales Undelivered</td>
<td>27,626.11</td>
<td>924.85</td>
<td>9,458.52</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserve for Social Security Tax</td>
<td>8,705.41</td>
<td>1,059.01</td>
<td></td>
<td>358.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>$203,213.36</strong></td>
<td><strong>$9,619.41</strong></td>
<td><strong>$9,773.63</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Funds Restricted as to Use: |          |          |          |          |
| Americanism Endowment Fund | 16,060.88 |          | 49,985.00 |          |
| Chas. L. Blatchford Child Welfare Cont. | 100.00 |          |          |          |
| Pershing Hall Memorial Fund | 2,026.23 |          | 2,026.23 |          |
| Junior Baseball | 22,680.00 | 22,254.78 | 12,250.66 |          |
| Oratorical Contest Prizes | 31,423.33 | 643.48 | 5,136.82 |          |
| Foreign Posts Trust Deposit | 1,289.83 |          | 569.09 |          |
| National Commander's Scholarships | 4,100.00 | 300.00 | 2,300.00 |          |
| Retirement Reserve—Less than 2 Years | 41,274.00 |          | 17,449.00 |          |
| Reserve for Convention | 77,092.80 |          |          |          |
| Red, White and Blue Pledges | 136,150.00 | 12,050.00 | 126,150.00 |          |
| Public Participation Contributions | 5,743.90 | 432.45 | 5,743.90 |          |
| National Auxiliary—Child Welfare in Depts. | 10,868.75 |          | 199.02 |          |
| 40/8 Child Welfare for 1950 | 50,000.00 |          | 2,000.00 |          |
| 8/40 Child Welfare for 1950 |          |          |          |          |
| **Excess Receipts over Expenditures Rehabilitation and Child Welfare—Exhibit D** | **289,449.52** | **6,208.53** | **283,241.05** | **329,393.20** |
| **Total Funds Restricted as to Use** | **632,051.47** | **40,002.28** | **692,049.75** |          |

| Deferred Income: |          |          |          |          |
| Dues unaccompanied by cards | 6,772.10 | 287.65 | 3,694.25 |          |
| 1950 Dues paid in advance—Legion |          |          | 415,323.00 |          |
| 1950 Dues paid in advance—S.A.L. |          |          | 173.55 |          |
| **Unearned Subscriptions:** |          |          |          |          |
| American Legion Magazine | 1,063,373.02 | 147,566.96 | 228,060.83 |          |
| S.A.L. Subscriptions | 281.04 | 3.86 | 165.34 |          |
| **Legislative Bulletin Subscriptions:** |          |          |          |          |
| Americanism Endowment Fund | 16,060.88 |          | 49,985.00 |          |
| Chas. L. Blatchford Child Welfare Cont. | 100.00 |          |          |          |
| Pershing Hall Memorial Fund | 2,026.23 |          | 2,026.23 |          |
| Junior Baseball | 22,680.00 | 22,254.78 | 12,250.66 |          |
| Oratorical Contest Prizes | 31,423.33 | 643.48 | 5,136.82 |          |
| Foreign Posts Trust Deposit | 1,289.83 |          | 569.09 |          |
| National Commander's Scholarships | 4,100.00 | 300.00 | 2,300.00 |          |
| Retirement Reserve—Less than 2 Years | 41,274.00 |          | 17,449.00 |          |
| Reserve for Convention | 77,092.80 |          |          |          |
| Red, White and Blue Pledges | 136,150.00 | 12,050.00 | 126,150.00 |          |
| Public Participation Contributions | 5,743.90 | 432.45 | 5,743.90 |          |
| National Auxiliary—Child Welfare in Depts. | 10,868.75 |          | 199.02 |          |
| 40/8 Child Welfare for 1950 | 50,000.00 |          | 2,000.00 |          |
| 8/40 Child Welfare for 1950 |          |          |          |          |
| **Excess Receipts over Expenditures Rehabilitation and Child Welfare—Exhibit D** | **289,449.52** | **6,208.53** | **283,241.05** | **329,393.20** |
| **Total Deferred Income** | **632,051.47** | **40,002.28** | **692,049.75** |          |

| **Permanent Trusts:** |          |          |          |          |
| Overseas Graves Decoration Trust | 252,016.61 | 1,405.34 | 1,618.56 |          |
| Employees Retirement Trust Fund | 1,203,076.49 | 2,654.13 | 150,931.83 |          |
| **Total Permanent Trusts** | **1,455,093.10** | **4,059.47** | **149,763.27** |          |
| **Net Worth:** |          |          |          |          |
| **Restricted Capital** |          |          |          |          |
| Reserve Fund | 739,646.20 |          | 65.44 |          |
| Restricted Fund | 14,949.86 | 1,484.33 | 1,926.72 |          |
| Real Estate | 80,000.00 |          |          |          |
| Reserve for Const. Wash. Bldg. | 320,144.99 | 15.50 | 222.72 |          |
| **Total Restricted Capital** | **1,154,741.05** | **1,468.83** | **1,156,272.92** |          |

| **Unrestricted Capital** |          |          |          |          |
| Uninvested Surplus—Exhibit B | 536,062.95 | 29,451.22 | 438,291.73 |          |
| **Total Unrestricted Capital** | **1,690,805.00** | **27,982.39** | **1,662,822.61** |          |
| **Total Liabilities and Net Worth** | **$5,069,408.47** | **114,617.87** | **$4,954,790.60** |          |
### THE AMERICAN LEGION, NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

#### SURPLUS ANALYSIS
January 1, 1950, to June 30, 1950

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance carried forward from December 31, 1949</td>
<td>$97,766.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain from Operations—Exhibit C</td>
<td>438,882.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less refund on 1949 contribution to National Auxiliary</td>
<td>585.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$536,649.93</td>
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</table>

### THE AMERICAN LEGION, NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

#### REVENUE AND EXPENSE
Six Months Ended June 30, 1950

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Increase 6 Months 1950</th>
<th>Decrease 6 Months 1949</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Dues:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The American Legion 1950—2,809,205 @ 25c</td>
<td>$18,788.85</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>The American Legion, Prior Years</td>
<td>137.25</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sons of The American Legion—1950</td>
<td>1.65</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sons of The American Legion—Prior Years</td>
<td>47.40</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Sales Division—Schedule 1</td>
<td>48,007.18</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legion Publications Division—Schedule 2</td>
<td>60,132.02</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserve Fund Earnings</td>
<td>4,536.12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>131,585.57</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expense:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration (Indianapolis)</td>
<td>17,810.87</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement Fund Expense</td>
<td>100,810.98</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Service</td>
<td>11,007.09</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership and Post Activities</td>
<td>4,356.46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administration (Washington)</td>
<td>14,734.42</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic Section</td>
<td>4,800.36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Americanism (Paid from Restricted Fund)</td>
<td>61,525.90</td>
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<td>Legislative</td>
<td>2,392.92</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Relations</td>
<td>7,569.53</td>
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<tr>
<td>Executive</td>
<td>4,413.84</td>
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<td>Security</td>
<td>3,004.63</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>187,365.54</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Operating Gain</strong></td>
<td>55,779.97</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Other Revenue:</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase Discounts Taken</td>
<td>41.61</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Earned</td>
<td>813.66</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>4,800.36</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6,197.76</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$49,582.21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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