FIFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

THE AMERICAN LEGION

SAN FRANCISCO
October 15-19
1923

Reports of
NATIONAL OFFICERS
AMERICANISM COMMISSION
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
LEGION PUBLISHING CORPORATION
REHABILITATION COMMITTEE
Acknowledgments

THE American Legion has found its place in the life of America as a movement devoted to the highest ideals of patriotic, public service. Progress in an enterprise of this character results from a condition of harmonious cooperation, mutual confidence and understanding, personal friendship and individual respect existing among members and elements of the organization. It has been an inspiration and a pleasure to observe the growth of this condition in The American Legion during the past year.

From the standpoint of administration, the year has been one of progress. First among the contributing factors to the year’s work has been the helpful cooperation which this office has enjoyed from national and department officials and members of the national staff throughout the year.
WARREN GAMALIEL HARDING
TWENTY-NINTH PRESIDENT
OF THE UNITED STATES
BORN Corsica, Morrow County, Ohio, November 2, 1865
DIED San Francisco, California, August 2, 1923

Devoted to the best and highest of American ideals,
his life was given in faithful service to the Republic.

Requiescat in pace!
DEATH AND FUNERAL OF
PRESIDENT HARDING

The members of The American Legion, in common with all citizens of the United States were inexpressibly shocked and grieved at the sudden death of President Harding on the 2nd day of August. At the time of this tragic event, the National Commander was in Price, Utah. He was immediately communicated with, and in conformity with his instructions, The American Legion in all parts of the world paid appropriate tribute to the memory of the President. Messages of condolence were sent at once to Mrs. Harding and to Dr. George Harding, father of the President.

Through the assistance of the department officials of California, appropriate floral tributes and escorts were provided in San Francisco. Along the entire route followed by the funeral train, posts of The American Legion turned out in strength with their colors and paid a solemn tribute to the President as the train passed through their respective localities. This ceremony was observed and commented upon generally in all dispatches from the funeral party.

The American Legion was ordered into official mourning for a period of thirty days. Arrangements for participation in the ceremony in Washington were placed in the hands of a special committee (Thos. W. Miller, Chairman) appointed by the National Commander. It was the Commander’s intention that this general committee consist of the Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen, members-at-large, including all Past National Commanders, the National Vice-Commanders, and a representative from each department. It was the Commander’s desire that this committee participate as a body in all official ceremonies in the city of Washington, the committee to carry in the parade the official standards and colors of the several departments. Unfortunately, this participation by The American Legion was not approved by the government officials in charge of arrangements. The committee, unable to participate as a body, was represented officially by a group of ten members of the general committee selected by the chairman.

A suitable floral tribute was laid upon the catafalque in Washington as the joint offering of all elements of The American Legion and in which all departments had a share.

As soon as the hour of interment was known, notice was sent to every department of The American Legion in the United States and in foreign countries, and to every outlying post, requesting that a proper memorial service be held at the exact moment when the body of the President was being lowered to its final resting place. The response to this request was particularly inspiring. From Japan to Poland, from Alaska to the Argentine, without exception, the far-flung units of The American Legion responded in a wonderful manner. All posts were urged to cooperate with any community service being planned, and in the absence of such plans, to initiate suitable services. An adaptation of the funeral and memorial services from The American Legion ceremonial was prescribed for these services, together with a prayer composed especially for the occasion by the National Chaplain. In less than forty-eight hours from the time the message was dispatched from national headquarters, responses had been received from each department and separate post of The American Legion.
REPORTS

to the

Fifth Annual Convention

of

The American Legion

SAN FRANCISCO
October 15-19, 1923
INTRODUCTION

To the Fifth Annual Convention of The American Legion:

THE AMERICAN LEGION is now a great business enterprise. It has clearly defined objectives and a well-established business organization. Its physical structure closely parallels that of the Government of the United States. Its officers are elected and its policies determined by the membership, acting through elected representatives meeting in annual convention. Between conventions, the National Executive Committee operates as the supreme authority of the organization. It may be likened to the board of directors of a great corporation. Upon the delegates to the National Convention devolves the responsibility for weighing the accomplishments of the past year, and for charting the course which the organization is to follow during the ensuing years.

The fact cannot be overemphasized that in so far as the delegate body acts wisely and deliberates carefully concerning all matters before it, The American Legion will be successful.

The National Headquarters is but the servant of the organization. It does not, nor should it, act independently or originate policies. Its sole responsibility is to execute faithfully and exactly the mandates of the National Convention, and to carry out intelligently the resolutions passed from time to time by the National Executive Committee.

It is appropriate that the several officials and employees of the Legion should bring to the attention of the proper committees and to the attention of the delegate body itself such observations and suggestions as from their close contact with the progress of the organization seem calculated to aid the National Convention in building wisely for the future.

The American Legion is a democratic organization. The control of its future is wholly in the keeping of the membership itself. The growth of the organization depends upon the degree of clean, unselfish service which the individual member and the official in places of responsibility contribute to the life of the organization.

In presenting the following report, an effort has been made to set forth, for the information of the delegates, briefly, but accurately, a fair account of the activities of The National Executive Committee, the several divisions at Headquarters, together with sufficient statistical data to illustrate the character and amount of work accomplished, and to give a brief description of the major accomplishments of the year in order that the Convention may have before it a firm foundation of experience upon which to base its decisions and plans for the future.

In a few instances, recommendations have been made, not in the spirit of criticizing the past, but in the hope of further strengthening the organization to the end that there may be realized in the future, to the utmost, the great possibilities of The American Legion for honest patriotic service to our country and kindly mutual helpfulness to our comrades.
Report of National Adjutant

PERSONAL VISITS BY NATIONAL COMMANDER

Each National Commander has found, upon entering office, one outstanding and major condition facing The American Legion—each has risen to the emergency and has contributed the best he had to bettering the situation.

When the present commander took office, there was, among the business men of the country, a serious lack of understanding of the Legion program amounting at times and in places to positive suspicion and hostility. The National Commander realized that this condition must be changed radically and promptly if disastrous results were to be avoided. After a brief but careful preliminary study and a few visits to important centers a far-reaching speaking campaign was planned.

During the year the Commander visited every department in the United States. He has also visited the Legion in Panama, Cuba, France and the British Isles. His itinerary was formally opened with an address before the Chamber of Commerce in the city of San Antonio, Texas, on October 22, 1922, two days after taking office. Since that date he has spoken in every state at least once, and in most cases from three to five times. The general itinerary was presented to and approved by the National Executive Committee at the January meeting. Everywhere he has addressed the Legion message particularly to the business community.

In planning the itinerary, financial and climatic conditions were given first consideration. With the necessity for economy in mind, a tentative itinerary was submitted by National Headquarters to each department. The Department Commander was given power to change or alter the outlined plan within his own department, provided that the times and places of the Commander's arrival and departure were not changed. This gave the local officials an opportunity to use the National Commander's time to the greatest advantage. Generally, department officials selected the localities where a forceful explanation of the Legion and its policies were most needed. In a few instances, engagements were cancelled or postponed, but this was done only in emergency, or due to other unavoidable conditions.

The National Commander, in outlining his itinerary, carefully planned for periods at National Headquarters in order that he might carry on his duties there, and attend important meetings and conferences during the year.

Certain obstacles at times interfered with the itinerary. Probably the most conspicuous was the failure of some few local posts properly to prepare for the National Commander's visit and the attempt by others to use the time of the Commander for threshing out local problems. Things of this sort placed an unnecessary burden upon the Commander, already severely taxed. This, it is believed, was unintentional and was brought about merely through a failure to understand the magnitude of the task confronting the National Commander and the value of his time. In some cases, the Commander found that his itinerary had been changed by department officials without the knowledge of either National Headquarters, or the National Commander. This condition always resulted in considerable inconvenience and of necessity caused embarrassment to all concerned. A few department commanders had never visited the posts in their state. This was a hindrance because of the resultant lack of knowledge of actual local conditions.

The results of the Commander's tours will be felt more strongly in the next few years than during 1923. The maximum result of this effort cannot be realized during the current year. Some direct results, however, are already apparent in the communities visited. These should be cumulative during the ensuing years.

The National Commander, during his itinerary, spoke on an average of four times each week to such civic clubs as the Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions,
Optimists and Civitan. Local clubs of these organizations as well as Chambers of Commerce have pledged their support to the Legion program. This support is essential to the success of local posts. The members of civic and commercial clubs and business men in general are at this time closer to the Legion than at any time in the past.

The following data concerning the itinerary of the Commander will be of interest:

| Speeches | 349 |
| Miles traveled | 61,240 |
| Total population of cities and towns visited | 29,789,956 |

ADMINISTRATION. The Administration Division acts as the clearing house for all divisions of the National Headquarters. The principal functions of the division are:

- Employment and Welfare Work
- Telegraph, Express and Mailing Service
- Mimeograph and Multigraph Service
- Purchase and Supply
- Files and Archives
- Routine Organization

Employment and Welfare Work. The personnel of National Headquarters is restricted to members of The American Legion and the Legion Auxiliary. Salaries are based upon the scale in effect in the City of Indianapolis. The higher salaried positions are filled with representatives from the several departments.

The personnel of National Headquarters is divided as follows:

| National Officers | 3 |
| Administration | 19 |
| Americanism | 4 |
| Emblem | 9 |
| Film Service | 3 |
| Finance | 5 |
| Publicity | 6 |
| Rehabilitation and Service | 12 |
| Legislative | 4 |
| Total | 65 |

Welfare work is limited to such activities as can be financed by contributions from the members of the Staff.

Telegraph, Express and Mail Service. Each division is charged with their quota of the Telegraph, Express and Mail Service. Modern methods for handling this work are applied to reduce the cost and expedite delivery. From October 1, 1922 to September 30, 1923, the following mail was handled:

**Mail Report**

| (Incoming) |  |
| Letters | 105,652 |
| Packages | 1,194 |
| Telegrams | 4,124 |
| **Total** | 110,970 |

| (Outgoing) |  |
| Letters | 155,146 |
| Packages, Parcel Post and Express | 26,725 |
| Telegrams | 4,223 |
| **Total** | 186,124 |
| Aggregate total of pieces handled | 297,094 |
| Total amount of postage necessary | $9,334.11 |
Mimeograph and Multigraph Service. The mimeograph, multigraph, addressograph and folding service constitutes the largest single operation of National Headquarters. During the past year 250,000 sheets of mimeograph and 917,730 sheets of multigraph material have been prepared and issued. This work is handled by two experienced operators and one assistant. Modern labor saving equipment is used wherever practicable.

Purchase and Supplies. This department is in charge of a purchasing agent who is an experienced printer.

All purchases are made in the open market on a competitive basis. When supplies or services are required, formal requisition is made by the division desiring the service. These requisitions become an order for purchase and are attached to the statement upon which the National Treasurer makes payment.

Approximately seventy-five per cent. of all purchases are for material or services directly affecting the printing trade. This fact is revealed by the following items which cover a few of the most important purchases during the past year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,000,000 membership cards</td>
<td>$3,981.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15,000 two-color posters</td>
<td>521.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>109,000 jewelry folders</td>
<td>1,115.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,000 post handbooks</td>
<td>399.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20,000 five-color jewelry catalogs</td>
<td>2,755.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400,000 “Respect the Flag” folders</td>
<td>370.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,000 Summary Convention Proceedings (New Orleans)</td>
<td>265.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>266,500 letterheads</td>
<td>579.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>350,000 envelopes</td>
<td>689.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 tons paper</td>
<td>465.74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FILES. In addition to the General Files, we have an expansive Subject or Reference File consisting of twelve major subjects with numerous sub-divisions wherein hundreds of subjects are taken care of by means of a Relative Index. The pamphlets have a corresponding classification. The History File contains all department and post material of historical value, such as biographies of prominent Legionnaires, reports of meetings and conventions, bulletins, lists of officers and miscellaneous data. Separate files are also maintained for the Weekly, the Film Service, the various Conventions, Reports, Charters and Post and Veteran Publications. The nucleus of a Library has been organized, some three hundred volumes constituting the present collection. Centralized supervision of all department files has been installed with an experienced Librarian, specially trained along these lines in charge. The personnel has been reduced to two.

Archives. An archives section is provided in conjunction with the general files. This section is under the supervision of the National Historian. The principal features of this service are: Department and Post records; complete file of Department and Post publications; unit histories and biographical material.

ORGANIZATION. Owing to limited funds, it was not possible this year to re-establish the Organization Division, abolished by the National Finance Committee in January, 1922. As conceived at National Headquarters, the organization problem is one involving a definite, continuous, constructive policy contributing to:

1. Organization of new posts.
2. Increase in membership.
3. Retention of membership, and
4. Education of post and department officials along lines of an organization and administrative nature.

This is not a simple problem, and requires a capable and well trained personnel, a definite policy founded on sound organization principles, and an opportunity to apply these principles to a well thought out, constructive pro-
gram extending over a period of years, and not subject to any changes or interruptions arising from the whims of changing administrations.

Such routine work of an administrative nature as is incident to the operation of the organization has been conducted in the Administration Division. This involves compilation of statistics, preparation and issuance of charters, distribution of instruction pamphlets, etc.

Post charters are issued by National Headquarters as a matter of routine administration. Department charters are granted by the National Executive Committee. At its January meeting, a charter was granted to the Department of Porto Rico. This department now has seven posts, has participated in every item of general activity during the year, and from all indications, is in a flourishing condition.

The status of post and department organization on September 15, 1923, was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Posts</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>existing September 16, 1922</td>
<td>11,134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less charters cancelled</td>
<td>260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10,874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New posts chartered to date</td>
<td>319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total existing September 15, 1923</td>
<td>11,193</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Departments</th>
<th>U. S. Territories</th>
<th>Foreign</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(September 16, 1922)</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chartered during the year</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total existing September 15, 1923</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The posts and departments of The American Legion in foreign countries are particularly important elements in the organization. Composed usually of a very high type of American, they have established relations of the most friendly and useful character with the local communities and officials of the local governments. In some countries, the local Legion post is looked upon as a sort of informal or unofficial representative of the American people. In many instances their advice and suggestions have been solicited both by officials and business men concerning questions of international relationships of the highest importance.

A further analysis of the status of post and department organization appears on page 8.

The importance of organization and membership is so great that despite the handicaps existing, a survey was undertaken in an attempt to assist departments and posts in building up their membership from these headquarters. This work necessarily had to be carried on by correspondence and only such time as could be spared from regular activities was available. Because of the importance of the information gathered, this subject is treated as a separate part of this report and appears under the following heading.

MEMBERSHIP. The American Legion in 1920, reached a membership of 846,186, the two succeeding years showed an annual loss of approximately fifty thousand. Early returns in 1923, indicated that this year would show a similar decrease. The present organization at National Headquarters is barely sufficient to carry on the daily routine functions of the organization. Despite this situation, an effort was undertaken to find out what causes were contributing to this condition, and insofar as the means at our disposal would permit to assist in remedying the situation.

Correspondence was initiated with the several departments securing their approval and assistance. Posts were divided into three classes:

Group 1. 798 posts. Those which had already duplicated their 1922 membership.

Group 2. 3113 posts. Those which had already sent in dues, but whose membership had not yet equalled that of the previous year.
Group 3. 890 posts. Those which had sent in membership for 1922, but
had made no returns for 1923.

A carefully prepared questionnaire was sent to each of the 4901 posts
represented in the three groups, with the following results:

Group 1—640 replies, or 80.2%
Group 2—202 replies, or 6.4%
Group 3—10 replies, or 1.1%

From a careful study of these replies, the following deductions with
reference to membership problems seem warranted:

1. Smaller posts are more successful than larger.
2. The American Legion is more firmly established in the smaller
   communities than in the larger cities.
3. The cities have not yet solved their problem in the Legion.
4. Where the Legion has been “sold” to the public, it has succeeded.
5. Where the Legionnaires believe in the Legion, the post “gets across.”
6. Interest in civic affairs is essential to success.
7. Active, intelligent leadership is an aid to success, but the lack of it
   is not an alibi for failure. Poor leadership is, in the last analysis, a more
   serious reflection on the intelligence of the members than anything else.
   It is to be assumed that any group of Legionnaires should be able to choose
   leaders wisely.
8. Club rooms are helpful, but many good posts haven’t them yet.
9. There frequently is too little regard for business principles in the
   management of post finances.
10. The ceremonial is used in the “live” post which is succeeding.
11. Many posts fail through ignorance of the fundamentals, which could
    be avoided by a closer cooperation between posts and department officials.
12. Post officials are not generally well instructed in methods of ad-
    ministration.
13. The successful post maintains close contact with all civic organiza-
    tions.
14. Community spirit and comradeship plus work overcome all diffi-
    culties.
15. A majority of posts desire closer contact with National Headquarters
    and believe they would be benefited thereby.

Recommendations. 1. That provision be made at National Headquarters
for sustained organization efforts including proper attention to the develop-
ment of interesting post activities and the education of post officials.
2. That departments give greater attention to the creation of new units
and to the reorganization and development of inactive posts.
3. That a more strict compliance with business procedure and with
policies and regulations established by the National Convention be developed
wherever such improvement may be required.

A study of this table will indicate organization progress throughout The
American Legion during the past year:
| Department | Total Number 
| Service |
|----------|------------------|
| Alaska | 52,157 |
| Arizona | 13,734 |
| Arkansas | 32,745 |
| California | 152,409 |
| Colorado | 45,224 |
| Connecticut | 35,100 |
| Delaware | 919 |
| District of Columbia | 22,348 |
| Florida | 41,374 |
| Georgia | 99,165 |
| Idaho | 32,346 |
| Illinois | 305,139 |
| Indiana | 121,386 |
| Iowa | 114,789 |
| Kansas | 78,629 |
| Kentucky | 86,239 |
| Louisiana | 78,749 |
| Maine | 32,145 |
| Maryland | 58,683 |
| Massachusetts | 195,187 |
| Michigan | 131,672 |
| Minnesota | 115,181 |
| Mississippi | 62,601 |
| Missouri | 130,161 |
| Montana | 61,563 |
| Nebraska | 73,538 |
| Nevada | 5,617 |
| New Hampshire | 19,150 |
| New Jersey | 13,167,657 |
| New Mexico | 14,720 |
| New York | 457,074 |
| North Carolina | 127,927 |
| North Dakota | 29,714 |
| Ohio | 233,405 |
| Oklahoma | 17,787,173 |
| Oregon | 40,266 |
| Pennsylvania | 367,417 |
| Rhode Island | 27,072 |
| South Carolina | 61,602 |
| South Dakota | 35,786 |
| Tennessee | 38,313 |
| Texas | 190,519 |
| Utah | 21,744 |
| Vermont | 13,028 |
| Virginia | 88,606 |
| Washington | 61,905 |
| West Virginia | 60,666 |
| Wisconsin | 123,415 |
| Wyoming | 13,498 |
| Total | 4,582,392 |

| Island Possessions, Etc. of the United States | 456,347,814,512,766,723,492,496,255,868,9,723,10,737,11,069,11,121 |

| IN TERRITORIES | 41 |
| Alaska | 643 |
| Canal Zone | 888 |
| Hawaii | 484 |
| Philippine Islands | 301 |
| Porto Rico | 275 |
| Total | 2,486 |

| Possessions, Etc. | 1,861 |

| IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES | 32 |
| Africa | 14 |
| Argentina | 51 |
| Brazil | 48 |
| British Isles | 69 |
| Canada | 113 |
| Chile | 54 |
| China | 66 |
| Cuba | 113 |
| Czechoslovakia | 266 |
| Denmark | 30 |
| Japan | 24 |
| Korea | 26 |
| Mexico | 432 |
| New Zealand | 173 |
| Venezuela | 34 |
| Total Foreign | 2,520 |

| Total US | 4,582,392 |

| Total Possessions, Etc. | 1,861 |

| Total Foreign | 2,486 |

| Grand Total | 5,493,478 |

Names received subsequent to September 15th, held pending adjustment, and approximated to December 31, 1912.

Total: 4,528,392
HISTORICAL progress is fully treated in the report of the National Historian. (Page 48.)

Both the National Convention and the National Executive Committee enlarged the scope of the work being carried on by the National Historian to such an extent that special provision had to be made for this branch of activity. It was provided for in the Administration Division, and has been carried on during the year.

Several projects of a historical nature were authorized, the most important being the compilation of a historical hand book of The American Legion, to contain historical sketches of the early organization of the several departments and biographical sketches of the men who thus far have played prominent parts in the growth of the organization. To date outlines of department histories have been received from the following departments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Department</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>District of Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continental Europe</td>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>Kansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>South Carolina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Biographies of six hundred Legionnaires are on file.

Under the same heading may be considered the compilation of statistics relating to the condition of the organization in the various departments. This has been prepared frequently in the form of articles to publications, and has been supplied to the National Commander for each department in connection with his visits during the year.

AUDITING AND FINANCE. The report of the National Treasurer gives in detail the financial status of the organization.

The financial policies of The American Legion are controlled by the National Finance Committee, which was established as a constitutional body by the New Orleans Convention. This Committee holds regular meetings during the months of March, June, September and December of each year. The same authority established the budget system as a part of the financial policy of the organization. No expenditures from the funds of the organization for any purpose can be made except on the authority of the National Finance Committee. The Committee consists of three members holding office for three years each, one term expiring each year. Of this Committee, the National Commander and the National Treasurer are ex officio members, and the National Adjutant is secretary. This Committee reports direct to the National Executive Committee and to the Finance Committee of the Convention.

The budget for 1923 was limited by the action of the New Orleans Convention to 80 per cent of the actual revenue for the year 1922. The budget authorized by the National Finance Committee for 1922 amounted to $401,724. The budget authorized for 1923 was $242,751.51.

On September 15 expenditures against the budget were 11.8 per cent, under the estimates.

Payments against the budget are made on the approval of the National Adjutant. Incoming invoices and statements, before being paid, are compared with the original requisitions for purchase, to insure that the material furnished, or the service rendered, is in accordance with that requested, and that the order for purchase is on proper authority. The invoice is then audited for prices, extensions and quantity of material received. If it passes these tests also, it is immediately vouchered and paid in ample time to take advantage of any cash discount. All bills are paid within ten days of their receipt at National Headquarters.

The accounting for the various departments of National Headquarters is conducted by the Finance Division, where all financial records are kept.

The general expense accounts for this year are sub-divided into three general divisions, namely, budgeted activities; underwritten activities, and new appropriations. The budgeted activities are sub-divided into seven classifica-
Div. I

Report of National Adjutant

Itions, namely: Administration, Americanism, Legislative, Rehabilitation and Service, Publicity, Finance and Executive. The underwritten activities are sub-divided into Emblem and Sales, Film, Membership Card Section, and Liaison Men. Each of these classifications in turn is sub-divided into individual accounts, depending upon the nature of the work of each division. For example, the administration division expenditures are classified into the following accounts: Payroll, Travel, Telephone and Telegraph, Stationery, Printing and Office Supplies, Postage and Express, Maintenance of Quarters, Special Meetings, Insurance and Miscellaneous. This gives an expense spread of over one hundred operating accounts.

The accounting for the Emblem Division and Film Section is identical with that of any mercantile institution. They are each governed by convention action, which provides that no merchandise or service shall be furnished prior to the receipt of remittance. This provision eliminates the necessity of keeping running open accounts receivable ledgers. We require but a C. O. D. ledger. By operating these departments on a cash basis, it is unnecessary to build up a large reserve to protect uncollectable accounts, and they are thereby enabled to operate on a smaller margin of profit, which in each instance is saved to the purchaser in the price charged him.

Our principal sources of revenue are from membership dues, profits from emblem sales, profits from film rentals and earnings of the trust fund. With the revenue from membership dues comes the task of collections.

To facilitate the collection of national dues, a card system has been established, the salient features of which are:

1. The elimination of delay to the individual member in placing his name on the mailing list of The American Legion Weekly. This is accomplished by providing the individual with a subscription card addressed to the office of the Weekly, which he is requested to mail at once.

2. The provision of a system of double checks on the individual, post officials, department officials, the office of the American Legion Weekly and on National Headquarters.

3. The furnishing to departments of notices giving all essential data wherever posts are tardy in remitting national and department dues.

4. Provision for an adequate set of post, department and national membership records with the minimum of effort.

5. Provision for notification to the individual of non-receipt of his national dues after all other means of collection have failed.

6. Concentration of the work of checking membership against the Weekly subscription list at National Headquarters under one head, relieving the Department of this burden.

The operations of the system have been explained in charts and instructions supplied to all departments.

The trust fund which now consists of $504,441.09, is invested by a trustee under the direction of the National Executive Committee, in United States Government securities, municipal bonds, real estate bonds and certificates, and corporation collateral notes, its earnings being paid into the general fund at national headquarters and used in the operation of the Service Division.

In addition to the regular expense and revenue accounts, we have several restrictive capital accounts which the Finance Division in its routine handles. A contribution of $50,000.00 was made by the Knights of Columbus for relief of migratory tuberculosis cases in certain sections of the southwest. See page 55.

Another such restricted capital fund that is being collected is the fund for the decoration of foreign graves, “the Graves Endowment Fund.” See page 55. The fund on September 15, 1923, was $162,657.17. It is invested in United States Treasury Certificates and Fourth Liberty Bonds.

The fund is controlled by a board of trustees composed of the past National Commanders. See page 40.

The Essay Contest Fund is made up of prizes to winners of the Essay
Contest, which are being disbursed to them as their requirements necessitate, wholly for educational purposes.

The Red Cross Clean-up Campaign Fund is for the carrying on of the work of the Liaison men in the fourteen Veterans’ Bureau districts, which work is being financed by the American National Red Cross. See page 18.

The French War Orphan Fund is a fund which is maintained through individual private contributions for the support of French war orphans who have been adopted by The American Legion.

Every employee of the national organization who handles either these or any of the national funds is adequately bonded. These bonds are approved by the National Executive Committee and are in the possession of the National Treasurer.

EMBLEMS. The Emblem Division of National Headquarters is operated on a commercial basis. Profit, however, is of secondary consideration. Service to the entire organization is its principal object. The purposes of the Division are:

a. To protect the emblem.
b. To provide desirable material embodying the emblem. The scope and character of this material are governed by the desires of the organization.
c. To act as a sales department for all Divisions of National Headquarters.

C. O. D. Shipments. The Emblem Division is required to operate on a cash basis in compliance with a resolution adopted by the Second Annual Convention. Materials, which are carried in stock, can be shipped C. O. D. Banners, grave markers and other supplies, which are made to special order, are shipped direct from the factory and cannot be forwarded collect. C. O. D. shipments are often resented by the customer. For this reason, it is desired to eliminate them as much as possible.

To avoid misunderstandings, the last catalogue of the Emblem Division clearly indicated on each page that remittance in full should accompany all orders. In spite of this, repeated requests have been received from Post as well as Department officers to ship material on open account. Such requests, of course, must be refused, making it embarrassing to the customer as well as to the Emblem Division.

Convention Badges. It has always been the desire of National Headquarters to protect and supervise the use of the American Legion insignia. In connection with this service, the most difficult problem is involved in supplying Convention Badges. Since its establishment, the Emblem Division has maintained a high grade Convention Badge service. This service has been conducted on a basis calculated to produce a revenue sufficient only to offset the actual expense of handling.

A service of this sort, to be successful, must be utilized by all Departments. Each year the number of Departments purchasing badges from National Headquarters has gradually decreased. So far this year, only thirteen Departments have purchased badges through the Emblem Division.

The entire matter was presented to the National Executive Committee in 1922 and again in 1923. Each time National Headquarters was directed to continue this Convention Badge service. It was also urged that each Department co-operate with National Headquarters to the fullest extent. In addition to this, the early part of this year, the National Executive Committee pledged the support of their respective Departments.

The service thus far has been almost a total failure. To be successful there must be complete co-operation from all departments. Neither these headquarters nor the National Executive Committee thus far has been able to secure this. This convention should decide whether it is worth while to make the further attempt. If it be decided not to, this service should be discontinued and the Departments authorized to purchase Convention Badges.
direct. A copy of all such orders should be forwarded the Emblem Division. Official authority could then be granted for the execution of each individual order.

Official Jewelers. January 1, 1923, three hundred and fifty official jewelers to the American Legion had been established. To date there are three hundred and seventy-eight of these official Legion jewelers.

The establishment of these jewelers, which was undertaken the early part of 1922, has not been a complete success. The failure is attributed principally to the fact that all such accounts must be handled on a cash basis. The retail jewelry trade, as a class, has been educated to long datings, large discounts and memorandum sales service. None of these inducements are offered by the American Legion.

An increase in the official jeweler's discount will be announced shortly. This increase will be absorbed in the Emblem Division's profit and not in the retail selling price.

Catalogue. The subsequent issues of the original complete Emblem catalogue, which was distributed in 1922, have been improved, making the present catalogue complete. The results attained have been satisfactory.

The Emblem Division is conducted along modern mail order business lines. There has been installed, from time to time, as circumstances would permit, such systems and devices as would make the Division's service to Legionnaires available in the most direct form.

Stock Additions and Changes. Since January 1st several additions and changes have been made in the Division's stock with the view of making the line more complete.

These additions consist of a complete line of all standard make watches in all grades and types bearing the American Legion insignia, a line of bronze novelties including paper weights, knives, book ends, wall plaques, etc., and a new radiator emblem larger in size than the original one provided. In addition, consideration is now being given to the addition of a Past Commander's charm, a Past Commander's watch, a line of Legion caps and several small jewelry items including gold and silver automatic pencils.

Specifications. A complete set of specifications for each article has been prepared. These have been based upon the Division's experience during the past four years. They are complete in every detail. Nothing is left to the option of the bidder. These specifications permit of a thorough inspection of each incoming shipment. All gold materials are carefully weighed on special scales to make sure that all the requirements of the specifications have been met. This work has required considerable time and is one of the outstanding accomplishments of the year.

Auxiliary. The Emblem Division has continued to handle the manufacture and sale of Auxiliary regalia and supplies. A new catalogue of much better quality than the first has been prepared and distributed with satisfactory results.

The following statistics show the volume of business handled in the course of a year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convention to</th>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 16, 1922 to Sept. 15, 1923</td>
<td>Jan. 1, 1923 to Sept. 15, 1923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total sales</td>
<td>$204,888.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total gross profit</td>
<td>$ 68,888.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total net profit</td>
<td>$ 38,110.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of orders received</td>
<td>20338</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of pieces sold</td>
<td>200780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of pieces of correspondence handled</td>
<td>23866</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sales by item—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Buttons</td>
<td>95649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ceremonial badges</td>
<td>5183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Card cases</td>
<td>291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration forms</td>
<td>354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletic emblems</td>
<td>1966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto decorations</td>
<td>1203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banners</td>
<td>10548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grave markers</td>
<td>662</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collar ornaments</td>
<td>202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legion lamps</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seal presses</td>
<td>4266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manual of ceremonies</td>
<td>3285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legion transfers</td>
<td>4057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuts</td>
<td>322</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film supplies</td>
<td>5975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printed flags</td>
<td>764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bronzes</td>
<td>235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flags and bannerets</td>
<td>7346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention badges</td>
<td>8895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewelry</td>
<td>7410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auxiliary transfers</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auxiliary pins</td>
<td>38780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auxiliary badges</td>
<td>2439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auxiliary banners</td>
<td>364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auxiliary lamps</td>
<td>268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auxiliary jewelry</td>
<td>906</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Legislation. Several states have passed laws making it a criminal offense for any person not a member to wear the insignia of the Legion.

The importance of such statutes cannot be over-estimated. It is recommended that all Departments not having such laws make vigorous efforts to secure similar legislation at the first session of their legislature.

Departments reporting such laws not in effect are: Alabama, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Delaware, Georgia, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Washington and West Virginia.

Grave Markers. At present the War Department prohibits the placing of official American Legion grave markers on the graves of deceased members of the organization who are buried in National cemeteries. This would seem to be discrimination against the use of the American Legion marker. Steps should be taken to secure an amendment to the present War Department's ruling.

FILM SERVICE. The American Legion Film Service in its second year has supplied films to more than three thousand posts. Ninety per cent. of the posts exhibiting films have reported a financial profit averaging more than $100.00 per show. At the end of its second year the Film Service has on hand 409,000 feet, purchased at a cost of $15,207.95. These films have been paid for out of profits from film rentals and, in addition, the Film Service shows a cash net profit. (See Treasurer's Report.)

The purpose of the Film Service has been chiefly to select films for distribution to Posts. Besides giving attention to this service the Film Division has chartered a course to be followed by the Legion in its film activities. Starting as it did without capital, the Film Service, of necessity, financed its own way until January 1st, 1923, when it was allowed a budget covering organisation expense and the purchase of a limited number of films.

The personnel of the Film Service consists of a director, an assistant and a stenographer. Aside from the selection and distribution of films, the duties of the Division have been manifold. It has investigated numerous propositions.
from producers and distributors. It has developed plans for a topical bi-weekly film to be controlled by the Legion and it has represented the Legion in many negotiations including arrangement for the distribution of an official film history of the World War which has been in process of production for five years.

One of the intricate problems encountered by the Film Service was that of distribution. Because of inadequate facilities, it has been found necessary to distribute Legion films from National Headquarters. This method of distribution has been outgrown through the rapid development of the service, and arrangements have been completed for regional distribution through a chain of independent film exchanges. An effort was made to interest the departments in the distribution of films and as a result fourteen departments contracted for the distribution of the film "THE MAN WITHOUT A COUNTRY." Several departments have advised that due to stress of other matters, they have found it impossible to handle the distribution of films.

Correspondence received by the Film Service from Posts that have exhibited Legion films indicates that film shows offer the largest financial returns for the least effort. In addition to the money profits obtained by the Posts, the pictures sponsored by the Legion have gone far to place the Post in a popular position in the community. "THE MAN WITHOUT A COUNTRY" has brought in hundreds of letters applauding the National Headquarters for sponsoring this film.

"THE AMERICAN REVIEW." After a careful investigation by the Film Service, a plan for the production and distribution of a bi-weekly topical film was submitted to the National Executive Committee and approved. This film is to be a single reel composed of interesting subjects and distributed to theaters throughout the country as "THE AMERICAN REVIEW." The subject matter for this film will have the approval of the American Legion through its national officers. With the proper co-operation from the Posts, this topical film will place the American Legion forcibly and favorably before the motion picture audience of America which is estimated at twenty million per day. "THE AMERICAN REVIEW" will give the Legion priceless publicity and at the same time will open an avenue through which the Legion can carry on its Americanization work. The successful distribution of the Legion's topical film depends largely upon the co-operation of the members. A plan showing how the members can assist in making the topical film a successful venture has been prepared for distribution to Posts.

New Films. The Film Service can add new films and increase its number of film subjects only as fast as it can increase its earnings. Two new feature films have recently been added to the list of subjects available to Posts and additional subjects will be added from time to time.

Film Productions. The Film Service has investigated several propositions offering to produce pictures for the Legion. For the most part these were found to be without merit. National Headquarters' policy governing the production of a Legion film requires that the Legion should control at least fifty per cent of the profits derived from distribution. This profit is to be divided between National Headquarters, the Departments and Posts. The Film Service is diligently working toward the production of a film to embody the ideals of the Legion and in which the Legion will have a half interest. No provision has been made for financing such a production, and it is necessary to find a producer willing to produce a film on a profit sharing basis.

Film Publicity. Keeping in mind the value of film publicity, the Film Service maintains a contact with the various film weeklies supplying their editors with ideas and suggestions. The Film Service has, in many instances, interested the film weeklies in using pictures of Legion activities.

Better Films Committee. The American Legion occupies a prominent place in the Better Films organization of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, of which Will Hays is President. The Legion is
Legion Film History. The Film Service has gathered films showing important events in the life of The American Legion, including all of the national conventions.

Relation of Post to Film Service. The relation of the Film Service to the Post is that of distributor and exhibitor. The Film Service not only supplies films but assists the Post in its film activities by advising as to arrangements for theater and exploitation. The Film Service is ready at all times to give the Post film information. It will co-operate with the Post in local campaigns, supplying suitable films and advice. The efficacy of films as an adjunct in campaign work was evidenced in Kansas where the Department cooperating with the Film Service used "Flashes of Action" as an appeal to voters in the state bonus campaign. With the advice and assistance of the Film Service, Kansas was able to route the films which were shown in more than 200 towns and cities within three months. The campaign was successful.

Inventory of Films

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Film Title</th>
<th>Prints</th>
<th>Bookings to Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;FLASHES OF ACTION&quot;</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>1894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;THE MAN WITHOUT A COUNTRY&quot;</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>1722</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;LAFAYETTE, WE COME&quot;</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;WHERE POPPIES BLOOM&quot; (Colored)</td>
<td>1 Reel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>War Review Pictures</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dedication of Roosevelt High School</td>
<td>1 Reel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foch Tour</td>
<td>4 Reels</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legion Trip to France</td>
<td>2 Reels</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foch Tour</td>
<td>2 Reels</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auxiliary Convention, New Orleans</td>
<td>1 Reel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legion Convention, New Orleans</td>
<td>1 Reel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;UP TO HYALITE&quot;</td>
<td>1 Reel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;HITTING THE HIGH SPOTS&quot;</td>
<td>1 Reel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;CARELESS HUNTERS&quot;</td>
<td>1 Reel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;SHE’S WILD&quot;</td>
<td>2 Prints</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;PEACEMAKERS&quot;</td>
<td>1 Reel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;DESTROYERS IN THE GREAT WAR&quot;</td>
<td>6 Reels</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;GREAT GUNS&quot;</td>
<td>6 Reels</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;THE RUHR&quot;</td>
<td>4 Prints</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Miscellaneous film in Department of Interior vaults, Washington, D. C. 3000 Reels

Negative and Equipment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Film Title</th>
<th>Prints</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;FLASHES OF ACTION&quot;</td>
<td>5 Reels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;THE MAN WITHOUT A COUNTRY&quot;</td>
<td>8 Reels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preamble of Legion Constitution</td>
<td>75 Feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trailers, part titles, etc.</td>
<td>1000 Feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daylite projection screen</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage cans</td>
<td>410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shipping cases</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reels</td>
<td>520</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SERVICE is the keynote of The American Legion—an obligation of devotion to mutual helpfulness—happily imposed by resolution adopted by the First National Convention. The field of the Service Division extends to the just claims of all ex-service men, irrespective of their membership in the Legion. Its co-operating forces lie in every district office of the United States Veterans' Bureau, each organized Department and in every Post, all working harmoniously together in rendering assistance to the widow and the orphan, to bereaved parents and to the sick and disabled and their dependents.
Since February 1st, all new individual cases have been referred for attention direct to the Department in which they originate. There are, necessarily, exceptions because of the fact that all of the Departments are not maintaining well functioning service sections and because certain cases seem to require different action. In these cases, reference is made to the Liaison Representative in the proper district office of the Veterans' Bureau or to the Washington contact office if it is a death claim or a claim which is being adjudicated in Central office. The principal classifications are:

1. Compensation Claims.
2. Vocational Training Claims.
3. Hospitalization and Treatment.
4. Reinstatement and Conversion of Insurance.
5. War Claims of all other natures.
6. Assimilation and distribution of information of general value to ex-service men and women.

Maximum benefits in hospitalization, vocational education and compensation for the disabled have been the slogan of the service work, and that all activities in this effort be properly directed and co-ordinated the Service Division has functioned under direction of the National Rehabilitation Committee. Its plan of operation has undergone some slight changes incident to decentralization but only as required to promote greater efficiency and to prevent duplication of effort. The United States Veterans' Bureau is the governmental agency established to handle the problems of disabled service men and women. Naturally, a great deal of the work has been in contact with that agency.

It may be said that nearly all clear cut cases of eligibility for compensation under existing legislation have received more or less satisfactory consideration by the Bureau. However, there are many individual cases of tuberculosis and neuro-psychiatric disabilities being disallowed because of lack of evidence to connect them within the three-year time limit required under the recent amendment to the Sweet Bill, and its permissible interpretations. (Additional legislation should be sought to remedy this situation.)

At the date of this report, the Vocational Training load has been reduced to approximately 75,000 men and women. Thirty thousand have completed rehabilitation during the past year. According to reports 97 per cent have been placed in positions by the Veterans' Bureau employment section. Greater attention has been given to the selection of an employment objective and to furnishing to the man the type of training most suited to his individual needs. As a result, the trainees are showing greater progress and a notable increase in ambition.

Though the government is the largest employer of labor in this country, yet the thousands of veterans rehabilitated by the Veterans' Bureau are required to seek employment opportunities from the industrial and commercial world. In justice to the obligation of the nation to these men, it would seem proper that a certificate of graduation from a course of study under the Veterans' Bureau employment section. For which his training has fitted him, without the necessity of undergoing further examination or meeting the requirements of the Civil Service.

Interest in the hospitalization situation has been second to none, under the Commander's express direction its various phases have been carefully investigated and findings studied, and at his direction the entire subject is most completely covered in extended detail in the report of the Chairman of the National Rehabilitation Committee. Hospitalization has been one of the greatest problems confronting us but is constantly improving. The load is decreasing and improvement is noted in the service. Construction now under way will insure each regional district of the Veterans' Bureau proper facilities to care for the three classifications of beneficiaries; tubercular, neuro-psychiatric and general medical and surgical.

Progress has been made by the United States Veterans' Bureau during the
past year in its administration of the requirements of its beneficiaries. Many
of the greater problems are being solved; the work is generally current, more
harmony prevails and it can be said that the disabled are receiving more
sympathetic consideration with less delay.

The last congress, through Senate Joint Resolution No. 288, directed an
investigation of the United States Veterans' Bureau. The committee from
the Senate charged with this responsibility consists of Senator David A. Reed,
Pennsylvania, chairman; Senator David I. Walsh, Massachusetts, and Senator
Tasker L. Oddie, Nevada. The committee selected Major General John F.
O'Regan, of New York, as special counsel.

General O'Regan requested the co-operation of The American Legion in
securing such evidence from the field as might be valuable to the duties of
the committee and the chairman, Mr. Sparks, of The National Rehabilita-
tion Committee and the vice-chairman, Mr. Taylor, of the National Legislative
Committee, were designated by the Commander to represent The American
Legion in this co-operation. The chairmen of the District Rehabilitation Com-
mittees were directed to render every aid in their power.

The present status of the investigation appears in the report of the
Legislative Committee. See page 51 Div. III.

Perhaps the greatest contributing factors to this condition are the Liaison
Representatives and District Rehabilitation Committees, who, through constant
contact with conditions in each district, are able to advise with Bureau offi-
cials and to offer constructive suggestions. To date, The American Red Cross
has contributed a total of $155,000 from its treasury, of which $132,000 has
been expended for the payment of salaries and traveling expenses of these
representatives. An additional appropriation has been approved which will
insure continuation of this work to June 30, 1924. Need for this service be-
yond that date cannot be determined at this time.

We have co-operated with the Insurance Division of the Veterans' Bureau
in promulgating information with reference to the value of Government in-
surance and how it could and should be reinstated and converted. In this we
have had excellent co-operation from The American Legion Weekly, and all
other elements of the Legion. Largely through the efforts of The American
Legion, the time limit within which to apply for reinstatement or conversion
of insurance has been extended to March 1, 1926, and it is believed that the
Legion should, through organized effort and use of its agencies, bring home to
the veterans of the country the benefits of the extension, the value of the
insurance and the necessity for reinstatement and conversion.

Although the United States Veterans Bureau is an agency which deals
exclusively with disabled men and women, the Service Division handles a
great many claims which are not within the purview of that organization.
Requests for assistance are so numerous and cover so many different subjects
that it is impossible to enumerate them in any detail. We are constantly
handling, however, correspondence and claims relating to such matters as Lost
or Destroyed Discharge Certificates, Victory Medals, Civil Service Preference,
Missing Comrades whose affidavits are needed to substantiate Claims, Allo-
ment and Allowance, Lost Baggage, Bonus, Travel Pay, Eligibility to State
Bonus, Homestead Lands, Naturalization, Back Pay and various other subjects.

It is natural that former members of the military and naval forces should
seek helpful assistance from this organization in securing government posi-
tions classified under the Civil Service Commission. While the Deficiency Act,
approved July 11, 1919, clearly states that "hereafter in making appointments
to clerical and other positions in the executive branch of the government in
the District of Columbia or elsewhere preference shall be given to honorably
discharged soldiers, sailors and marines . . . who are qualified to hold such posi-
tions," yet it is a fact that executive orders issued with respect to this legis-
lation, practically ignore the direction of the Act. Persons seeking appointment
to positions under the Civil Service are required to pass a competitive examina-
tion; the three attaining the highest grade are certified by the Civil Service
Commission to the appointing authority as being eligible to appointment. It is not mandatory, however, that the appointing authority appoint either one of the three highest certified to by the commission, but may actually appoint anyone who has successfully passed the examination. This is a situation which should be corrected by proper legislation.

Records show that we have handled five hundred and fifty-two appeals for assistance from relatives in locating men who have disappeared since their discharge from the military service. Information in this connection is bulleted to Legion publications throughout the country semi-monthly, and quite generally republished by them. It is impossible for us to make any definite statement as to the results obtained because of the fact that once the bulletin is published, the correspondence does not pass through this office. The records only show that this service has resulted in locating four men.

The professional mendicant and traveling faker continue to present a most serious problem. Unless The American Legion is able successfully to combat his activities and his exploitation of his real or alleged veteran status, the good-name of every man and woman who wore the uniform will suffer lasting and irreparable injury. It is no kindness to our comrades but rather a positive injustice to all of them for any member of the organization to countenance any form of panhandling. The American veteran is a self-respecting citizen and he is under no obligation to the faker who would betray the gratitude of our people and sully the name of our comrades rather than to lead an honest, industrious life. It can not be over emphasized that the worst enemy the veterans of America have today is the man whose individual conduct is such as to reflect discredit upon any group, class or organization with which he may be affiliated.

Post officials coming in contact with irresponsible individuals of this nature are urged to supply national headquarters with a complete description of the man, and all facts pertaining to his representations, for distribution to departments.

A very limited investigation was undertaken to determine whether or not the funds of legally incompetent beneficiaries of the Bureau were being properly administered by guardians and administrators. The facts revealed were astonishing. Perhaps through ignorance or a lack of definite understanding of their responsibilities, it was found that seventy-five per cent. of the legally appointed guardians and administrators were appropriating funds to their personal use, making false entries in their reports or otherwise violating their trusts, to the detriment of the ward. This situation was presented to the legal division of the Veterans' Bureau and has been receiving careful consideration. It is a problem which must be solved and one of which local Legion officials should be advised in order that they may assist and guard those who are unable to protect themselves.

The Kansas City Convention directed that an effort be made to secure financial relief for non-compensable tubercular ex-service men who had migrated to the southwest in such large numbers as to create a problem beyond the care of local communities. The Knights of Columbus was among the organizations approached to consider this problem with a view to appropriating such funds as might be necessary, and its board of directors authorized participation in a survey of the field to determine the facts and requisite needs. Their supreme secretary, William J. McGinley, was designated by the Knights of Columbus to represent that organization and the director of the National Service Division represented The American Legion. From information secured, the needs for such relief were centered in the following cities: El Paso, Texas; Tucson and Phoenix, Arizona; San Diego and Los Angeles, California, and Denver, Colorado. Conferences of representatives of all welfare and charity organizations were arranged at these points in advance of the committee's visit, and through these meetings pertinent information was
studied and recorded. On the basis of the data presented, the Committee estimated the financial requirements of the respective communities as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>El Paso</td>
<td>$3,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tucson</td>
<td>$3,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phoenix</td>
<td>$3,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescott</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Diego</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>$15,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The results of the survey were presented to the Supreme Board of the Knights of Columbus, in session at New York City on January 21st, and $50,000.00 was appropriated from the organization's war funds for relief of non-compensable migratory tubercular ex-service men. Remittance to the national treasurer was made at once.

Administration of the fund involves:
1. Local committees composed of—
   a. The American Legion (3 members).
   b. American Red Cross (1 member).
   c. Associated Charities (1 member).
   d. Chamber of Commerce (1 member).
   e. Knights of Columbus (1 member).
2. A revolving fund in the hands of the local committees which is replenished from time to time from the general fund held by the national treasurer.
3. Regulations defining the conditions for which relief may be given and providing a simple method of granting such relief.
4. Exercise by the local committees of the greatest possible degree of option in meeting local conditions.

With the exception of Tucson and Phoenix, little or no demand has been made on these funds. Little over $1,000.00 has been expended to the date of this report. This would indicate that the problem does not exist to its most serious extent during the warmer months. The fund is at hand, however, to supply the need when it arises. Its administration is being closely supervised.

The problem of the sick or needy veteran is serious at home, but posts in foreign countries face a particularly difficult situation in this respect.

These outlying posts have been able to extend relief to needy veterans where, in the absence of this service, the unfortunate comrade would have found himself alone and helpless in a strange land and utterly without assistance of any character. This problem of service work in foreign countries received consideration by the National Executive Committee at its meeting in May with the result that the Legislative Committee was requested to ascertain what funds are available under present laws for the relief of veterans stranded in foreign countries, and if no appropriations are found to be available, that suitable legislation be fostered in the coming congress. The National Finance Committee was directed in the meantime to give consideration to including in the 1924 budget suitable sums for the relief of this situation.

A detailed tabulated statement of the activities and accomplishments follows:

**September 1, 1922—August 31, 1923.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Service Division</th>
<th>Legion Liaison Representative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Incoming Mail</td>
<td>18,711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outgoing Mail</td>
<td>32,373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interviews</td>
<td>3,222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pending Cases</td>
<td>6,120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closed Cases</td>
<td>1,202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folders Reviewed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Investigations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compensation</td>
<td>$18,699</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total                     |                               |
|                          | $604,639.16                   |
| Compensation             | $720,549.72                   |
PUBLICITY. During 1922, the Publicity Division included the News Service, the Film Service, the Speakers' Bureau, and, for purposes of co-ordination only, The Legion Weekly.

Action of the New Orleans Convention in limiting the amount available for publicity expense to $25,000 required a reorganization of this activity on a more economical basis. This was done during December and January. The Film Service was established as a separate and self-sustaining agency. The functions of the Speakers' Bureau were transferred to the Americanism Commission, and have since been practically discontinued. The American Legion Weekly has established an associate editor with necessary assistants and clerical service in Indianapolis, which functions in close co-operation with, but separate from the News Service.

The American Legion News Service is the channel through which the general public is informed in regard to the Legion's activities; its mission is to collect, assemble and distribute news of the national organization and items of national interest from all departments.

American Legion news is supplied to the press in the form of news items for publication in newspapers of all states. The service includes morning, afternoon and weekly newspapers as well as Sunday editions. All American Legion and ex-service publications also are provided with a special service of national legion news.

There is a representative of the News Service in New York, this representative covers American Legion activities which should be released in the local papers because of their wider circulation, and is responsible for the publication of articles along lines in which The American Legion is interested.

The News Service circulates pictures of general interest to the public, illustrating the activities of the Legion through the large photograph syndicates. These serve thousands of newspapers. One copy of a photograph in this way supplies many newspapers, reducing considerably the cost of distribution. Legion photographs are being issued by such syndicates as the Wide World, Pacific and Atlantic, Kadel and Herbert, Newspaper Enterprise Association, Keystone View Company and Underwood and Underwood.

A visit from the National Commander is the occasion for fine local publicity. During previous years National Commanders have been frequently accompanied by a member of the News Service or Publicity Division. This has been impossible this year.

The situation was met by the careful preparation of a set of suggestions for the use of Posts receiving such visits. The Post selected some local newspaper man to act as publicity agent for the occasion. He was supplied by the News Service direct with mats, personality sketches, statements, interesting biographical data, etc.; also with suggestions which, based on the experience of other Posts, had produced results. Wherever this idea has been carefully carried out an astonishing amount of the finest publicity for the organization has been secured. These local representatives are requested to make
full reports of their experience with full clippings. These are studied, new ideas noted, instructions revised and kept up to date for future use.

The plan is sound, works well and fills the need.

A most successful method of distribution of Legion stories is through the state news services of the Legion. These branches, which have been established in twelve states, effectively combine national and department news items in a manner that makes them of greater interest to the newspapers of those states. It has been found that localization of national stories at department headquarters and their subsequent distribution to the newspapers of that state has been most successful. The weakness of any national service is that the same stories sent to Florida go to the newspapers of California. Local interest is developed by the establishment of a state news service. The substitution of a local date line may be made as well as a rewriting of the story to quote department instead of national officials and to make other small changes.

State news services are now in operation in the following Departments: Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota, Oklahoma, New York, Illinois, North Dakota, Mississippi, Utah, Oregon and South Carolina. They should be organized in every department.

It is well known that a vast quantity of material submitted by various publicity bureaus for publication in newspapers is thrown in the editorial waste basket. To avoid this fate, The American Legion News Service prepares all releases with the view of submitting real news instead of propaganda. Many of our stories are used with separate headlines in a prominent place in the newspaper. Other items are incorporated in Legion columns, lending variety to the local news and putting across the national program of the organization. The News Service supplies in addition "standing orders" from a number of national syndicates. It provides the Western Newspaper Union two columns of news with one photograph every week, used in some 2,600 smaller newspapers; the Central Press Association takes one photograph with a few hundred words of short items for publication in several hundred larger newspapers in all parts of the country; a service of about 900 words is sent weekly to the Sioux City Tribune syndicate which supplies more than 100 smaller newspapers in the states of Iowa, South Dakota, Nebraska and Minnesota. Many requests are received for Legion stories from the Newspaper Enterprise Association, a Scripps-Howard organization that serves many of the best newspapers in the country, and other syndicates. These are all supplied.

The News Service during the past year has conducted national publicity for a number of campaigns that the Legion has undertaken. Following the New Orleans Convention, there came a period during which it was the duty of the News Service to broadcast photographs and personality sketches of the National Commander and other newly-elected officers of the Legion and its Auxiliary. Then followed the publicity on American Education Week, with the announcement of winners in the national essay contest. Early keynote announcements by the National Commander and definitions of Legion policies to be pursued during the coming year also were sent out through the News Service.

Many stories have been issued announcing the Legion's policy on immigration and an attempt has been made to answer various arguments of those who would let down the bars to a flood of alien invaders through statements from Legion national officers.

During the campaign for the raising of a Graves Endowment Fund of $200,000.00 the News Service carried stories for a period of three months and sent photographs of European cemeteries in which Americans are buried for distribution through the various syndicates as well as direct to newspapers. (Similar support was extended to the Poppy sales campaign.)

Extensive publicity also was conducted in connection with the visit of the National Commander and the American delegation to the convention of the Inter-allied Veterans' Federation in Brussels.
The News Service secured national attention for the Legion’s effort to obtain the holding of an international air disarmament conference.

In addition to the broad national issues, the News Service has made a definite effort to publish news of the Legion’s efforts toward the development of a program of community welfare, in the hope that public recognition will encourage all Posts of the Legion to engage in unselfish activities for the advancement of their towns.

Recognizing the fact that strong-arm tactics of submitting bare-faced propaganda to editors will not succeed, the News Service has endeavored to let the facts speak for themselves. It has merely recorded the worthy enterprises without destroying the news value of the articles by the interjection of matters of opinion.

Material for news releases is obtained by the News Service from National and State Headquarters, Legion Posts, Legion and ex-service publications, state news and other sources. It is difficult to keep in touch with events in many Departments which have a national interest and it would be of great assistance to the News Service if closer liaison could be maintained.

It is the duty of the News Service to supervise publicity arrangements for the national convention, for it is at this time that the Legion receives the greatest amount of publicity. This year news material in regard to the convention has been sent from Indianapolis and San Francisco to newspapers in all parts of the country. Photographs have been supplied through the various national syndicates. The News Service has charge of publicity arrangements during the convention proper. Special press rooms are provided for the visiting newspapermen. They will receive a mimeographed service of convention proceedings at the press tables about twenty minutes later than their actual occurrence in convention hall. Telephone and telegraph accommodations are provided and every effort is made to facilitate the work of correspondents. The value of this is obvious.

Establishment of a service of this nature at other Legion conventions has resulted in the sending out of many thousands of words in regard to the convention which would not have been wired, had the information been difficult for the scribes to obtain.

The working spirit of the News Service has been that of service to the newspapermen. Its releases have been prepared in a spirit of sending out the actual news, stripped of propaganda, and yet to place the Legion in as favorable light as possible to the newspaper readers of the country. Many times it has been necessary to refuse to issue articles through the News Service upon request because its writers knew that despite its appeal to Legion leaders and members of the organization, the matter was not of interest to the general public.

There are certain undertakings which are excellent “copy” for newspapers because they reveal the Legion as a participant in movements of interest to every man, woman and child in this country. For instance, the universal desire for world peace on the part of all right-thinking people is responsible for the extensive publicity obtained on the Legion’s representation at the Inter-allied Veterans’ Federation convention and also on the organization’s campaign to obtain an international air disarmament conference. The Legion’s efforts for the relief of the disabled, its American Education Week, national essay contests and other unselfish activities make splendid publicity. The actual, tangible accomplishments of the organization are what appeal to the editors of the country. Long expositions of the Legion’s principles, without specific mention of what the organization has done, are useless for publicity purposes. It is to be hoped that the Legion will continue to engage in various activities that appeal to rank and file of Americans, for it is only by so doing that adequate publicity can be obtained.

During the year 1923, The American Legion News Service has operated under a budget of less than half the sum spent by the Legion’s publicity organization in former years. The appropriation made by the Finance Com-
mittee this year was $25,000.00 whereas the Publicity Division last year spent approximately $67,000.00. The amount of publicity obtained this year is not materially less than in 1922. The purchase of mats and other activities have been curtailed to some extent.

Recommendations. 1. That state branches of the News Service be established in all Departments. Information on how to inaugurate a state branch will be forwarded on request to the News Service Office.

2. That all Post officers call upon the editors of local newspapers and ask them to publish national Legion news as well as local copy.

3. That a publicity officer be appointed in each Post and County and Department whose duty it shall be not only to insure proper publication of all local news but to report fully and promptly any stories of national interest which may break in his vicinity.

4. That all Legion publicity officers editing veteran or Legion columns on established papers make use of material issued by the News Service.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

During the year 1922, the unemployment not only of veterans, but of all classes in the United States, constituted a serious economic problem. The activity of The American Legion in combatting unemployment with the entire strength of the organization in the spring of 1922 was fully covered in reports made to the New Orleans Convention. The National Executive Committee, at its first meeting in 1923, provided a special sub-committee to give serious consideration first, to relieving any condition of unemployment which might exist among veterans during the year, and second, to a study of the underlying economic causes of unemployment in the United States with a view to assisting in the elimination of unemployment in future.

Very happily, conditions in the United States during the past year have been such as to reduce distress among veterans from this cause to the minimum. During the year, while unemployment among veterans did not constitute a major problem, yet in every locality it has been necessary to give some assistance in bringing the veterans out of employment into contact with the employer requiring assistance. This has been carried out as a part of the routine service of posts in a very successful manner.

Another phase of the general problem has existed in the return of numerous graduated trainees of the Veterans Bureau. Assistance and advice have been given posts of The American Legion and civic organizations in assisting graduated vocational trainees in reaching employers and in encouraging employers to absorb these men in the activities of the several communities on a self-supporting and profitable basis.

In this connection, consideration may well be given to the fact that the largest employer in the United States is the Government itself, and that every department of the United States might well consider as a privileged source from which to draw such additional employees as may be necessary that body of disabled men who have been trained by the institutions under the jurisdiction of the United States Veterans' Bureau. At the present time, these men receive preference in appointment, but are required to take the prescribed Civil Service examination. The suggestion has been made that a graduate trainee should have an absolute preference without further examination in any department of the government for which his training has prepared him, and that no persons of any character should be appointed or employed from any other classification until it has been determined that there are no rehabilitated trainees available for appointment in that bureau or department.

While conditions of employment during the past year have been particularly happy, there is no assurance that a change in the economic situation may not produce again in the very near future a serious condition of unemployment, which of necessity will affect the veteran seriously.

The second phase of this problem which has received some consideration by the National Executive Committee, that is, a study of the underlying causes affecting employment in the United States, has not yet received the
consideration which The American Legion is capable of giving it. It may fairly be assumed that an organization such as The American Legion may render material assistance to our people by carrying out an impartial study of economic conditions affecting general occupation and employment, in drawing intelligent deductions from such a study, and to make recommendations for the correction of such conditions as this study indicates require correction in the general economic life of the nation. The results of a study of this character and the recommendations made if carried out by men and in such a manner as to merit the confidence of our people, would be a distinct contribution to the general welfare and it is believed would go far toward eliminating the distress which is necessarily incident to any general condition of unemployment which may occur in the future. So long as any considerable number of veterans, in common with other citizens, are dependent for their livelihood upon a rapidly fluctuating economic condition, their employment being more or less a matter of chance, widespread distress among certain classes of the population is always imminent. It would seem desirable, therefore, that this question be given further and careful consideration throughout the coming year, and that serious thought be given to developing some systematic plan which may operate as nearly automatically as possible should widespread unemployment occur in the future.

MANUAL OF CEREMONIES.

It is considered advisable to bring to the attention of the delegates to this Convention, the use of the Manual of Ceremonies.

This Manual was adopted by the Kansas City Convention, and has been in the hands of The American Legion for nearly two years. It was the intention that the provisions of this manual be complied with throughout the entire organization. This condition does not yet exist.

Wherever the Manual of Ceremonies has been faithfully adhered to, excellent results have been the rule. In too many posts, however, no attention is paid to the ceremonies prescribed, and this is almost a certain indication that in other lines of American Legion activity, that element of the organization is equally lax and careless.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY.

During the year, relations with the Auxiliary Headquarters have been uniformly pleasant and helpful. There has been a constant increase in both units and members in that organization. At the time of the New Orleans Convention, there were 187,015 members in 5375 units, organized in 50 Departments. Today they have 53 Departments, 6,014 Units, and 191,146 members, a gain of 4,131 during the year.

The Auxiliary has co-operated in each of the major activities of the year. This contribution to the work of the organization has been of the greatest value. In a few instances small controversies have arisen between elements of the two organizations—in each instance, it has been possible to remove the cause for complaint by conference and discussion. In this connection, it should be borne in mind that the supreme law of both organizations flows from the National Charter granted The American Legion, and that the Auxiliary cannot sanction any resolution or action in conflict with this basic law.

In some instances, members or post officials of the Legion have adopted other than a helpful spirit toward our sister organization. In a few cases, this has taken the form of obstructing the formation of units of the Auxiliary. It should not be lost from sight that the support of the Auxiliary is not an open question for discussion by the individual post concerned, but is a national policy of the organization established by appropriate convention action.

The Liaison Committee of three has given consideration to several features of this question and a special report was submitted by the chairman to the National Executive Committee.
INDIANA WORLD WAR MEMORIAL.

View looking south toward Federal Building showing shrine of Indiana World War Memorial.
LOOKING NORTH TOWARD THE LIBRARY

The National Headquarters will occupy one of the flanking buildings.

INDIANA WORLD WAR MEMORIAL.

The Indiana World War Memorial project has progressed as rapidly as is possible with an undertaking of this magnitude during the past year. The architectural competition has taken place, as a result of which the design submitted by Walker and Weeks, Architects, of Cleveland, Ohio, was selected and this firm was designated by the Memorial Commission to prepare final drawings. The final design was approved and adopted by the Commission at its meeting of September 13th.

Thomas R. Kimball, of Omaha, Nebraska, is the architectural advisor to the Commission, and the board of architects which passed upon the designs submitted by the several contestants was composed of: M. B. Medarry, of Philadelphia; Charles Platt, of New York; and Henry Bacon, of New York.

The Memorial will be both monumental and utilitarian, and will be erected as the joint tribute of State, County and City, the most impressive War Memorial yet carried out in the United States.
A site nearly half a mile long and 460 feet wide, within two blocks of the city, will form a parked setting for the Memorial group. This group will comprise the great shrine or Memorial building proper, a separate monumental building, to house the National Headquarters of The American Legion and its allied societies and a third building to house State and local headquarters and headquarters of other patriotic societies.

The latter two buildings are placed flanking a mall or parked vista which leads to a great open plaza before the Memorial building, so that the group forms a composition remarkable for its monumental conception.

While the exteriors of these office buildings will be strictly in architectural character with the library, the interiors will be arranged exactly in the manner of the best modern office buildings, providing ample light for the working forces housed in them and rendering feasible the rearrangement of office subdivisions at any time to conform to changing needs.

The plan also utilizes as elements in its composition the existing Federal building and Indianapolis Public Library, which stand at opposite ends of the site and offers hundreds of suitable locations for smaller commemorative monuments for various types. As the Memorial Commission possesses a considerable measure of control over all buildings to be erected within 300 feet of the site, it is confidently expected that within a few years the surroundings of the Memorial will harmoniously conform to the high standard set by the ideals to be commemorated.

Preliminary drawings have already been approved for the entire project. The working drawings for the two buildings for housing the Legion and the other societies are being completed and will soon be ready for letting contracts. The Memorial proper is in the final stage of study; and should be sufficiently advanced to allow of letting contracts by next spring.

The Chairman of the Commission estimates that the building for the National Headquarters will be ready for occupancy within twelve to fifteen months. In the meantime National Headquarters will be located in the Chalfant Apartment House located at the corner of Pennsylvania and Michigan streets, which has been remodeled for office use.

RELATIONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.

In the very beginning of the existence of The American Legion, the policy was adopted of cultivating friendly relations with all civic, fraternal and patriotic organizations in the United States. This policy has become traditional and during the present administration, the most friendly relations have existed between The American Legion and the leading societies of the United States.

The American Red Cross has continued its financial support to the liaison service of The American Legion at a cost of $48,771.45 since January 1, 1923. (See page 18.)

Early in the year, a joint survey of conditions in the Southwest where the problem of the migratory tubercular was pronounced, resulted in an appropriation of $50,000 by the Knights of Columbus for relief purposes, to be expended under the auspices of The American Legion. (See page 19.)

During American Education Week, the National Essay Contest, observance of Memorial Day, the wearing of poppies on Memorial Day, the Flag Conference, the observance of holidays, civic activities, etc., The American Legion has enjoyed the co-operation and assistance of such organizations as U. S. Bureau of Education, National Educational Association, American Red Cross, Community Service, Inc., American Federation of Labor, Knights of Columbus, Polish Army Veteran Association, Grand Army of Republic, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Y. M. C. A., United Confederate Veterans and Salvation Army. In return, it has been the privilege of The American Legion to assist these organizations along lines of mutual interest. Particularly happy relations have existed between the organization and the American Federation of Labor.
After extended correspondence and several personal conferences, the National Commander and the President of the American Chamber of Commerce have appointed a joint committee to study the programs of the two organizations with a view to developing co-operation on those features of the two organizations which are in harmony and in an attempt to remove causes of conflict between the Legion and the Chamber of Commerce, which it is felt may be based upon a lack of complete understanding.

As an example of the efforts being made constantly to promote cordial relations with other American organizations, reference may be made to a conference and dinner arranged by the National Chaplain in Washington on the 26th of June. Representatives of the following fraternal and religious organizations attended this gathering: Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Knights of Columbus, General Committee on Army and Navy Chaplains, Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, Salvation Army, American Red Cross, Young Men’s Christian Association and the National Catholic Welfare Council.

In the great Japanese disaster it was the privilege of the organization in all its parts to co-operate with the Red Cross in raising the relief fund for the people of that stricken country.

The National Commander, following the proclamation of the President, issued a formal call to all Departments to participate to the utmost in these measures.

Opportunity was afforded for a frank explanation to this gathering of the aims and ideals of The American Legion. Points on which previously there had been some slight misunderstanding of the organization were cleared up and the gathering adjourned after adopting a set of resolutions expressing complete confidence in and approval of The American Legion and its program.

During the year it has been particularly gratifying to observe the uniformly fair and sympathetic attitude of the American Press. Almost without exception, editorial comment on the activities of The American Legion has been kind and encouraging. It is recommended that the appreciation of the organization to the newspapers of the United States be expressed by the delegates to this Convention in a formal resolution.

PERSONAL VISITS TO NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS.

During the year just closed, an increasingly large number of Legionnaires, including post and department officials, have visited the National Headquarters in Indianapolis. Visits of this character are always an inspiration. These Legionnaires bringing with them their intimate knowledge of conditions in their respective parts of the world have come in contact with those who are attempting to serve them at National Headquarters. The resulting personal friendships established have been mutually beneficial and gratifying.

Among the more distinguished visitors it is a privilege to recognize General Pershing, General Gouraud of France, Mr. New, the Postmaster-General; John J. Tigert, United States Commissioner of Education and others.

It is urged that the delegates to this Convention, upon returning to their respective localities, transmit the cordial invitation of the staff at National Headquarters to include in any of their journeys a visit to the National Headquarters in Indianapolis.
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

By action of the New Orleans Convention, the importance of the National Executive Committee in the life of the organization was recognized. Under the National By-Laws, this committee is required to meet four times annually, once within twenty-four hours of the adjournment of the National Convention and in the Convention City; during the month of January; during the month of May; and, immediately preceding the National Convention. The expenses of Committee men to the January and May meetings are paid. Members of the National Executive Committee are delegates to the National Convention from their respective departments.

Meetings of the National Executive Committee were held in New Orleans on October 20th, in Indianapolis, January 14th and 16th; May 19th and 20th; and, a meeting has been called for October 14th in San Francisco. The May meeting was postponed from the 14th to the 19th of May with the approval of the National Commander and the Finance Committee in order that Committee men might avail themselves of the reduced round trip rates which went into effect on May 15th. The saving amounted to approximately $600.00.

The meetings of the Executive Committee this year were marked by the keen grasp displayed by the Committee men in the problems confronting the organization, and by the calm and able judgment displayed in the solution of these problems. Each meeting transacted a large amount of routine business. The more important subjects are handled in separate paragraphs later in this report.

At the October meeting, the Executive Committee elected the National Adjutant, National Treasurer, National Judge Advocate and National Historian, and ratified the appointment of the National Finance Committee. The musical composition, "Armistice Day Forever," by Berry J. Sisk, of Iowa, was adopted as the official march for the ensuing year.

The January meeting received and considered the report of the National Commander and other officers, standing and special committees. The National Finance Committee brought in the budget for 1923, which was approved. The Committee chartered the Department of Porto Rico; passed resolutions calling upon department officials to conduct campaigns for the establishment of new posts; required all departments and posts to comply with 1923 membership card system without exception; approved the membership of special and standing committees and nominations to fill vacancies on the Board of Directors of the Legion Publishing Corporation; approved the bonds of officials and employees at National Headquarters; passed resolution approving the occupation of the Ruhr by France, and in addition disposed of a large amount of routine business.

At the May meeting, the National Executive Committee received and acted upon the reports of the National Commander, other officials, and standing and special committees. In addition to routine business transacted, the Committee adopted a policy covering the acceptance and award of trophies and medals within The American Legion; considered arrangements for the Convention at San Francisco; authorized the Director of the Americanism Commission to enter into a contract for the publication of American history text books for school use; authorized the Finance Committee in its discretion to lend the credit of the organization to the Department of Louisiana to assist in meeting the deficit of the New Orleans Convention Committee; authorized the Treasurer to accept the note of the Department of Missouri for 1923 dues; authorized and outlined the poppy campaign for 1924 (see page 42); adopted the 1923 membership card system for use in 1924; adopted regulations covering establishment of units of Fathers' Auxiliary; re-established the Oriental Committee; provided for survey of ex-service men in Federal penitentiaries; passed resolution that in future the membership of special and standing committees be drawn from the National Executive Committee and directed that written contracts be entered into between National Headquarters and the National Convention cities.
Digests of the minutes of these meetings have been supplied from time to time to all departments.

In addition to the foregoing, the National Executive Committee gave consideration to the following subjects:

SPECIAL AND STANDING COMMITTEES.

In an organization such as The American Legion, it is impossible to give the detailed study necessary to all of the projects requiring decision, either by the members of the National Executive Committee as a whole, or by the officials or employees of National Headquarters. It is necessary, therefore, frequently to refer subjects for intensive study to special committees, and in addition to this, it has become customary in The American Legion to maintain several standing committees to cover the more important phases of American Legion activity requiring expert consideration.

The National Standing Committees of the year are:

Finance
Legislative
Rehabilitation
Military Affairs
Naval Affairs
Special Committees for the year are:
Orphans Home
Veterans' Bureau rating schedule
Life Membership
Graves Registration
Mutual Aid and Benefit
School Text Books
Galbraith Memorial
Farm and Home Aid

Memorials
Aeronautics
F. I. D. A. C.
Unemployment
Distinguished Guests
Legion Tours
“Who Got the Money”
Trophies and Awards
Liaison with American Legion Auxiliary
American Legion Press Association
Incorporation of Departments
Oriental Investigation
Civil Service Preference

and in addition committees:
To investigate the granting of a charter to Porto Rico.
To investigate the holdings of the Committee of Eleven.
To consider the advisability of stationing buglers in cemeteries in France.
To supervise the publication of text books on American history and civics.
To prepare an agenda for the consideration of the Fifth National Convention.
To investigate the merit of the Official Source Records of the Great War, with power to act.

The National Executive Committee at its May meeting, adopted a resolution directing the National Commander in future to draw the membership of special and standing committees from the National Executive Committee, with the added provision, where technical or expert knowledge of any subject is required, that such committees may associate with themselves any persons, Legionnaires or otherwise, possessing the necessary knowledge and information. It was the opinion of the committee that this policy will provide for a closer co-ordination in carrying on the work of The American Legion and will insure full responsibility resting upon the National Executive Committee where it properly belongs for every national policy.

It may not be out of place to emphasize to the National Convention that The American Legion has a National Executive Committee, which meets four times a year, composed of elected representatives of each Department, a National Headquarters with an adequate and experienced staff, and to suggest to the delegate body that the creation of additional committees to consider special subjects tends to duplicate expense, confuse administration, divides responsibility, and generally tends to retard rather than to promote the efficiency of an organization. The only legitimate reason for existence of a committee is to promote the Legion program by bringing to bear on any given subject the best thought of a number of minds. As a rule, this is not possible unless the members of a committee are able to meet together. With a multiplicity of committees none are able to meet because of the expense. Fewer
committees, smaller membership, devoting themselves to study only, leaving administration to the National Headquarters, would it be believed result in increased efficiency, greater economy and a general improvement in the conduct of Legion business.

RAILWAY RATES TO SAN FRANCISCO.

Immediately following the New Orleans Convention negotiations were opened with the Transcontinental Passenger Association having jurisdiction over railway rates to San Francisco, with a view to obtaining reduced rates to the 1923 Convention. A rate of one cent per mile was requested. This request was not granted, but a rate of one fare for the round trip from all parts of the United States was authorized early in the year. After further negotiation and consideration, the National Commander accepted the proffered rate of one fare for the round trip, available to members of The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, and to widows of deceased members.

The rate this year carries with it several features not available in previous years:
1. The privilege of traveling by diverse routes west of Chicago and the Mississippi River.
2. Selling dates covering a period of ten days instead of fixed dates as in previous years.
3. The half fare privilege to members of the American Legion Auxiliary under twelve years of age.

An effort has been made to secure a reduction of 50 per cent. in pullman rates. As a result of preliminary correspondence between the National Commander and the President of the Pullman Company a direct request was made of the President of that corporation early in the year that such rates be granted. The President, F. E. Carry agreed to take the matter under consideration. Several prominent members of The American Legion have given personal attention to following this request of The American Legion with Mr. Carry during the months following the time it was made, but to no avail.

Under date of September 9, the President of the Pullman Company advised that for a number of reasons our request could not be granted.

LEGION TOURS.

In connection with the New Orleans Convention arrangements were made for an American Legion tour on the Gulf of Mexico from New Orleans to Havana and return. The party was carried on board the United Fruit Company Steamship “Abangarez.” The party was composed of approximately seventy-five Legionnaires, their wives and families. It was successful from every standpoint.

Some thought was directed toward arranging a tour, or tours of this character in connection with the San Francisco Convention. The National Executive Committee, however, decided to leave the matter entirely in the hands of the Convention City. In addition, a study was made of the possibility of conducting tours from the several parts of the United States to San Francisco, and return. A careful study was conducted by a sub-committee of the National Executive Committee, but it was finally determined to leave the matter entirely to the several departments. National Headquarters to be governed in their action by such desires as might be expressed. Inquiry to the several departments developed the fact that there was not sufficient interest in an arrangement of this character to justify any further action. The matter was therefore, allowed to rest.

It is understood that several departments have made arrangements for particularly fine tours in connection with attending the San Francisco Convention, traveling by special train, making stops at the principal cities en route where entertainment has been arranged under the auspices of the local Legion organizations. Journeys of this character tend to promote that spirit of comradeship which is already permeating the organization and laying the foundation for a happy and interesting future, the individual friendships de-
veloped among Legionnaires and their friends from the different parts of the country providing one of the important elements contributing to the strength and stability of the organization. These tours serve also to acquaint members of The American Legion with the beauties and possibilities of the several parts of our own country in a manner which cannot fail to promote a higher appreciation of the characteristics and opportunities existing in the several parts of the United States and to emphasize its unlimited resources.

During the year the suggestion was made that an invitation be given to representatives of the Allied Veteran Societies to visit the United States, and to arranging a tour of the country for such a party. After some consideration, the matter was dismissed for the year. The advantages of such a visit under the auspices of The American Legion would be three-fold:

First, The perpetuation of the bonds of comradely friendship formed during the War,
Second, Widespread publicity, internationally, nationally and locally incident to such a tour, and

Third, The indirect commercial advantage resulting to all communities visited as a result of the increased knowledge of America, her institutions and resources taken by the members of such parties back to their respective countries following the visit.

INTERALLIED VETERANS FEDERATION.

The Third Annual Congress of the FEDERATION INTERALLIEE DES ANCIENS COMBATTANTS, or INTERALLIED VETERANS FEDERATION, commonly known as "Fidac," was held in New Orleans in connection with the Fourth Annual Convention of The American Legion.

The Fidac is composed of recognized veterans' societies representing eight of the countries allied and associated together during the War. Each nation is allowed ten delegates in the annual congress. Additional member societies from any country may only be admitted on invitation of societies of that country already members of the Federation. At the present time the Fidac includes:

Representing

AMERICA—The American Legion.

FRANCE—Union Nationale des Combattants, Union Nationale des Mutiles et Reformes, Ligue des Chefs de Section, Union Federale des Mutiles et Reformes, Association Generale des Mutiles et Reformes, Association des Sphinx.

GREAT BRITAIN—The British Legion.

ROUMANIA—Uniunea Nationale a Postilor Luptatori.

SERBIA—Udruzenja Rezervnih Oficera.

ITALY—Associazione Nazionale Combattenti.

CZECHO-SLOVAKIA—Druziny Osl Legionaru.

BELGIUM—Federation Nationale des Combattants, Amicale des Officiers de la Campagne 1914-1918.

Delegates from all member countries were present at New Orleans. Matters receiving consideration by the Congress were: A comparison of legislation affecting veterans in all allied countries; unemployment; upkeep of graves; reciprocal agreements for the hospitalization, medical care and rehabilitation of allied veterans who are citizens of one country and temporarily resident in another; mutual reciprocity in the reparations of war damages as concerns the damaged properties of allied veterans, and the promoting of international peace.

At the close of the Congress, the several resolutions affecting international relations and world peace were published in the form of the following digest:

"With an earnest desire to promote peace, tranquility and good will among nations; secure the institutions of organized society; preserve the sacred principles of liberty and democracy and transmit their blessings to posterity; and establish safeguards to prevent the recurrence of war, we the undersigned, representing the ex-service men of the signatory countries,
agree to submit and endeavor to secure the adoption by our societies represented and through them urge upon our respective governments the following declaration of principles:

1. That all international agreements among governments affecting the entire people shall be open and above board, with full publicity.
2. That treaties make the law between the nations. They must be executed in good faith.
3. To oppose territorial aggrandizement.
4. Vigorously to suppress within our own boundary all persons and propaganda seeking to overthrow by force government existing by will of the people.
5. That, the financial policies of the allied government must have as their aim the civility of exchange and the resumption of international commerce, and we recommend the suspension of trade relations with countries maintaining armies organized for aggressive purposes.
6. In view of the distortive political reports tending to unbalance the republican mind, we recommend that there shall be established by the Fidae a news disseminating bureau with representatives in every member country; that this agency shall receive the official sanction of the governments of the respective countries; that it shall collect and issue news designed to offset destructive and inflammatory propaganda, particularly the propaganda put out by the proponents of Bolshevism with the intent to change other forms of government, this, without in any way censuring or restricting the freedom of the press.
7. That an international court be established to outlaw war.
8. To proceed as rapidly as conditions permit and when the decrees of such court become operative (except for machinery necessary to maintain them and the minimum police forces) to entirely disarm and disband our land, sea and air forces and destroy the implements of warfare.

This statement of principle has received much favorable comment from public men and the press generally. During the past year, it was officially presented to President Harding by a special committee representing The American Legion. In commenting upon its receipt, the President said:

"I have read with great interest, and quite general approval, the policies set forth in the Manifesto. I do not subscribe to unconditional agreement in every detail, but as a general enunciation of the principle and purposes, the Manifesto lays down a very wholesome program which gives great promise of promoting peace."

The last Congress of the organization amended the constitution in several respects and provided for a revision in the list of officials. The officers as finally approved and elected were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offices</th>
<th>Persons elected</th>
<th>Countries represented</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Charles Bertrand</td>
<td>France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice Presidents, *(four authorized)</td>
<td>H. Nelson Jackson, Joseph Janne, N. Yourichitch-Stourn, Henry Richard Barlow</td>
<td>America, Belgium, Serbia, Great Britain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>N. Yourichitch-Stourn</td>
<td>Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Treasurer</td>
<td>Virgile Serdaru</td>
<td>Roumania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questor</td>
<td>Ezio Gioja</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Two Assessors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary General</td>
<td>Roger Marie d'Avigneau</td>
<td>France</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Not elected at the time the Congress was held.

The European delegates to the Fidae congress in New Orleans were met at New York by a delegation of Legionnaires, and through the courtesy of the Pennsylvania railroad, a special train was placed at their disposal and they were permitted to see something of the United States while enroute to and from New Orleans. An itinerary was arranged which covered a total distance of more than three thousand five hundred miles. Stops were made in Washington, Pittsburgh, Columbus, Ohio, and Effingham, Illinois, on
the way to New Orleans, and Memphis, Indianapolis, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia on the return trip.

The National Commander created a special committee, headed by a National Vice-Commander, to make all arrangements covering the reception and entertainment of the delegates to the congress, and to provide for the American Legion participation in the program and congress.

Between conventions, the governing body of the Federation is the "Council of Direction," which meets monthly at the headquarters of the Fidac in Paris. The functions of this Council correspond closely to those of our own National Executive Committee. Each member nation is represented in the Council by seven members. This representation is distinct from the representation of each nation in the annual congress. The American Legion is represented in the Council of Direction by Cabot Ward, Francis Jacques and A. W. Kipling of Paris. These gentlemen have been authorized to associate with themselves such additional Legionnaires from posts in Europe and the British Isles as may from time to time be necessary to provide the American Legion with complete representation on any of the sub-committees which transact the business of the Federation during the year.

The Fourth Annual Congress of the Federation was held in the city of Brussels, Belgium, September 1st to 5th, inclusive. The American Legion was represented by a full delegation, headed by H. Nelson Jackson of Vermont, seven of the delegates being drawn from the American Legion in the United States and three from our European membership. The delegates defrayed their own expenses. The National Commander accompanied the delegation to Europe. The entire party paid formal visits to the Tombs of the Unknown Soldiers in London, Paris, and Brussels, depositing in each instance a suitable token of the respect and veneration of their American comrades-in-arms to these nameless heroes.

FATHERS' AUXILIARY.

The New Orleans Convention made provision for an organization of fathers of members of The American Legion and of those who died in the service to be known as the "Fathers' Auxiliary" of The American Legion. The organization was limited to auxiliaries to be attached to posts, and no provision was made for higher organization into departments or a national organization. In a number of departments, post units have been organized and in many other places local units are in process of organization. The consensus of opinion is where these units have been organized and are actually functioning that the existence of a Fathers' Auxiliary is an aid to the successful existence of the Legion post.

The local Post, upon fostering the formation of a unit of the Fathers' Auxiliary, becomes responsible that none of the policies of The American Legion are violated by the Auxiliary. A post of The American Legion failing to control its Fathers' Auxiliary is subject to suspension of its charter.

The National Executive Committee at its meeting in May authorized the National Adjutant to establish and issue a suitable form of charter; to provide an appropriate emblem and other insignia and paraphernalia for the Fathers' Auxiliary. All supplies for the administration of the Fathers' Auxiliary will be handled by the appropriate division at National Headquarters without increase of force or segregation of expense.

The National Convention established eligibility in the Fathers' Auxiliary as follows: "... the membership to be restricted to fathers of Legionnaires and fathers of men who paid the supreme sacrifice..." This provision has been construed to include the fathers of those women who are members of The American Legion or who died in service in the same degree as this provision is applicable to male veterans.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP.

The New Orleans Convention authorized a life membership if and when the National Executive Committee should provide the requisite regulations.
and procedure. The October meeting of the Committee provided for a sub-committee, composed of the members from the Departments of Kentucky, Nebraska, New Jersey, Utah and West Virginia, which submitted a report at the May meeting of the full Committee.

The report observed that it was impracticable to have a Life Membership handled through National or Department Headquarters and the only possible chance for the Life Membership system is to have it originate within the Post. The report was accepted and further action indefinitely postponed.

It is the opinion of many Legionnaires that the privileges of Life Membership should be made available and that further consideration might well be given to a system that would provide for administration through National and Department Headquarters.

The question of Life Membership has some grave angles for consideration. These points have been experienced in other organizations and the results should not be ignored.

The Life Member pays for certain definite things which he is entitled to receive. The organization at once becomes obligated to maintain itself in such manner as to fulfill this undertaking.

CONFERENCE OF DEPARTMENT ADJUTANTS.

One of the serious problems in The American Legion arises from administrative detail. Generally, the work of The American Legion is carried on by voluntary workers who assume these burdens in addition to their regular occupations. It must be constantly the aim of those officials and employees on full time basis to lift from the shoulders of these men to the greatest possible degree administrative burdens of every character. Uniformity and simplicity of operation are essential. They can only be realized where all elements of the organization have an intelligent understanding of the details of administration. These details are primarily the function of the Adjutant's office. Between post, department and national, the difference is one of degree only. Regardless of how much progress may be made in individual posts or departments, unless it is uniform and in keeping with the general plan, it leads inevitably to chaos, and is opposed to lasting general progress.

The National Executive Committee recognizing these conditions and realizing the importance of a group of thoroughly instructed Department Adjutants, authorized the holding of a three day conference of Department Adjutants at National Headquarters during December, 1922. The purposes of a conference of this character are primarily those of study and instruction. In preparation for the meeting, the department problem was considered of primary importance. The list of subjects decided upon for discussion was selected with this thought in mind. In order that all subjects might be brought before the conference in a thoroughly developed manner, individual Adjutants were assigned subjects upon which after study and consultation, they prepared formal papers. These were presented to the conference, followed by general discussion. In this way, loss of time in aimless discussion was avoided.

The list of topics included:
- "How to Sell the Legion to the Public."
- "Organization of the Service Department of the American Legion."
- "Veterans Relief Through State Sources."
- "The Migratory Problem."
- "The American Red Cross."
- "Department Conference of Post Officers."
- "County and District Organization."
- "Membership Card System from Department and National Headquarters Standpoint."
- "Correspondence and Filing Systems."
- "Athletics."
- "Office of the Chaplain."
- "The Post and Department Historian from Department Standpoint."
One of the purposes of the Adjutants Conference was to promote the holding of department conferences of post officials, having in mind primarily the need of instruction. This method of Legion development received marked stimulus as a result of the work done at this time. There has been a marked improvement in general administration, and it has seemed a greater degree of harmonious cooperation has existed between the several elements of the organization.

Following the conference, all papers presented and summaries of discussion were prepared and supplied to each Department Headquarters for permanent record. The papers prepared were uniformly excellent, and taken together contain an amount of information bearing upon the fundamental administrative problems of The American Legion together with suggestions and advice thereon which cannot help but be of tremendous assistance to anyone filling the position of a post or department adjutant. They have been particularly helpful and beneficial to the several divisions of Headquarters. The Adjutants conference should be made an annual affair.

"WHO GOT THE MONEY?"

Resolutions were adopted by the New Orleans Convention commending the publication of the series of articles in the American Legion Weekly by Marquis James and entitled "Who Got the Money?" These were followed by the series "The Profiteer Hunt," by the same author. The resolution carried with it also instructions that the entire series be published in pamphlet form under the title, "The Looting of a Nation—Who Got the Money?" and providing that this pamphlet be placed on sale at news stands and book stores throughout the United States, and that it be furnished to Legion posts at cost.

This matter was considered by the National Executive Committee at the January meeting. A special committee consisting of Paul A. Martin of Michigan, (Chairman) O. E. Cain, of New Hampshire, and Thos. B. Spratt, of South Carolina, was appointed to carry out the provisions of the New Orleans Resolution. This sub-committee reported to the May meeting of the National Executive Committee as follows:

1. That because the articles are of a radical nature, no responsible publisher has yet been found who would handle their publication.
2. That the Committee feels if the articles are published, they should not come from the presses of any publishing houses known for the handling of extremely radical or inflammable literature.
3. That, if published, this be done under the direct authority of National Headquarters of The American Legion, which organization would have sole charge of distribution of all copies.
4. In view of the present state of the public mind, the Committee is of the opinion that in the publication of these articles at the present time the constructive results would be negligible and serious censure might result to the Legion as a whole.

5. Because of the present state of finances in the Legion, the Committee feels that the expense of the publication should not be undertaken until funds are provided by the next national convention."

Because of the adoption of this report no further consideration was given to publication of the pamphlet.

"THE UNCENSORED OFFICIAL SOURCE RECORDS OF THE GREAT EVENTS OF THE GREAT WAR"

A firm of publishers, (Parke, Austin & Lipscomb) in December, 1922, brought to our attention a set of seven volumes entitled "The Great Events of the Great War." The plan of preparation involved a careful compilation of the official records of the different governments engaged in the World War, collected and arranged in such a manner as to provide an accurate running account of the causes leading up to the war and the events of the conflict itself.

The American Legion has taken a deep interest in reliable histories. Scores of requests are received desiring aid in selecting accurate sources from which to study the World War. The Americanism Commission and the National Executive Committee have desired to give real aid to sincere people interested in this search without becoming involved in a commercial enterprise unduly.

This question was referred by the National Executive Committee in January, to a special committee with power to act and composed of the National Commander, the National Historian and the Chairman of the National Finance Committee.

The first consideration of the Legion in the participation in the sale of the books was its desire to have an accurate, complete and unbiased account of America's World War record placed before the people.

The Committee, in its first report to the National Executive Committee, pointed out that "The committee, after careful examination of the books, (Source Records) finds that they present a valuable compilation of authentic records of the World War. It is their further opinion that one of the most important objects which The American Legion can have is the dissemination among our people of accurate historical data, not only of this war, but of all wars, and that since the accurate histories of any war seldom appear until many years following the end of the conflict, it is believed that The American Legion can and should do everything in its power to further the disposition of this set of uncensored records."

The special committee reported further that "a contract has been entered into in view of these findings with the publishers of these books, providing for co-operation upon our part in their distribution, and providing further that The American Legion shall receive five per cent of the gross selling price in return for this cooperation; three-fifths of this amount to be paid to National Headquarters, two-fifths to be paid to the Department, County or Post cooperating with the salesmen, locally."

The contract was effective March 19, 1923, and sales under the agreement were started. Following the opening of sales, complaints on methods of salesmanship were registered by certain departments. The question was further discussed at the May meeting of the National Executive Committee. The National Executive Committee's final action referred the question back to the special committee for re-study with a view to eliminating methods of salesmanship which were objectionable to members of The American Legion. The members of the special committee reviewed carefully the instructions to salesmen, issued by the publishers, and became convinced that the objectionable features of salesmanship will be eliminated so far as it is possible to eliminate them. The committee was of the further opinion that it is the desire of the publishers to cooperate with the Legion in every particular and that
the desires of the members of the National Executive Committee are being complied with. The report of final action by the special committee was mailed to all departments.

Though of secondary importance, the revenue thus far, (Sept. 15) from this source amounts to $17,533.34. This is available only for relief, service, Americanism, or educational work of an approved character. It is not available for general expenses.

GRAVES ENDOWMENT FUND

One of the characteristics which distinguishes The American Legion is its ability to look ahead and lay careful plans for the future. Among the most sacred obligations resting upon us is the duty of observing Memorial Day in an appropriate manner. This is accepted without question, and it is probably safe to say that throughout the length and breadth of our land no hero’s grave goes unmarked.

The American Legion, however, from the first has recognized its obligation to the memory of those comrades who sleep forever in foreign lands. Each year since the Armistice and including 1922, funds for the purpose have been raised throughout the organization and have been used in placing individual floral tributes upon all of the graves in countries overseas.

Late in the year 1922, suggestion was received from Mr. Francis E. Drake, of Paris, who during the preceding years had been untiring in his attention to this entire subject, that an endowment fund be raised, the income from which would be sufficient, when properly invested, to provide suitable decoration for each individual grave throughout all time. Correspondence ensued. Some slight misunderstanding developed as to the means to be employed, the amount to be raised, etc. The amount finally decided necessary, however, was $300,000.00; $100,000.00 of which, was either on hand with the American Memorial Day Committee in Paris or was to be raised by them from the American colonies in the capitals of Europe; $200,000.00 to be raised by The American Legion in the United States.

The National Executive Committee at its meeting in January gave approval to the project and authorized the Commander to undertake raising this amount of money. The details of the campaign were entrusted to the editor of the American Legion Weekly. The amount desired was $200,000.00. This was allocated to the several Departments on the basis of twenty cents a head for members of The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary, as of December 31, 1922. Emphasis was placed on the necessity of raising this money from the membership itself, it being felt that a twenty cent contribution from each of the members of the organization toward laying a wreath upon the graves of their comrades for all time was not too much to expect from the members of an organization dedicated to purposes such as ours. At the same time the National Commander desired to avoid a general solicitation of the public for funds. The response was inspiring. Nothing which The American Legion has ever undertaken has met with greater commendation. Individuals, Posts and Departments responded with a will. Over $100,000.00 was received by the National Treasurer by Memorial Day. The effort continued. Cuba and Mexico were the first to fill their quotas, followed in rapid succession by The District of Columbia, Rhode Island, Argentine and Delaware.

At the present time twenty-six Departments have over-subscribed their quotas; thirty Departments have not yet completed theirs. Approximately 10,000 individual subscriptions were received at Headquarters. Each donor received an individual receipt from the National Treasurer and all contributions in excess of $1.00 were acknowledged through the columns of The American Legion Weekly. Posts everywhere recognized the interest of patriotic citizens in this enterprise and an opportunity was given all who cared to do so to contribute to the fund, emphasis constantly being placed on the thought that no one was asked to subscribe but the help of any one would be welcomed. Scores of newspapers in every locality rendered in-
valuable aid to local Posts. Our debt to those publications is acknowledged.

There is no more inspiring chapter in the annals of the organization than is furnished by the individual letters and comments which accompanied donations to this Fund—a can full of pennies, nickels and dimes from the patients of a tubercular sanitarium; a dollar bill from a hard working Mother whose only son sleeps forever in Romagne; checks from President Harding and Woodrow Wilson. From all over the United States, from rich and poor, high and low, the response came.

By action of the National Executive Committee a Board of Trustees has been created, consisting of the Past National Commanders, the Chairman of the National Finance Committee, the National Treasurer and the National Adjutant (secretary) to have custody of this Fund and to prepare a permanent plan of regulations covering its use.

The committee expressly recognized as a cooperating agency a subcommittee in France consisting of H. H. Harjes, Commander of the Department of Continental Europe; Francis E. Drake, Chairman, American Overseas Memorial Committee; The American Ambassador to France, The American Consul General in Paris, The President of the American Chamber of Commerce in France.

At present the Fund amounts to $152,657.17. It is invested in United States Treasury Certificates and Fourth Liberty Bonds and is held by the National Treasurer.

As years go by it will become a matter of increasing satisfaction to members of the organization to realize that this great task is done and that as generations come and go our comrades who sleep in foreign fields each year will have laid upon their graves a tribute of love and affection made possible through the foresight of their comrades who survived the conflict. So far as is known nothing of this character has ever been accomplished previously in any country.

The status of the Fund on September 15, 1923 follows:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State/Region</th>
<th>Quota</th>
<th>Amount Received</th>
<th>% of Quota</th>
<th>Surplus or Shortage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>In Continental United States</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>$1,622.80</td>
<td>$4,897.15</td>
<td>235%</td>
<td>+ $2,747.35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td>865.30</td>
<td>2,226.94</td>
<td>257%</td>
<td>1,360.74</td>
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<td>Delaware</td>
<td>185.80</td>
<td>296.42</td>
<td>213%</td>
<td>154.62</td>
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<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>1,406.20</td>
<td>1,617.62</td>
<td>118%</td>
<td>211.42</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>883.00</td>
<td>1,661.86</td>
<td>188%</td>
<td>778.86</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>1,421.00</td>
<td>2,492.68</td>
<td>176%</td>
<td>1,071.60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>2,793.80</td>
<td>4,478.74</td>
<td>161%</td>
<td>1,684.94</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Mexico</td>
<td>896.00</td>
<td>1,061.10</td>
<td>116%</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>1,085.80</td>
<td>1,849.58</td>
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<td>763.78</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
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<td>1,854.41</td>
<td>135%</td>
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<td>Wyoming</td>
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<td>2,372.15</td>
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<td>1,638.75</td>
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<td><strong>District of Columbia</strong></td>
<td>1,006.60</td>
<td>1,282.15</td>
<td>119%</td>
<td>275.50</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Foreign Countries</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outlying Territories and Possessions</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawaii</td>
<td>226.00</td>
<td>298.30</td>
<td>132%</td>
<td>72.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>44.60</td>
<td>54.50</td>
<td>122%</td>
<td>9.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>187.00</td>
<td>164.10</td>
<td>104%</td>
<td>8.90</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philippine Islands</td>
<td>30.80</td>
<td>30.30</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canal Zone</td>
<td>115.60</td>
<td>103.18</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>12.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porto Rico</td>
<td>42.40</td>
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<td>42.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$189,370.80</td>
<td>$146,335.85</td>
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<td>$42,035.95</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1922 Unexpended Balance</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td>$189,370.80</td>
<td>$156,667.17</td>
<td></td>
<td>$36,615.63</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*This department has exceeded its quota but the funds are held in France and have not been received by the National Treasurer.*
POPPIES

Beginning with 1921, general sales of poppies have been carried on in the United States on Memorial and Armistice days, either directly under the auspices of The American Legion, or in cooperation with posts and departments of the organization. In the beginning the poppies handled were exclusively manufactured in France, and were secured through the cooperation of the American-Franco Children's League.

The poppy has been adopted by practically all of the veterans' societies of the Allied and associated nations as the memorial flower. It was adopted as such by The American Legion at the 1920 Convention in Cleveland. The Kansas City Convention reversed this action and for one year the daisy was known as the official flower of our organization. This action was rescinded by the New Orleans Convention, and at the present time the poppy is the official flower of The American Legion and of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Up until 1923, little or no effort had been made to coordinate the activities of the several parts of our organization in carrying out poppy sales on a national scale. At the meeting of the National Executive Committee in New Orleans, October 20, 1922, consideration was given to conducting a sale of poppies in the American Legion on a national scale. The National Executive Committee referred this question to the National Finance Committee, with power to act. The National Finance Committee, at its meeting in December, after considering the project from all angles, authorized National Headquarters to conduct such a sale if an investigation indicated that there was a field for such an enterprise in The American Legion. A survey was conducted to determine first: whether or not Departments desired the National Headquarters to engage in this undertaking; second: the cost and character of poppy desired, and third: the quantity of poppies which would be required.

The results of this survey indicated that the National Headquarters could render a service to The American Legion by conducting this sale; that the poppy desired was of the best grade which could be sold at a reasonable price; and that approximately seven and a half-millions would be required. Careful consideration was given to the prices then in force at which domestic poppies could be purchased, and it was finally decided to order the poppies from France. An order was placed with Chambrelent & Company of Paris, for two and a half million. Consideration was given to the sentimental value attached to poppies manufactured by the widows and orphans of French soldiers, and also to the tremendous amount of previous advertising which this article had received in the United States. One of the conditions on which the order was placed with Chambrelent was that no other poppies should be supplied by him to anyone for sale in the United States.

In arranging the details of the campaign, it was planned to avoid duplication of effort and of organization in every particular, confining ourselves to the use of the existing organization and reducing every operation to the simplest possible terms. The Emblem Division, already existing, was to receive and distribute supplies, advertising and promotion was to be carried out by The American Legion Weekly and with the assistance of the News Service; sales to be made direct to posts in order to avoid rehandling in departments, although departments were given the opportunity of purchasing in bulk if they so desired. The selling price was fixed at 4¼c, made up as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost of Poppy</th>
<th>2¼c</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overhead, handling, packing, express, etc., including publicity</td>
<td>1c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Profit to National Headquarters</td>
<td>½c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commission to Departments</td>
<td>½c</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Selling price to posts | 4¼c |

Considering the minimum selling price to the public at 10c each, this provided a net profit to posts of not less than 5½c for each poppy sold.

Consideration was given to the fact that in some instances, units of the American Legion Auxiliary had previously undertaken the manufacture
of poppies, either among their own members, or in hospitals among disabled men. In order to provide a market for these goods, arrangements were made to absorb all such supplies. In order to protect the public against inferior goods and the operations of unscrupulous dealers, in all publicity material, emphasis was placed upon the fact that all poppies sold under the auspices of the organization would bear the name and emblem of The American Legion. The poppies supplied from National Headquarters came appropriately labeled. In order to protect local posts and units selling poppies manufactured by themselves, labels were furnished by National Headquarters, bearing the emblem and name of the organization, which could be affixed to such poppies. These were sold at 3¢ each, the price being based not upon the cost of furnishing the labels, but upon the cost of conducting the campaign.

The publicity campaign was particularly successful. The cooperation of such organizations as The American Federation of Labor, the National Chamber of Commerce, the International Rotary, the American Red Cross, was secured. Particularly appropriate releases were arranged through moving picture theatres.

From the first, many difficulties were encountered. In the first place, numerous manufacturers in the United States produced a cheaper grade of poppy and offered them for sale direct to departments and posts. Millions of these poppies were purchased and sold. In several departments, arrangements were made for securing poppies from other sources. In the Department of New York, the sale of poppies was under the auspices of the Veterans' Mountain Camp; in the Department of Minnesota, under the auspices of the American Legion Auxiliary. In many instances, the quantity of poppies which a given community would absorb was underestimated. When the supply was sold out it was too late to get more. At the conclusion of the campaign, National Headquarters had supplied three quarters of a million poppies, leaving on hand a million and three-quarters unsold. On the poppies secured from National Headquarters the profit to posts was not less than $40,543.69 and commissions paid to cooperating departments amounted to $2,348.58. Careful analysis of reports on the number of poppies sold under the auspices of The American Legion from all sources indicate that approximately eight million were disposed of.

The salient points involved in the entire poppy question would seem to be:
1. The wearing of the poppy on Memorial Day has developed into a national custom.
2. Any profit derived from handling the memorial flower should be devoted to purposes above criticism.
3. The sale should not be conducted on Memorial Day proper, but immediately prior thereto.
4. A good article should be supplied and in such a manner as to protect the public from fraud and imposture.
5. Supplies should be secured in quantity and at the lowest possible price, giving preference to American manufacturers.
6. Complete cooperation between every element of The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, and the respective posts, units and departments is essential.

Such profit as may accrue from handling the poppies should be divided between departments and posts, the selling price from National Headquarters being regulated in such manner as to return to the national organization the cost of the merchandise and of handling plus such small percentage of profit as may be considered reasonable, it being considered that the conduct of this enterprise through National Headquarters is justified, primarily from the standpoint of rendering service to posts and departments of the organization.

In preparation for the 1924 sale a request has been directed to all departments and to all known American manufacturers to submit samples and prices for consideration. Prices have also been secured from Chambrelent & Company who furnished our supply for this year. This material is available for the consideration of the appropriate committee of this Convention.
Recommendations. Based upon the experience of this year, the following suggestions seem justified:

1. That an appropriate committee of the National Convention select and determine the character of poppy to be supplied for 1924.

2. That the same committee decide upon the source of supply and agree upon the price to be paid.

3. That the committee determine the selling price to
   a. Departments of The American Legion and of the American Legion Auxiliary.
   b. To posts and units of the same.
   c. To the general public.

4. That any particular features in the plan of handling which are considered essential to the protection of the interests of the organization and to the conservation of the idea of the memorial flower be determined and promulgated for the guidance of the National Headquarters in carrying out the desires of the Convention.

5. That the National Convention adopt a suitable policy to promote and insure cooperation and actual support throughout the several elements of the organization.

In leaving this subject, it is but fair to state that the idea of wearing the memorial poppy in reverent tribute to the memory of our fallen comrades is an idea full of beautiful sentiment which should not be marred by unseemly controversies among those who survive them. It would seem possible, in an organization such as The American Legion, to conduct an enterprise of this character in keeping with the finest sentiments of the organization, and in such manner as to merit the support and good will of the public without offending the most delicate sensibilities. At the same time, an enterprise involving, as it does, hundreds of thousands of dollars, must be carried out along business lines and in such manner as to avoid financial loss to any part of the organization, while guaranteeing that any surplus resulting shall be devoted to purposes of such a character as to be entirely in keeping with the sacred memories which we customarily associate with Memorial Day.

SUMMARY.

In the Adjutant's report to the New Orleans Convention, the outstanding needs of an administrative nature brought to the attention of the delegates were: "A strengthening of internal organization, the adoption of a definite and far-reaching program of activities, and a strengthening of the spirit of comradeship among the members and elements of the organization." In this latter respect, the year has shown progress. There is still room for much more along this line, however, and its basic necessity remains as important as ever. There has been improvement in internal organization, yet, not so much but that it still remains one of our outstanding requirements.

There has been progress toward the recognition of the need for a continuing program of national activity or objectives. The National Convention is the body which must say what these are. Individuals may advise and suggest. The Convention, however, must establish.

The problem of administration in an organization of this size is so great and expensive that it is almost impossible to commence and carry to completion any important project in one year. This would seem to require a program covering several years and working toward a definite accomplishment at the end of a period of years. A changing national policy leads naturally to unfinished projects involving a waste of the means and enthusiasm of the organization. This need, it is believed, may well receive the most careful consideration of the delegate body.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

National Adjutant.
Report of National Judge Advocate

The American Legion each year has become more settled as a going concern and such situation is easily reflected in the work of the office of the National Judge Advocate. Matters of business procedure and detail have taken the place of much of the work involving matters of organization, and with each month, the questions submitted for advice and decisions appear to be more the inquiries of an old and well established organization rather than those of one in its early beginnings.

Problems of eligibility, inquiries dealing with the political restriction clause of the Constitution, occasional violations of the copy-right covering our emblem and misuse of the name of The American Legion and inquiries dealing with discipline continue to be a large part of the work of this office.

The past year, covered by this report, has brought very few occasions by which it has been necessary to travel and practically all work handled has been through correspondence, excepting such matters as were presented whenever various committees met in Indianapolis. The National Judge Advocate has given some considerable time to the question of incorporation of Departments, as Chairman of a committee appointed by the National Executive Committee to study that question and report to the National Convention. The results of such investigation will be found in a separate report.

It should be noted that the function of the office of the National Judge Advocate in making a decision as to eligibility does not include a search of facts but is limited to an interpretation of the facts as presented. In order to have before us the facts desired, it has been necessary to rely very greatly upon the kindly assistance of the War Department and frequent inquiries are made of the Office of the Adjutant General as to the actual membership in the Army of various individuals, and the military status of various organizations and branches of military activity. Upon the information thus received from the Adjutant General, where necessary, decisions are made at National Headquarters.

It is thought that by this time the files of National Headquarters contain authoritative rulings from the Adjutant General of the Army as to the military status of almost every branch of war time service, and by reference to those files, a set of facts upon which eligibility is claimed by an individual can be tested, to determine whether or not such individual was actually a member of the United States Army on active duty prior to the Armistice.

There have been no changes in any of the rulings of the War Department during the past year and consequently the rulings as to Legion eligibility have been a continuation and in some instances a clarification of former rulings. The question of the National Guard has continued to present an occasional inquiry, although it seems to be now fairly well recognized that to make a former Guardsman eligible for membership in the Legion, he must have been both called and drafted into the Army of the United States, his service as a member of the Guard utterly closed and his enlistment as a member of the United States Army established.

Following the last National Convention, at which the question of life membership was considered, several inquiries have been made as to the best manner of working out such plan of life membership and this office has endeavored to assist so far as possible. Some few inquiries also were presented following the amendment to the Constitution by which dual membership was prohibited, but that appears now to be well understood.

From time to time questions have arisen by which suggestions have been requested from these Headquarters as to the procedure and manner of Post discipline against the various members of Posts. Inasmuch as that is a question, of which the final determining body is the Department Constitution or Executive Committee, it has been deemed wise to advise that the Department Constitution will have to supply the final determination of any questions concerned thereby, but as far as it has come to the attention of the National
Judge Advocate, all matters dealing with the discipline of individual members have been distinguished by the very obvious effort to include in the procedure the utmost spirit of justice, fairness and opportunity for explanation and defense. The question of individual member discipline is one which should be considered by each Department and the procedure outlined for the benefit of the Posts.

In a number of instances it has come to the attention of the National Headquarters that Posts of The American Legion are engaging in lottery schemes, and vigorous and general criticism has been made of such means of raising money. The National Judge Advocate takes this means of calling to the attention of each of the Posts of The American Legion the agreement entered into at the Adjutants' Conference last December,—that no solicitation of funds, for any purpose whatsoever, in the name of The American Legion should be undertaken by any Post outside of its own particular locality without the knowledge and approval of its Department Headquarters, and that all Posts receiving such solicitations in violation of this agreement refer the matter immediately to their Department Headquarters for the necessary attention.

Each instance of the use of lottery schemes which has come to the attention of the National Judge Advocate has been followed by letters of criticism from various parts of the United States, and it is very clear that The American Legion as an organization does not approve of such means of raising funds. So far as is known in this office the Postal Department has not objected to any of these efforts but each scheme known is clearly within the prohibition both of the national, and no doubt, of the state laws, and it should be the very careful effort of Posts to avoid any such procedure.

The copyright of The American Legion emblem during the past year seems to have been subjected to fewer misuses than heretofore. As a badge of honor, the emblem of The American Legion should not be used excepting with the approval of the national organization for those things which are examined by the National Executive Committee and authority given for the use thereof. The name of The American Legion should not be used to designate stores or articles placed upon public sale, indiscriminately, and it has been the effort of the national organization to prohibit such use when unauthorized.

It is the thought of the National Judge Advocate that each Department should be equally as careful in business dealings as the national organization, and have legal approval of all business undertakings upon which the Department may enter.

In line with the suggestions made herein as to a proper business organization, the provision requiring all officers handling funds to be under bond is brought to the particular attention of all persons thereby affected. It is believed that this matter has not received full attention and it should be the desire of all officers to whom funds are entrusted that bonds be furnished in order to relieve them of personal responsibility and be an effective answer to any criticism.

Particular attention of the Posts and Departments is invited to the fact...
that there exists between the Department and the national organization, and likewise between the Post and the national organization, a corporate relationship. The American Legion is a national corporation, one of the few existing national corporations. It was established by Act of Congress and in the original Act by which the Legion exists, it is provided that the Legion may be organized in Departments and in Posts. Each Post is, therefore, a part of the national corporation and is literally incorporated to that extent. As a matter of expediency, however, and particularly from the viewpoint of taxation, it is considered advisable by the National Judge Advocate that where property is held by a Post, that the Post form a holding corporation in which the title of the property may be vested. Such a corporation can be organized under the laws of every state at comparatively small expense and with a minimum of labor, but by reason of such local corporation the status of the organization in that particular locality may always be clear. In business activities, those persons dealing with Posts and Departments should clearly understand that the national organization of The American Legion is not involved in local contracts and that the contracting parties must, of necessity, look only to the local organization for compensation as the other party to the agreement. The national organization can only be bound by national undertakings and by action which is taken with the approval of and over the signature of the recognized national officers.

It is the recommendation of the National Judge Advocate that particular attention be given throughout the next years of the organization to a business-like management of every activity. The interest of the public in The American Legion individual membership by reason of their patriotic service to the country will not excuse inefficiency, carelessness or a failure to appreciate financial obligations.

The American Legion is too strong an organization to permit laxity in its business relations, both within itself and with other interests. It should be the effort of every member of The American Legion to see that the business of the Legion is run in the most efficient manner.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

National Judge Advocate.
Report of National Historian

Progress has been made the past year in the collection of data concerning the history of the Legion, as shown by the activities of departments and posts. The effort to stimulate and aid wherever practical the work of department and post historians has brought results, which become more satisfactory as the Legion gains in age and prestige.

There are two views of the manner in which Legion history may be treated. One considers all interests and activities as centering in the National organization, which stands as an apex to a pyramid; the other, the view taken by the National Historian, is that the departments forming an inner circle, and the posts, forming an outer circle, actually make the history of the Legion, realizing that it is the individual members acting together who enable the policies of the Legion, as expressed at the National Convention and put into effect by the National Organization, to be carried out.

It is for this reason that the Historian has urged upon every possible occasion that department officials see that post officers are properly instructed regarding the importance of post archives and their preservation, so that the story not only of post activities but of the service of members, may be preserved. The Historian has also emphasized the opportunities open to posts to cooperate with other organizations or with individuals in the collection of and publication of materials for histories of communities in the war, and generally in quickening local patriotic interest in that history. Pride in the part one's own town and one's own townspeople have taken in historic events is the best anchor for patriotism and loyalty.

The past year has marked the undertaking of a number of department histories and has been fruitful of tangible results in preparation of post and community histories and historical pageants, among which is the achievement of Monahan post, of Sioux City, Iowa, in its Gold Star Ceremony and History of Sioux City in the War.

The Legion is indebted to Department Historian H. S. Ruth of Wisconsin, for the article on "Histories in the Making," which appeared in the February 23rd issue of the Legion Weekly and which is a useful contribution to which post historians may turn for guidance.

An increase is noted in the number of departments which have taken up earnestly the systematic collection and preservation of materials which will be available for the purposes of the department historian. It is hoped that next year will see this policy established in all departments, as well as proper consideration given by posts to the qualifications and interest in the work by those who are elected to the office of historian.

The re-organization of the general files of National Headquarters has afforded opportunity for a survey of our material, which has furnished a guide for further collection and brought about familiarity with source records. In this connection references have been compiled for the use of National Headquarters and for the assistance of department and post historians. Separate historical files have been established for documents bearing on the histories of departments and posts, such as minutes of conventions and conferences, annual reports of officers and committees, clippings and all other matter illustrative of the Legion's activities and accomplishments. Such records form a most important part of the history of the Legion; without them no comprehensive history of The American Legion can ever be compiled. The Historian plans to develop archives at National Headquarters which eventually will furnish records of the several department organizations and urges that department and post officials cooperate by furnishing copies of official proceedings and other material of interest.

Some departments have excellent exhibits at Headquarters but this is not true of all. In many cases important documents are missing, and in a few instances the material on file is so meager as to afford but an incoherent record of that department's early history and subsequent activities. A file of Legion publications has been established which is being increased by the
current issues of 150 department and post papers. To date 10 file drawers of periodicals have been collected and made available for constant reference. In this connection the Historian recommends that a semi-annual subject index be prepared of The Legion Weekly. Enquiries have been continued concerning the condition of records pertaining to the various states. While adequate provision has been made by most States, there is considerable room for improvement in this connection.

During the year Massachusetts has joined the group of states which have provided for the compilation of the part taken in the war. The Commission appointed for that purpose selected the writer of this report, your National Historian, as the historian of Massachusetts in the World War.

Work also continues on the authorized compilation of a historical handbook of The American Legion, to contain historical sketches of the several departments and brief biographical notices of men who have taken prominent part in the growth of the organization. Indices have been compiled of past and present national and department officials and committee members, whose current addresses have been secured and to whom have been sent questionnaires covering all phases of personal biography as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total number of questionnaires sent</td>
<td>1,535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number returned by postoffice as undeliverable</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questionnaire returned</td>
<td>817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of photographs received</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A great deal of interest has been manifested in this work. The greatest difficulty met with has been that of procuring an authentic and complete list of those who have served as members of department executive committees.

The departments have been requested to forward a summary of their history since organization, which should outline the most notable activities and achievements from the viewpoint of the department itself. Fourteen departments have already responded, and it is known that in most of the remaining departments attention is being given to the matter. It is needless to state that such reports should be forwarded as a matter of course, and kept up to date.

The Historian has continued his efforts to carry out the instructions of the last two conventions and has pressed the subject of the erection in Washington of a suitable building in which to house the nation's archives. It is believed that the next Congress will provide for the preservation of the invaluable and irreplaceable memorials of the Nation.

How business men look upon the question of the preservation of business records, which are merely a matter of dollars and cents, is shown by the excellent report of the Committee of the National Electric Light Association on "Preservation of Records," submitted in June last to the convention of that Association. This report goes into detail and is fully illustrated. Among the instances cited and illustrations shown, are the destructive, comparatively recent fires which took place in the Census Bureau at Washington, the destruction of the Capitol of West Virginia and of the City Hall in Montreal. If the records of public utility corporations are worth protecting, how about the records of our country? Copies of this report, which should be widely known, may be had by writing to the National Electric Light Association, 29 West 39th Street, New York.

In this connection it is well to realize that our own Legion records are not housed in a fireproof building, and are not as well protected as they might be from the fire hazard, which is considerable. Steel file cases afford little protection from fire, merely serving to temporarily retard the spread of the flames, by reducing the amount of inflammable furniture. Our historical files should be in the most approved filing cabinet safes, which will withstand any ordinary fire and are not costly. When in course of time Legion Headquarters are installed in the grand memorial building at Indianapolis, yet to be erected, the fire danger will be at a minimum; until then it is constant and by no means small.
The collection of books housed in the office of the Legion Weekly, relating to history of military organizations in the World War, is one of the most complete in the country. A building devoted to the purposes of a printing office is not an ideal place for so valuable a library, yet for the present this collection is probably nearly as safe as it would be in the converted apartment house in which headquarters is housed. The library should eventually be deposited at Legion Headquarters, especially as an equally useful collection is easily available at the New York Public Library, a few blocks from the publishing office of the Weekly.

In a former report the Historian mentioned the necessity for investigation of the district offices of the Veteran's Bureau to learn of the fire protection accorded the records of those offices, a matter of importance to the Legion as it affects the disabled man and his dependents. These records are invaluable and in most cases could not be replaced. The destruction of the contents of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy R. R. building in Chicago last year, is a startling illustration of how a fireproof building does not protect its contents unless particular care is taken. Notwithstanding that an 80-foot street separated this modern building from the buildings in which the fire originated, the building was gutted. All records stored on the various floors above the eighth were a total loss.

The first conference of Department Historians was held at New Orleans in 1922, and there were present more persons than could find accommodations in the room provided. At that conference which was a pronounced success it was voted to continue the practice, and provision has been made for a similar conference at San Francisco.

Among the duties assigned to the National Historian the past year was that of chairman of the Graves Registration Committee, and the information needed by that committee was obtained through the Historian's office. The report of the committee is printed elsewhere.

During the year appeared a volume entitled "A History of the American Legion," by Marquis James. This valuable contribution of our history written by a man who had exceptionable opportunities to learn certain phases of Legion activities, is most readable, and is what it purports to be, a partial story of the Legion, covering the same period but also continuing the earlier history by Wheat, now out of print. Publications of this character should be welcomed and support given by purchase of the book when it bears the stamp of approval. Few realize the time and labor given to the preparation of such a work, the expense involved in its publication and the small profit even a large sale can produce. Post historians are advised to suggest to their posts and to the local libraries, the purchase of any good Legion histories which may appear and which are approved by Headquarters.

During the past year the usual facilities of headquarters have been extended to the Historian, who has been assisted by Mr. H. G. Thomas. Until such time as funds are available for a sufficient appropriation for the conduct of the office and the whole time employment of assistants, the work of the office will be more or less handicapped. The Historian believes that the publication of a handbook as already authorized, but for the compilation of which and publication there has not yet been found funds, would place the Historian's office on a self supporting basis. He strongly urges that whatever risk is involved in this matter should be undertaken. The compilation is required for the needs of Headquarters and publication is confidently expected to at least repay cost.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

National Historian.

The office of Chaplain of The American Legion has come into its own, since recognition was given the Chaplains' Association by official action of the Fourth National Convention at New Orleans in 1922. This association, formed to bring into close relations, every ex-chaplain in the American military, has as its fundamental principle, a continuance of service in accord with outlined policies of the foster-organization.

The scope and purpose of such an alliance has begun to show a distinct effect on the Legion. Moral status of the Legion organization has been the dominant factor in guidance of every endeavor of the chaplains' association since its incipiency. Early in December, in conjunction with the conference of department adjutants, we took as a motto for the work "keep the American Legion out of the church, but, by all means keep the church spirit in The American Legion."

The far-reaching support of the Legion by a group of the most representative religious and fraternal bodies, following a conference in Washington, marks as highly constructive the religious tone of the Legion's effort, and this was made more vivid by actual participation of several former chaplains, thus allied in a movement to exert a further force through the men of the Legion.

From the moment that the chaplains' association received endorsement from the Legion at New Orleans, its working plan created, the national chaplain set out to plan activities in accordance with this phase of Legion work. In December, a report presented at the department adjutants' conference, proposed that we go on record as opposed to all extreme manners of conduct that would render our American Legion and national convention activities unbecoming to good moral citizenship. The report announced that war would be waged on all misdemeanors that might sully the high comradeship of the Legion. It further urged that we most of all avoid putting the organization in a church category, but should, however, keep the standard high and proper. At this conference a plea for liaison between department and post chaplains was made, and definite expression as to what was expected from each chaplain, outlined.

This was followed by a personal letter to every ex-chaplain, laying stress on the need of his membership and work for the Legion. The influence for good for a post with a former chaplain as a member, would gain sound support in the community, the letter argued. Responses to this appeal were favorable, or manifested a deep interest in The American Legion. All felt the need for moral support of former chaplains for such a representative association of such veterans. Some differed as to the method of participation or with organization policies, but the personal touch with the men with whom they formerly served had a definite appeal.

Commander Owsley contends that the conference in Washington on June 26, was an outstanding accomplishment of the Legion year. Gathered there were representatives of great fraternal and religious organizations. The Y. M. C. A., the Jewish Welfare Board, the Knights of Columbus, the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army and the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, besides representative clergy of the Protestant and Catholic faiths. Conrad Dyke-man, Imperial Potentate of the Mystic Shrine, presided at the gathering. A manifesto was adopted, which recites in entirety the preamble to the constitution of The American Legion, and proceeds with the declaration: "We heartily approve this statement and The American Legion as a great organization composed of men and women who served in the World War, earnestly hoping that they will continue to serve their country in time of peace with the same patriotic devotion that animated them in the days when they wore the uniform. We pledge them our hearty support, wishing them all success and every blessing as they pursue these high ideals."

During our incumbency, much southern and eastern territory has been visited, prior to the westward trip for the convention. It has been the aim
of the chaplain to work in closest harmony with our National Commander, and the same indeed has been reciprocated. Much praise should be given to our Commander and national officers for help and support in the work.

Throughout the country, we have found comradeship and genial spirit among men of the Legion. Differences exist, to be certain, but let each Legionnaire pass these over with the personal pledge of a few words, "if we love our comrades today, as we did in the time of strife, we will not ally ourselves with anything that will destroy that comradeship."

It has been the aim of the chaplain to dwell on this true spirit of comradeship on which the Legion is built. Give to America her soul—let the hearts of her citizens beat as one, but keep the soul religious and let her patriotism be deeply rooted in religious fervor and deepest respect for other comrades' birthright and faith—and the Legion will prosper. Such a spirit animated the National Executive Committee in May meeting, when its members unanimously passed a resolution we suggested: "The American Legion must look upon as unfriendly any individual, group or organization which will condemn comrades because of creed or belief."

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

National Chaplain.
Report of National Treasurer

The following report of Audit made by George S. Olive, C. P. A. of book accounts and financial records of national headquarters of your organization at the close of business September 15, 1923, sets forth the financial condition.

It is interesting to note that our obligation to the Trust Fund has been completely paid off. For the Graves Endowment Fund we have collected $152,657.17. Awaiting the action of the Past Commanders’ Committee which is to prepare a trust agreement covering this fund, $149,901.46 has been invested in United States Government Certificates and Fourth Liberty Loan Bonds.

Mr. Robert H. Tyndall, National Treasurer,

The American Legion,
National Headquarters,
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to your request, I have audited the books of account and financial records of

THE AMERICAN LEGION
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

from September 17, 1922, through September 15, 1923, and present herewith my report consisting of four pages of comment and Exhibits and Schedules as follows:

Folio 1 Exhibit A—Financial Statement.
Folio 2 Exhibit B—General Fund Surplus Analysis.
Folio 3 Exhibit C—Revenue and Expense January 1, 1923 to September 15, 1923.
Folio 4 Exhibit D—Revenue and Expense September 17, 1922 to December 31, 1922.
Folio 5 Schedule 1—Operating Statement—Emblem Division.
Folio 6 Schedule 2—Revenue from Poppy Sales.
Folio 7-8 Schedule 3—Expense Analysis.
Folio 9 Schedule 4—Accounts Receivable.
Folio 10 Schedule 5—Notes Receivable.
Folio 11 Schedule 6—National Dues Past Due and Unpaid.
Folio 12 Schedule 7—Statement of Working Funds.
Folio 13 Schedule 8—1923 Dues Deposited and Awaiting Names.
Folio 14-15 Schedule 9—Ratio of 1923 Paid Membership to 1922 Paid Membership.
Folio 16-17 Schedule 10—Ratio of Paid Membership to Eligible Ex-Service Men.

SCOPE OF SERVICE

I have checked the cancelled checks returned by the bank against the corresponding entries in the check register scrutinizing the checks for proper signature and endorsements and for agreement of written and figure amounts. I have tested disbursements by an examination of disbursement vouchers and found them properly authorized and charged to the correct account. I have traced remittance advices into the Cash Received Record and have traced all funds received into the bank. I have reconciled balances at bank in all accounts with the amount shown by the books, taking into consideration the outstanding checks at the close of the period, and have verified the balances by a certificate direct from the depository. I have tested the footings in the various records and checked all postings to the General Ledger. I have examined all securities in the hands of Trustees and found them in accord with a statement rendered by the Trustees. I have verified the cash fund at National
Headquarters by actual count and made such analyses as were necessary for the compilation of this report.

FINANCIAL CONDITION

Following is a Comparative Statement showing the financial condition thirty days prior to Convention for 1923 and 1922:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>Sept. 15, 1923</th>
<th>Sept. 16, 1922</th>
<th>Increase</th>
<th>Decrease</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fixed Assets Less Depreciation</td>
<td>$21,756.04</td>
<td>$16,482.26</td>
<td>$5,273.78</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>704,342.55</td>
<td>482,181.63</td>
<td>222,160.92</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Charges</td>
<td>506.85</td>
<td>197.75</td>
<td>309.10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Current Assets

- Inventory of Emblems: $8,545.54
- Inventory of Poppies: $44,071.05
- Accounts and Notes Receivable: $30,164.56
- Unpaid National Dues: $9,138.15
- Accrued Interest Receivable: $3,450.48
- Cash on Hand Unrestricted: $56,528.07
- Cash on Hand Restricted: $73,542.32
- Returned Checks: $2.50

Total Current Assets: $221,992.49

Total Assets: $948,597.93

LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities

- Restricted Funds on Special Deposit: $36,679.65
- Restricted Funds on Deposit with General Fund: $73,542.32
- Accounts Payable: $15,625.00
- Accrued Pay Roll: $645.11
- Emblems Paid for and not Delivered: $2,421.67
- 1923 Dues Paid Awaiting Names: $2,309.00
- Owing to Legion Publishing Corp.: $106,032.12

Total Current Liabilities: $199,930.11

Net Assets

- Surplus in General Fund: $94,325.27
- Trust Fund: 504,441.09
- Graves Endowment Fund: 149,901.46

Net Assets: $748,667.82

The above statement discloses an increase in the General Fund surplus of $62,016.38 and in Restricted Funds of $150,088.61.

The surplus in the General Fund will be decreased at the end of the year as the expenses will doubtless exceed the revenue from September 16 to December 31, 1923.
TRUST FUND $504,441.09
The amount in the Trust Fund at the convention date, 1922, was $504,253.94 to which has been added during the period $187.15 as follows:

Trust Fund September 16, 1922........................................ $504,253.94

Donations:
Arthur R. Patterson, Rochester, N. Y...................... $100.00
Joseph B. Cassandt, St. Louis, Mo.......................... 1.00
Chas. Candidus, Indiana .................................. 1.50
Edward DeSaussure, Post No. 9, Jacksonville, Fla........ 50.00
T. O. Roberts, Anderson, Ind.............................. 5.00
American Legion Auxiliary
No. 1 Tampico Tamps, Mexico.............................. 29.65

$504,441.09

The above amount has been invested by the trustees in securities of a par value amounting to $513,967.29 as follows:

Government Obligations ................................ $230,450.00
Municipal Bonds .............................................. 250,336.66
First Mortgage Real Estate Bonds .............. 33,180.63

$513,967.29

OVERSEAS GRAVES ENDOWMENT FUND
The actual amount of this fund which has been donated by the various Departments is $152,657.17 of which $149,901.46 has been invested in Government securities and $2,755.71 is on deposit in the General Fund. An analysis shows as follows:

On deposit in General Fund ................................... $ 2,755.71
One $100,000.00 Treasury Note 4½%.......................... 100,000.00
Interest on Treasury Note ................................ 75.14
Five $10,000 Fourth Liberty Loan Bonds 4½%.............. 49,826.32

$152,657.17

Amount on deposit in General Fund ..................... 2,755.71

Graves Endowment Fund Invested per Exhibit A .......... $149,901.46

RESTRICTED FUNDS ON DEPOSIT IN GENERAL FUND

Knights of Columbus Migratory Relief Fund ............ $48,978.77
Red Cross Clean Up Campaign Fund .................. 20,005.06
American Overseas Memorial Association ............. 514.37
Essay Contest .............................................. 1,113.85
French Orphans Fund ...................................... 126.41
Distinguished Guest Fund ................................ 50.15
Overseas Graves Endowment Fund ....................... 2,755.71

Total per Exhibit A ........................................ $73,542.32

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE $15,625.00
This amount represents the balance due to the firm of Chambrelent, Paris, France, for poppies of which there is on hand by actual inventory $44,071.05.

The organization should be congratulated on the showing made during the period January 1, 1923 to September 15, 1923 as against the corresponding period in 1922, and in particular the increase in Revenue of $11,609.63 and the decrease in Expense of $61,314.92.

The accounting records are kept exceptionally well and all information desired is readily obtainable.

I trust this report will furnish you with the information you desire.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. S. OLIVE, C. P. A.
Member American Institute of Accountants.
### Statement of Financial Condition

**September 15, 1923**

#### Fixed Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and Fixtures</td>
<td>$17,549.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Reserve for Depreciation</td>
<td>$2,929.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Films</td>
<td>$15,502.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Reserve for Depreciation</td>
<td>$3,360.61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Investments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Investments</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trust Fund Investments in hands of Fletcher American National Bank, Trustee</td>
<td>$504,441.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graves Endowment Fund Investments</td>
<td>$149,901.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legion Publishing Corp. Capital Stock</td>
<td>$50,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Deferred Charges to Administration Expense

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prepaid Insurance and Bond Premiums</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$506.85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Current Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Assets</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inventory—Emblem Merchandise</td>
<td>$8,545.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventory—Poppy Merchandise</td>
<td>$44,071.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Receivable—Sch. 4</td>
<td>$5,267.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes Receivable—Sch. 5</td>
<td>$24,897.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Dues for year 1922 Unpaid—Sch. 6</td>
<td>$9,138.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working Funds—Sch. 7</td>
<td>$7,200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Funds on Deposit—Sch. 8</td>
<td>$49,328.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted Funds on Deposit in General Funds</td>
<td>$73,542.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned Checks held for Collection</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Total Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Assets</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$948,597.93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Current Liabilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Liabilities</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Restricted Funds on Deposit in General Fund</td>
<td>$73,542.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>$15,025.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emblems Paid for and not Delivered</td>
<td>$2,421.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1923 Dues Awaiting Names—Sch. 8</td>
<td>$2,309.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portion of Nat’l Dues Allotted to Legion Pub. Corp.</td>
<td>$106,032.12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Net Worth

Represented as follows:

- Surplus in General Fund: $94,325.27
- Trust Fund Invested: $504,441.09
- Graves Endowment Fund Invested: $146,001.46

#### Net Worth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net Worth</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$748,667.82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I hereby certify that I have audited the books of account of THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA from September 17, 1922 through September 15, 1923 and have prepared the above Balance Sheet as reflecting the financial condition at the close of the period.

GEORGE S. OLIVE, C. P. A.
Member American Institute of Accountants.
**THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS**  
**INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA**

**GENERAL FUND SURPLUS ANALYSIS**  
September 17, 1922 to September 15, 1923

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>September 17, 1922 Balance per Audit Report</th>
<th>$32,308.91</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excess of Expense over Revenue 9-17-22 to 12-31-22</td>
<td>26,732.49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1921 Outstanding Checks Written Off</td>
<td>$38.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received on Disputed Accounts Previously Charged Off</td>
<td>131.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refund on Expense Previously Paid</td>
<td>35.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refund on War Tax</td>
<td>1,961.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excess of Revenue Over Expense Year 1923 to date</td>
<td>88,068.83</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total Credits | 95,812.79 |

### Charges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paid for Memorial Tablets and Press Clippings during Official Legion Tour</td>
<td>546.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1922 Convention Traveling Expense Paid in 1923</td>
<td>163.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disputed Accounts Charged Off</td>
<td>104.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1922 Dues Charged Off</td>
<td>674.12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total Charges | 1,487.52 |

| Total Surplus Analysis | $94,325.27 |
## Report of National Treasurer

### Div. I

**THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS**  
**INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA**

**REVENUE AND EXPENSE STATEMENT**  
**January 1, 1923 to September 16, 1923**

### Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Dues</td>
<td>$157,265.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust Fund Earnings</td>
<td>12,976.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue from Film Service</td>
<td>33,037.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue on Sales of Source Records</td>
<td>17,533.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Earned</td>
<td>4,914.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounts Taken</td>
<td>627.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Earnings—Emblem Division—Sch. 1</td>
<td>33,933.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proceeds from Poppy Sales—Sch. 2</td>
<td>8,822.36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Revenue**  
$268,210.25

### Expense

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General and Administrative—Sch. 3</td>
<td>41,876.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Americanism—Sch. 3</td>
<td>12,685.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Legislative—Sch. 3</td>
<td>12,797.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation—Sch. 3</td>
<td>26,541.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publicity—Sch. 3</td>
<td>14,393.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive—Sch. 3</td>
<td>39,458.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance—Sch. 3</td>
<td>8,524.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film Division—Sch. 3</td>
<td>15,527.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Appropriations—Sch. 3</td>
<td>909.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galbraith Memorial—Sch. 3</td>
<td>7,428.21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Excess of Revenue Over Expense—To Exhibit B**  
$88,968.83
Div. I

Report of National Treasurer

THE AMERICAN LEGION
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

REVENUE AND EXPENSE STATEMENT
September 17, 1922 to December 31, 1922

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Dues</td>
<td>$6,071.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust Fund Earnings</td>
<td>12,095.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue from Film Service</td>
<td>9,351.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legion Publishing Corp. News Service</td>
<td>7,500.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Earned</td>
<td>30.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounts Taken</td>
<td>301.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earnings—Emblem Division</td>
<td>4,177.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proceeds Tie Game Baseball—New York City</td>
<td>20,352.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$59,888.38</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General and Administrative</td>
<td>23,388.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Americanism</td>
<td>5,834.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Legislative</td>
<td>9,917.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation</td>
<td>5,387.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publicity</td>
<td>18,033.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service</td>
<td>7,618.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive</td>
<td>16,194.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletic</td>
<td>1,225.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expense</strong></td>
<td><strong>$86,620.87</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**$26,732.49**
### Report of National Treasurer

**THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS**  
**INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA**

**SCHEDULE No. 1**

**OPERATING STATEMENT—EMBLEM DIVISION**  
**January 1, 1923 to September 15, 1923**

**Revenue**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>$154,210.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Cost of Goods Sold</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventory January 1, 1923</td>
<td>$14,971.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchases</td>
<td>92,810.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventory September 15, 1923</td>
<td>8,545.54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[ \text{Gross Profit on Merchandise Sold} = 154,210.23 - (14,971.27 + 92,810.57 + 8,545.54) = 54,973.93 \]

**Expenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pay Roll</td>
<td>9,638.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>201.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone and Telegraph</td>
<td>188.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery, Printing and Office Supplies</td>
<td>403.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage and Express</td>
<td>2,327.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>6,323.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shipping Supplies</td>
<td>876.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excise Tax</td>
<td>1,213.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>68.66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[ \text{Net Operating Profit to Exhibit C} = 54,973.93 - (9,638.62 + 201.01 + 188.36 + 403.11 + 2,327.27 + 6,323.19 + 876.11 + 1,213.08 + 68.66) = 33,933.52 \]
THE AMERICAN LEGION
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

SCHEDULE NO. 2

REVENUE FROM POPPY SALES
January 1, 1923 to September 15, 1923

Sales .................................................. $32,336.08
Deduct: Cost of Poppies Sold
Purchases .................................................. $ 62,500.00
Less: Inventory September 15, 1923  44,071.05 18,428.95
Gross Profit ........................................... $13,907.13

Expenses
Salaries .................................................. 757.50
Commissions ........................................... 2,348.58
Traveling .................................................. 67.90
Telephone and Telegraph ................................ 46.18
Postage and Express ................................... 1,422.95
Advertising ............................................. 240.64
Boxes and Shipping Supplies ............................. 55.93
Storage .................................................. 91.70
Insurance ................................................. 53.30  5,084.77

Net Profit from Poppy Sales to Exhibit G ............ $3,822.36
### General and Administrative

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pay Roll</td>
<td>$27,177.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>450.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone and Telegraph</td>
<td>2,932.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery, Printing and Office Supplies</td>
<td>6,042.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>1,423.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Meetings</td>
<td>30.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance of Quarters</td>
<td>113.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation on Furniture and Fixtures</td>
<td>1,316.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjustments of Disputed Accounts</td>
<td>315.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry</td>
<td>3,519.97 $41,878.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### National Americanism

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pay Roll</td>
<td>8,090.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>1,717.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone and Telegraph</td>
<td>225.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery and Printing</td>
<td>1,777.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>597.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry</td>
<td>276.71   12,685.15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### National Legislative

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pay Roll</td>
<td>9,120.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>390.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone and Telegraph</td>
<td>416.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery, Printing and Office Supplies</td>
<td>1,359.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>118.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photos and Clippings</td>
<td>198.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>1,042.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Meetings</td>
<td>86.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry</td>
<td>164.50   12,797.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Rehabilitation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pay Roll</td>
<td>21,143.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>1,512.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone and Telegraph</td>
<td>919.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery, Printing and Office Supplies</td>
<td>677.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>913.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent, Heat and Light</td>
<td>1,260.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Meetings</td>
<td>73.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry</td>
<td>50.00    26,541.39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Amount Forward

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$93,900.13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Report of National Treasurer

THE AMERICAN LEGION

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

SCHEDULE NO. 3

EXPENSES ANALYSIS

January 1, 1923 to September 15, 1923
### Publicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pay Roll</td>
<td>$10,883.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>336.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone and Telegraph</td>
<td>79.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery, Printing and Office Supplies</td>
<td>639.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>1,849.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Press Clippings and Photos</td>
<td>340.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry</td>
<td>13.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Executive

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Commander—Salary and Expense</td>
<td>14,389.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Adjutant Salary</td>
<td>5,312.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Judge Advocate—Retainer and Expense</td>
<td>750.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asst. Nat'l Adjutant—Expense</td>
<td>750.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Executive Committee</td>
<td>13,253.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance Committee</td>
<td>322.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>4,273.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry</td>
<td>407.16</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Finance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pay Roll</td>
<td>5,255.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>33.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone and Telegraph</td>
<td>21.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery, Printing and Office Supplies</td>
<td>160.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage and Express</td>
<td>195.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>2,144.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Services</td>
<td>285.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>426.73</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Film

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pay Roll</td>
<td>5,585.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>791.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone and Telegraph</td>
<td>502.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery, Printing and Office Supplies</td>
<td>109.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage and Express</td>
<td>898.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>784.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent, Heat and Light</td>
<td>475.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Services</td>
<td>105.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boxes and Reels</td>
<td>176.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry</td>
<td>6,098.78</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### New Appropriations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Galbraith Memorial</td>
<td>7,428.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Per Exhibit C</td>
<td>$180,141.42</td>
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</table>

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The American Legion National Headquarters
Indianapolis, Indiana

Schedule No. 3
(Continued)

Expense Analysis
January 1, 1923 to September 15, 1923

Amount Forwarded $93,900.13
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA  

SCHEDULE No. 4  
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE  
September 15, 1923

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Open Accounts</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department of California</td>
<td>$5.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Kentucky</td>
<td>$96.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Missouri</td>
<td>$112.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of New York</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Washington</td>
<td>$106.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kiffin Rockwell Post No. 2, Asheville, N. C</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustee, Indiana War Memorial</td>
<td>$117.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wm. Highton &amp; Sons Co., Nashua, N. H.</td>
<td>$1,015.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parke, Austin &amp; Lipscomb, Inc., New York City</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. R. Gignilliat</td>
<td>$20.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Orleans National Convention Committee</td>
<td>$2,619.26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$4,331.79

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>C. O. D.'s Over 15 Days Old</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Torrance, California</td>
<td>$6.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hilo, Hawaii</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrisburg, Illinois</td>
<td>$13.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lexington, Kentucky</td>
<td>$1.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dixfield, Maine</td>
<td>$2.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Boro, Massachusetts</td>
<td>$2.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston, Massachusetts</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roscommon, Michigan</td>
<td>$5.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austin, Minnesota</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxly, Missouri</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yorktown, New York</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>$1.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long View, Texas</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Marcos, Texas</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte Court House, Virginia</td>
<td>$1.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mansfield, Wisconsin</td>
<td>$15.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gillette, Wyoming</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$116.39

$819.22

Current C. O. D.'s Outstanding $5,267.40
# Notes Receivable

_Schedule No. 5_  
**September 15, 1923**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maker</th>
<th>Date Due</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Rate of Interest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department of Missouri</td>
<td>8-31-21</td>
<td>$ 648.65</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Alabama</td>
<td>9-14-21</td>
<td>620.91</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Maryland</td>
<td>8-9-22</td>
<td>919.30</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Utah</td>
<td>4-20-22</td>
<td>1,028.81</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. H. Boynton for Film</td>
<td>2-1-23</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. H. Boynton for Film</td>
<td>2-1-23</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. H. Boynton for Film</td>
<td>2-1-23</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. H. Boynton for Film</td>
<td>2-1-23</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. H. Boynton for Film</td>
<td>2-1-23</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. H. Boynton for Film</td>
<td>2-1-23</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Colorado</td>
<td>12-20-21</td>
<td>1,001.62</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. H. Boynton for Film</td>
<td>2-1-23</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. H. Boynton for Film</td>
<td>2-1-23</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Missouri</td>
<td>7-15-23</td>
<td>12,000.00</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

_Total_ $24,897.46

---

**THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS**  
**INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA**

# Schedule No. 6

**NATIONAL DUES PAST DUE AND UNPAID**  
_Schedule No. 6_  
**September 15, 1923**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>$ 187.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>$ 176.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>$ 17.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>$ 378.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continental Europe</td>
<td>$ 9.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>$ 1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri:</td>
<td>$1,097.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>$ 3,942.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>$ 3,323.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>$ 4.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

_Total_ $9,138.15

All of the above represent unpaid dues for 1922 except 1923 dues in the amount of $389.00 included in the total for Department of Missouri.
### Schedule No. 7

**STATEMENT OF WORKING FUNDS**  
*September 15, 1923*

#### General

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cashier at National Headquarters</td>
<td>$1,150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislative Vice-Chairman</td>
<td>550.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation Chairman</td>
<td>500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation Contract Office</td>
<td>300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Commander's Secretary</td>
<td>500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publicity Special Writer</td>
<td>300.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: $3,300.00

#### Liaison Men

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J. C. Keene, Denver, Col.</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. O. Hobbs, Cincinnati, Ohio.</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben F. Metz, Pittsburgh, Pa.</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George H. W. Rauschkolb, St. Louis, Mo.</td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James P. Mulcare, San Francisco, Cal.</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William T. Kroll, Minneapolis, Minn.</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norman W. Angle, Seattle, Wash.</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. J. Cusick, New Orleans, La.</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Sloane, Atlanta, Ga.</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harold E. McCullough, New York City</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John A. Hartman, Chicago, Ill.</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: $1,700.00

#### Migratory Relief Secretaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Claud Smith, Tucson, Ariz.</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John L. Sullivan, Prescott, Ariz.</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. P. Conway, Phoenix, Ariz.</td>
<td>600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donald G. Hart, El Paso, Texas</td>
<td>300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. N. Millan, San Diego, Cal.</td>
<td>400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morton David, Denver, Col.</td>
<td>500.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: $2,200.00

**Total** $7,200.00
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>$400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>19.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District of Columbia</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>670.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>195.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>244.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Mexico</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>28.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,309.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Schedule No. 9

**Ratio of 1923 Paid Membership to 1922 Paid Membership**

Within the Limits of Continental United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Paid Membership Dec. 31, 1922</th>
<th>Sept. 15, 1923</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>4,740</td>
<td>8,372</td>
<td>107.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>1,969</td>
<td>2,791</td>
<td>141.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td>2,926</td>
<td>3,532</td>
<td>118.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>2,210</td>
<td>2,503</td>
<td>113.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>6,171</td>
<td>6,972</td>
<td>112.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>10,886</td>
<td>11,676</td>
<td>107.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>3,948</td>
<td>4,106</td>
<td>104.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>55,701</td>
<td>57,417</td>
<td>103.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>12,362</td>
<td>12,311</td>
<td>99.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>8,241</td>
<td>8,075</td>
<td>98.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>39,918</td>
<td>39,109</td>
<td>97.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>11,598</td>
<td>11,679</td>
<td>97.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>6,508</td>
<td>6,240</td>
<td>95.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>43,083</td>
<td>40,923</td>
<td>94.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>4,922</td>
<td>4,873</td>
<td>94.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>7,048</td>
<td>6,685</td>
<td>94.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>28,911</td>
<td>28,504</td>
<td>91.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>52,598</td>
<td>48,628</td>
<td>91.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas</td>
<td>21,271</td>
<td>19,197</td>
<td>90.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td>3,474</td>
<td>3,043</td>
<td>87.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>27,387</td>
<td>24,018</td>
<td>87.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>473</td>
<td>87.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>24,769</td>
<td>21,637</td>
<td>87.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>18,470</td>
<td>16,965</td>
<td>87.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>34,361</td>
<td>29,470</td>
<td>85.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>5,889</td>
<td>4,999</td>
<td>84.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>10,007</td>
<td>8,383</td>
<td>83.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>6,975</td>
<td>5,827</td>
<td>83.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>56,327</td>
<td>46,821</td>
<td>83.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>6,497</td>
<td>5,378</td>
<td>82.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Dakota</td>
<td>9,320</td>
<td>7,630</td>
<td>81.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>16,388</td>
<td>13,340</td>
<td>81.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>9,640</td>
<td>7,639</td>
<td>80.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>2,790</td>
<td>2,234</td>
<td>80.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>4,366</td>
<td>3,443</td>
<td>79.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>5,798</td>
<td>4,530</td>
<td>75.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
<td>15,933</td>
<td>14,925</td>
<td>78.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>22,636</td>
<td>17,598</td>
<td>77.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>25,386</td>
<td>19,662</td>
<td>77.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>6,123</td>
<td>4,643</td>
<td>75.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## THE AMERICAN LEGION
**National Headquarters**
**Indianapolis, Indiana**

**Schedule No. 9**
(Continued)

### Ratio of 1922 Paid Membership to 1922 Paid Membership
Within the Limits of Continental United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Paid Membership Dec. 31, 1922</th>
<th>Sept. 15, 1923</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>3,401</td>
<td>2,479</td>
<td>72.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>9,167</td>
<td>6,584</td>
<td>71.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>4,088</td>
<td>2,707</td>
<td>66.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District of Columbia</td>
<td>4,700</td>
<td>3,150</td>
<td>57.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>631</td>
<td>359</td>
<td>56.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>28,840</td>
<td>16,171</td>
<td>56.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>9,221</td>
<td>4,529</td>
<td>48.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>5,530</td>
<td>2,713</td>
<td>49.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Mexico</td>
<td>2,673</td>
<td>1,241</td>
<td>46.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>709,958</strong></td>
<td><strong>625,958</strong></td>
<td><strong>87.9</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In Territories, Island Possessions, Etc., of the United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Territory</th>
<th>Paid Membership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Philippine Islands</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawaii</td>
<td>931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>642</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porto Rico</td>
<td>181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canal Zone</td>
<td>472</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,370</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In Foreign Countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Paid Membership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentine</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Isles</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continental Europe</td>
<td>1,067</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venezuela</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea, Japan</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,343</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grand Total**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>714,671</strong></td>
<td><strong>629,062</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Schedule No. 10

**Ratio of Paid Membership to Eligible Ex-Service Men**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Eligible Ex-Service Men</th>
<th>Paid Membership Sept. 15, 1923</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>133,791</td>
<td>40,983</td>
<td>30.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>28,935</td>
<td>11,579</td>
<td>30.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>65,502</td>
<td>16,085</td>
<td>24.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Dakota</td>
<td>22,390</td>
<td>7,630</td>
<td>23.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>15,051</td>
<td>3,443</td>
<td>22.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>20,662</td>
<td>4,873</td>
<td>22.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas</td>
<td>93,383</td>
<td>19,197</td>
<td>20.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>13,703</td>
<td>2,791</td>
<td>20.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>2,499</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>19.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>37,309</td>
<td>6,685</td>
<td>17.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>134,034</td>
<td>24,018</td>
<td>17.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>70,315</td>
<td>13,676</td>
<td>16.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>125,890</td>
<td>25,504</td>
<td>16.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>14,428</td>
<td>2,234</td>
<td>15.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>140,166</td>
<td>21,637</td>
<td>15.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>268,246</td>
<td>39,109</td>
<td>14.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
<td>105,845</td>
<td>14,935</td>
<td>14.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>46,706</td>
<td>6,584</td>
<td>14.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td>26,101</td>
<td>3,522</td>
<td>14.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>213,988</td>
<td>29,470</td>
<td>13.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>362,760</td>
<td>48,326</td>
<td>13.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>152,167</td>
<td>19,662</td>
<td>12.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District of Columbia</td>
<td>25,640</td>
<td>3,150</td>
<td>12.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>411,498</td>
<td>46,821</td>
<td>11.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>23,366</td>
<td>2,503</td>
<td>10.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>542,589</td>
<td>57,417</td>
<td>10.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>48,697</td>
<td>4,900</td>
<td>10.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>45,380</td>
<td>4,530</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td>30,908</td>
<td>3,048</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>46,670</td>
<td>4,643</td>
<td>9.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>185,768</td>
<td>17,598</td>
<td>9.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>67,766</td>
<td>6,240</td>
<td>9.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>188,596</td>
<td>16,171</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>38,945</td>
<td>6,972</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>118,456</td>
<td>9,372</td>
<td>7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>103,454</td>
<td>8,075</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>108,687</td>
<td>8,383</td>
<td>7.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>160,143</td>
<td>12,311</td>
<td>7.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>100,100</td>
<td>7,639</td>
<td>7.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Eligible Ex-Service Men</td>
<td>Paid Membership</td>
<td>Sept. 15, 1923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Mexico</td>
<td>16,771</td>
<td>1,241</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>75,625</td>
<td>5,373</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>220,192</td>
<td>13,340</td>
<td>6.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>6,876</td>
<td>399</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>72,341</td>
<td>4,106</td>
<td>5.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>103,730</td>
<td>5,827</td>
<td>5.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>88,201</td>
<td>4,629</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>10,432</td>
<td>473</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>68,846</td>
<td>2,707</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>71,512</td>
<td>2,713</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>97,676</td>
<td>2,479</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,276,331</strong></td>
<td><strong>626,448</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

National Treasurer.
Report of Galbraith Memorial Committee

The granite work for the Galbraith Memorial has been completed and set in place. The design of Starrett & Van Vleck has more than come up to expectations. The Committee is now engaged in grading about the Memorial, and in making arrangements for the encircling shrubbery. The design is dependent for perfection upon surrounding hedges, trees and shrubbery. Unfortunately, the Cincinnati Park Commission, which had agreed to do this for the Legion, is now totally without funds, and the Committee is scouting about to raise funds locally for this purpose. The $25,000 allowance by the National organization is nearly exhausted, and the Committee does not propose to ask the National organization for more than the original appropriation. However, the needed horticulture about the Memorial will be produced—Nature being willing.

The cast for the bronze tablet is now completed and within a few days the bronze will be poured. The tablet is ten feet by three feet. The design includes in bas relief a figure of a soldier, sailor, marine and nurse, an Angel of Peace and an Angel of Victory, and in the center a medallion of Galbraith. The Committee is also considering an appropriate inscription to be carved into the stone.

It has also been determined to hold the dedication exercises on Saturday, November 10th, as November 11th falls on Sunday. The Armistice Day parade will be held in Cincinnati also at that time, and the distinguished guests at the dedication exercises will review the parade. It has been determined to have a delegation from the Committee wait upon the President of the United States, and invite him to lead the distinguished guests and be the principal speaker at the dedication. Representatives of all the governments allied in the Great War will also be invited, and of the Legion, the National Commander, National Executive Committee, and Department Commanders, also Past National Commanders. The list of the invitees has not been definitely determined at this writing.

After great travail, the Memorial we know will be finished in time for the dedication on Saturday, November 10th. The day will be made a great day for the Legion, and the design, construction and dedication of the Legion's first Memorial will, we hope, be a credit to our organization. On either side of the Memorial is a flag-pole. From one side there will fly the United States flag, and from the other, the emblem of the Legion, and the preaching of Americanism for which Galbraith stood will go forth from that cliff overlooking the Ohio river and the Kentucky hills, down through the years to come.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT L. BLACK, JOHN R. McQUIGG,
MILTON D. CAMPBELL, GILBERT BETTMAN, Chairman.
JOHN G. EMERY,
DIVISION II

REPORT

OF

THE NATIONAL AMERICANISM COMMISSION

OF

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Garland W. Powell, Maryland, National Director.

Term Expires 1923.
Lindsey Blayney, Texas.
W. A. Percy, Mississippi.
Leonard Withington, Hawaii.
Milton D. Campbell, Ohio.
Henry J. Ryan, Massachusetts.

Term Expires 1924.
Richard F. Beirne, Virginia.
E. K. Bixby, Oklahoma.
Wm. C. Hicks, Washington.
Frank L. Sieh, South Dakota.
Vilas H. Whaley, Wisconsin.

Term Expires 1925.
Peyton H. Hoge, Jr., Kentucky.
Augustus H. Gansser, Michigan.
F. O. Norton, Iowa.
Dwight P. Davis, Missouri.
Charles Kendrick, California.
INTRODUCTION

The Fifth Annual National Convention of The American Legion in San Francisco, closes the work of your National Americanism Commission for the year of 1923, which indeed has been a very strenuous one. I have the honor to submit the following report of the activities of the National Americanism Commission from October of 1922 to October of 1923.

The preamble of the Constitution of the Legion, to which we all subscribe, is based on two great concepts, from one or the other of which the tenets of that great document all take their rise. These concepts are Comradeship and Citizenship. It is a matter of common knowledge how well the Legion has wrought out its ideal of Comradeship, in the course of its long campaign for the welfare of the disabled. And for the cause of better Citizenship, the Americanism work of the Legion has assumed national significance and has brought our organization into high standing in the public mind. This work has been largely laid out by the mandates of the four National Conventions of the Legion. Under these mandates, the National Director and all members of the Commission have exerted their best energies in the prosecution of this patriotic service. And let me here acknowledge the cordial and active co-operation of those department and post officials whose Americanism work has truly reflected the ideals of the Legion in their States and communities. Their efforts, of course, facilitate our work and co-ordinate our efforts. The ultimate result of such co-operation of this kind is accomplishment.

Americanism is American nationalism. It is the name we apply to the guiding genius of the American people, which has built up a great Nation within a few generations, and is made manifest in many ways. In so far as we love our country for what she means to us, in such measure must we cherish that spirit of liberty and opportunity and responsibility in our citizenship which has made our Nation great. In fostering this spirit The American Legion endures and prevails, because it is made up of men faithful to this ideal. The work of Americanism is the making of a better America. It is undying faith and devotion to our country and its ideals.

This spirit has been threatened of late by many evil influences: ignorance and illiteracy, the great inflood of alien immigration, and wild and malicious doctrines of internationalism, communism and anarchy; all the result of confusion in the minds of our citizens, and ill-omened indifference to public affairs on the part of individuals.

Against these evils the activities of your Americanism Commission have been lively and unremitting. Your Commission has opposed these things not merely negatively but positively as well, with much work for the upbuilding of permanent standards of patriotic service.

Many difficult questions have arisen concerning Americanism, education, immigration, revolutionary radicalism, etc. Many of these, for which we have had no precedents, your National Director has had to decide, with and upon the advise of the Americanism Commission. We have studied these questions, given our best time and efforts to solve them and be as fair as possible to all concerned. We have honestly endeavored to serve our nation and the people to the best of our ability.

The additional work undertaken by your National Director and the increased interest in Americanism work generally has been shown by the closer co-operation of the departments and by over one hundred national organizations in this country, who have more or less been looking to The American Legion to assume the leadership in Americanism problems. This warrants, to my mind, a few changes in the handling of Americanism work which will be brought out in the summary of this report.

It would be utterly impossible to treat fully the many things undertaken by the National Americanism Commission this year but it will be my endeavor to give you a concise summary of the work.
AMERICANISM—A MATTER OF ACTION.

The great basic ideals of the Legion are embodied in the preamble to our National Constitution. Briefly, these ideals are comradeship and citizenship. We learned comradeship in our military service. And through that comradeship in service we have come upon an ideal of better citizenship, which in itself is primarily a matter of comradeship in service.

The American people are familiar with those activities of the Legion which take their spring from our ideal of comradeship. The Legion has taken action, for the disabled of the war, for four years. It has been a great endeavor, this fight for our sick and wounded buddies. In waging it, we have won a great measure of care for our disabled comrades; and at the same time, a clear cause for self-respect.

So much for our service activities, that take their spring from our concept of comradeship. What have we done for the other of our two great ideals—Americanism, which takes its origin in our ideal of citizenship.

Well, we have set a standard. We have taken action; practical action. And that is a considerable thing to have accomplished in this age of talk.

I think that is the great thing we have done. We have worked for Americanism, not resting content to spend fine words about it.

In so doing, I think, we have interpreted correctly the spirit that has made America; the spirit that is America. This Nation was built by men who took action. That spirit of action, that spirit of practical accomplishment, is the great American contribution to world culture. That spirit is not confined to great and sonorous affairs; battle fields, or the feeding of nations. It is worked out as well, in the facing of daily tasks with clear ideals and willing hands. It is the spirit of work, the spirit of building, in little things as well as great.

When a man lays one brick on top of another, and lays it plumb, he is contributing to this American ideal. When a man crossharrows a field for wheat and drills it with the best seed grain he can get he is doing his share of the work that makes America. And the planting of a tree is an American work, as truly a labor of Americanism as the maintenance of some great principle of our federal constitution.

In this spirit the Legion had developed its endeavor of Americanism. Eleven thousand posts, established under forty-nine departments in the continental United States, have turned practical vision and American energy to the doing of the tasks that lie at their own front doors. They are linked in a great national organization, and that aids immeasurably in the accomplishment of their local works; but in the long run it is the activities of the community posts of the Legion in their own home towns, that have brought the Legion into National evidence.

It is these posts that are planting trees, and laying the bricks of community clubhouses, and working in many other practical ways for the upbuilding and advancement of American life.

Much of this work, so individual, so widely scattered over the continent, cannot come into national prominence; but it is such work as this that establishes the strength of the Legion; so that on occasion the Legion, uniting upon a single observance, at a set time, exerts the power that awakens and stimulates the Nation. An example of this was American Education Week, when posts and departments of the Legion under the co-ordination of the National Americanism Commission, co-operated in bringing home the educational needs of the nation to the American people more directly and in a manner far more productive of results than had ever been done before.

That is Americanism, as we interpret it: Many workmen in many towns laboring each along his own avenue of endeavor for the upbuilding of a great National establishment of justice and culture. And all these avenues of endeavor lead in the same direction.
ORGANIZATION.

Each department should have a department chairman of Americanism, whose duties naturally follow the mandates as laid down by National Conventions and the Executive Committee. Your National Americanism Commission works through the department chairmen.

Where there is a county council the council should have an Americanism officer. Each post should have an Americanism officer.

In order to obtain the closest co-operation it is essential at all times to co-ordinate the efforts of the National organization and the State department through creating sentiment by means of the post Americanism officer. Publicity is our greatest asset. Let the people know that we have organized to serve our country in time of peace. Let them know we desire to be a community asset to co-operate with all patriotic, civic and other organizations who are working for a better community—to lead the nation in Americanism.

THE NATIONAL FLAG CONFERENCE.

A work unattempted since the beginning of the Republic was taken in hand and completed by the National Flag Conference, comprised of the representative delegates of sixty-eight great national patriotic and civic associations, convening in Memorial Continental Hall, Washington, D. C., June 14-15, at the instance of your National Americanism Commission. This council, under the sponsorship of The American Legion, evolved and completed a concise yet comprehensive code of civilian flag usage. This conference and code have awakened wide national interest and approval, and the code already has unofficially been accepted by the people of the United States as the ultimate authority on the many and much disputed matters concerning civilian honors due the flag of the United States.

The flag, as the living symbol of the American Republic, is entitled to all honor and respect from every citizen. The American people, patriotic at heart, are willing and anxious to pay such honors to their flag. But the manner of bestowal of such honors had never been defined in the hundred and forty-seven years of our Republic.

To supply this need, there had grown up a confused mass of local custom and indefinite traditions, without authority and often at conflict with good usage or good taste. Such traditions served in general only to confuse the civilian mind regarding the flag, and was conducive in the long run to carelessness and utter disrespect. The regulations established by the War and Navy Departments applied to the flag only as it entered into the ceremonials of the military and naval services. They were not designed for the citizen, and they meant nothing to the citizen. In the absence of any assured civilian code, the flag of the United States was coming to be looked upon more and more as a bit of bunting apt to serve the purposes of advertisers or of decorators, alike in halls of council and in street carnivals.

Yet the flag of the United States is a thing that men have died for, and it is a sacred thing. Disrespect for the flag symbolizes disrespect of law and indifference and ill will toward our great national establishment of Government and country.

To correct these conditions the conference was called. Delegates were in attendance representative of sixty-eight great organizations whose membership totals five millions of citizens. The conference was opened in person by the President of the United States, who delivered a forty-minute address to the delegates.

Other speakers during the various sessions were Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor; Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Navy; Dwight F. Davis, Assistant Secretary of War, and John J. Tigert, United States Commissioner of Education.

The director of your National Americanism Commission was chosen as chairman of the conference. Reports were delivered by various speakers on
practically all disputed matters of flag usage. Permanent organization was established, and the following committees were moved and appointed:

**Committee on Rules.** Wm. Tyler Page, Mrs. J. W. Frizzell, Gridley Adams, Mrs. Walter L. Finley and Herbert Choyinski.

**Committee on Code.** Mrs. Anthony Wayne Cook, O. C. Luxford, Captain George M. Chandler, Lieutenant Colonel H. S. Kerrie, E. S. Martin, Mrs. Henry Osgood Holland, Mrs. Livingstone Rowe Schuyler and Captain Chester Wells.

The committee on the code reported its conclusions, in the form of a tentative draft, at the beginning of the last general session of the conference. Each article of the proposed code was discussed and voted upon by the conference as a whole. The code as thus finally defined was adopted unanimously by the conference. The final text of the code follows:

**THE FLAG CODE**


The National Flag Conference, convened at the call of the American Legion in Memorial Continental Hall, Washington, D. C., on Flag Day, June 14, 1923, composed of delegates from the principal National patriotic, fraternal, educational and civic organizations, adopts the following Code and urges that every citizen be governed by this Code in the use and care of the Flag of the United States.

The Flag of the United States symbolizes that freedom, equality, justice and humanity for which our forefathers sacrificed their lives and personal fortunes. Today, this Flag represents a Nation of over one hundred million free people, its Constitution and institutions, its achievements and aspirations.

**Description of the Flag.** The Flag of the United States has 13 horizontal stripes—7 red and 6 white—the red and white stripes alternating, and a union which consists of white stars of five points on a blue field placed in the upper quarter next the staff and extending to the lower edge of the fourth red stripe from the top. The number of stars is the same as the number of States in the Union. The canton or union now contains 48 stars arranged in six horizontal and eight vertical rows, each star with one point upward. On the admission of a State into the Union a star will be added to the union of the Flag, and such addition will take effect on the 4th day of July next succeeding such admission. The proportions of the flag prescribed by Executive Order of President Taft, October 29, 1912, are as follows:

| Hoist (width) of flag | 1 |
| Fly (length) of flag | 1.9 |
| Hoist (width) of union | 7-13 |
| Fly (length) of union | 0.76 |
| Width of each stripe | 1-13 |
| Diameter of star | .0616 |

**Proper Manner of Displaying the Flag.** There are certain fundamental rules of heraldry which, if understood generally, would indicate the proper method of displaying the Flag. The matter becomes a very simple one if it is kept in mind that the National Flag represents the living country and is itself considered as a living thing. The union of the flag is the honor point; the right arm is the sword arm and therefore the point of danger and hence the place of honor.

1. The Flag should be displayed only from sunrise to sunset, or between such hours as may be designated by proper authority. It should be displayed on National and State holidays and on historic and special occasions. The flag should always be hoisted briskly and lowered slowly and ceremoniously.
2. When carried in a procession with another flag, or flags, the Flag of the United States should be either on the marching right, i.e., the Flag's own right, or when there is a line of other flags, the Flag of the United States may be in front of the center of that line.

3. When displayed with another flag, against a wall from crossed staffs, the Flag of the United States should be on the right, the Flag's own right, and its staff should be in front of the staff of the other flag.

4. When a number of flags are grouped and displayed from staffs, the Flag of the United States should be in the center or at the highest point of the group.

5. When the flags of States or cities or pennants of societies are flown on the same halyard with the Flag of the United States, the National Flag should always be at the peak. When flown from adjacent staffs the Flag of the United States should be hoisted first. No flag or pennant should be placed above or to the right of the Flag of the United States.

6. When flags of two or more Nations are displayed they should be flown from separate staffs of the same height and the flags should be of approximately equal size. (International usage forbids the display of the flag of one nation above that of another nation in time of peace.)

7. When the Flag is displayed from a staff projecting horizontally or at an angle from the window sill, balcony or front of building, the union of the Flag should go clear to the head of the staff unless the Flag is at half staff.

8. When the Flag of the United States is displayed in a manner other than by being flown from a staff, it should be displayed flat, whether indoors or out. When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be uppermost and to the Flag's own right, i.e., to the observer's left. When displayed in a window it should be displayed the same way, that is, with the union or blue field to the left of the observer in the street. When festoons, rosettes, or drappings of blue, white and red are desired, bunting should be used, but never the Flag.

9. When displayed over the middle of the street, as between buildings, the Flag of the United States should be suspended vertically with the union to the north in an east and west street or to the east in a north and south street.

10. When used on a speaker's platform, the Flag should be displayed above and behind the speaker. It should never be used to cover the speaker's desk nor to drape over the front of the platform. If flown from a staff it should be on the speaker's right.

11. When used in unveiling a statue or monument, the Flag should not be allowed to fall to the ground but should be carried aloft to wave out, forming a distinctive feature during the remainder of the ceremony.

12. When flown at half-staff, the Flag is first hoisted to the peak and then lowered to the half-staff position, but before lowering the Flag for the day it is raised again to the peak. On Memorial Day, May 30th, the Flag is displayed at half-staff from sunrise until noon and at full staff from noon until sunset for the Nation lives and the Flag is the symbol of the Living Nation.

13. When used to cover a casket, the Flag should be placed so that the union is at the head and over the left shoulder. The Flag should not be lowered into the grave nor allowed to touch the ground. The casket should be carried foot first.

14. When the Flag is displayed in church, it should be from a staff placed on the congregation's right as they face the clergyman. The service flag, the State flag or other flag should be at the left of the congregation. If in the
chancel, the Flag of the United States should be placed on the clergyman’s right as he faces the congregation and other flags on his left.

15. When the Flag is in such a condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, it should not be cast aside or used in any way that might be viewed as disrespectful to the National Colors, but it should be destroyed as a whole, privately, preferably by burning or by some other method in harmony with the reverence and respect we owe to the emblem representing our Country.

Cautions.

1. Do not permit disrespect to be shown to the Flag of the United States.
2. Do not dip the Flag of the United States to any person or anything. The regimental color, State Flag, organization or institutional Flag will render this honor.
3. Do not display the Flag of the United States with the union down except as a signal of distress.
4. Do not place any other flag or pennant above or to the right of the Flag of the United States.
5. Do not let the Flag of the United States touch the ground, or trail in the water.
6. Do not place any object or emblem of any kind on or above the Flag of the United States.
7. Do not use the Flag as drapery in any form whatever. Use bunting of blue, white and red.
8. Do not fasten the Flag in such manner as will permit it to be easily torn.
9. Do not drape the Flag over the hood, top, sides or back of a vehicle, or of a railroad train or boat. When the Flag is displayed on a motor car, the staff should be affixed firmly to the chassis, or clamped to the radiator cap.
10. Do not display the Flag on a float in a parade except from a staff.
11. Do not use the Flag as a covering for a ceiling.
12. Do not use the Flag as a portion of a costume or an athletic uniform. Do not embroider it upon cushions or handkerchiefs or print it on paper napkins or boxes.
13. Do not put lettering of any kind upon the Flag.
14. Do not use the Flag in any form of advertising nor fasten an advertisement sign to a pole from which the Flag of the United States is flying.
15. Do not display, use or store the Flag in such a manner as will permit it to be easily soiled or damaged.

Proper Use of Bunting. Bunting of the National Colors should be used for covering a speaker’s desk, draping over the front of a platform and for decoration in general. Bunting should be arranged with the blue above, the white in the middle and the red below.

Salute to the Flag. During the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the Flag or when the Flag is passing in a parade or in a review, all persons present should face the Flag, stand at attention and salute. Those present in uniform should render the right hand salute. When not in uniform, men should remove the headdress with the right hand and hold it at the left shoulder. Women should salute by placing the right hand over the heart. The salute to the Flag in the moving column is rendered at the moment the Flag passes.

When the National Anthem is played those present in uniform should salute at the first note of the Anthem retaining this position until the last note of the Anthem. When not in uniform, men should remove the headdress and hold it as in the salute to the Flag. Women should render the salute as to the Flag. When there is no Flag display, all should face toward the music.
Pledge to the Flag.

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

The Shield of the United States. The shield of the United States has 13 vertical stripes, 7 white and 6 red with a blue chief without stars.

National Anthem. "The Star Spangled Banner" is recommended for universal recognition as the National Anthem.

There is but one Federal statute which protects the Flag throughout the country from desecration. This law provides that a trade-mark cannot be registered which consists of or comprises, among other things, "the flag, coat of arms, or other insignia of the United States or any simulation thereof" (33 Stat. L. p. 725, Feb. 20, 1895.) Congress has also enacted legislation providing certain penalties for the desecration, mutilation or improper use of the Flag within the District of Columbia. (Feb. 8, 1917, 39. Stat. L. Page 900.)

Suggestions for State Legislation Regarding the Flag. Based upon opinion of the Supreme Court of the United States rendered by Justice John Marshall Harlan, every State should enact adequate laws for the protection of the National Flag. State Flag laws should include the following:
1. That June 14th, Flag Day, be set apart by proclamation of the Governor recommending that Flag Day be observed by people generally by the display of the Flag of the United States and in such other ways as will be in harmony with the general character of the day.
2. That the Flag of the United States be displayed on the main administration building of every public institution.
3. That the Flag of the United States with staff or flag pole be provided for every school house and that the Flag be displayed during school days either from a flag pole or in inclement weather within the school buildings.
4. That the Flag of the United States be displayed in every polling place.
5. That the use of the Flag of the United States as a receptacle for receiving, holding, carrying or delivering anything be prohibited.
6. That the use of the Flag for advertising purposes in any manner be prohibited.
7. That Penalty (fine and imprisonment) be provided for public mutilation, abuse or desecration of the Flag.

This code in its entirety has been printed in most of the leading newspapers of the country. It appeared in The American Legion Weekly of July 6, together with the story of the conference and two pages of illustrations depicting the proper uses of the Flag.

The code has been put into print by your National Americanism Commission in the form of a booklet entitled "Respect The Flag" and has been found to fill a great demand from local patriotic and civic organizations, both within and without the Legion, all over the country. It has been distributed to the number of 300,000, and has identified The American Legion with this patriotic service of flag respect, in the minds of the entire citizenship of the country.

The morale of nations, the spirit by which they live, is a matter of tradition and sentiment. The Flag of the United States occupies the right and foremost place in the great national establishment of America. To bring the subject of correct civilian flag usage directly before the Nation as a whole, and to clarify and define its use is an accomplishment of great value to the maintenance of the American ideal. It is a work worthy of The American Legion.

Immediately upon the adoption of the code by the flag conference, it was voted unanimously that the organizations there represented and their repre-
sentatives should form themselves into a somewhat permanent organization to carry on the work which had been there inaugurated.

Your national director was made permanent chairman of the permanent organization, as well as chairman of the executive committee, to carry on the work during the year and to report back to the conference which will be held on the 14th and 15th of June, 1924.

Since this permanent organization was formed, fifty-one other national organizations have asked to take part in the activities of the National Flag Conference, making a total of one hundred and nineteen organizations representing about twenty millions of people.

Many questions have arisen since the conference regarding matters which were not discussed or contemplated by the national body. Chief among these questions is the one of using mourning with the flag. This question was brought about by the death of our President Harding. A rule was made that to fly the flag at half-staff, the colors should be flown at a distance of one-half to a full width of the flag itself from the top of the pole. This, it was decided, would signify proper respect for our illustrious dead. If there is no staff and the flag is hung flat upon a building, it is proper to hang a piece of black bunting on either side of the flag but in no way attached to it. Nothing should ever be attached to the flag of the United States. Where there are standards in a post the mourning should be attached to the Post standard and not to the Flag of the United States. Many other questions will be taken up at a later date and will be given full publicity in The American Legion Weekly.

AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK DECEMBER 3 TO 9, 1922.

American Education Week has grown to such proportions there is hardly a hamlet in the country which does not in some way receive its work and endeavor. Through American Education Week the people of our country have a truer realization of the real principles for which our Legion stands. It has established our leadership in Americanism problems. We have brought together organizations, public officials and private citizens who before have been working separately—and we have co-ordinated the efforts of all to the accomplishment of a great purpose—the promotion of learning.

The following report is submitted of the second annual observance of American Education Week, December 3 to 9 inclusive, 1922, under the sponsorship of The American Legion, the United States Bureau of Education and the National Education Association:

The awakening of public interest in subjects vital to the national welfare is a great patriotic function of The American Legion. Upon this principle American Education Week has been initiated and sponsored as an annual national observance by the National Americanism Commission of The American Legion. It has proven a success.

The American Republic is a popular government; in other words, the people are entrusted with the management of public affairs, through their elected representatives. For the success of such a democracy, there must be an intelligent and informed voting population. This prime requisite has been threatened and enervated of late years by the increase of ignorance and of actual illiteracy. To meet the menace by correcting the condition, the educational program of The American Legion has been developed and established through the National Americanism Commission. American Education Week is an important feature of this program.

The Plan of Observance. Complete and careful preparation was made for the campaign. It was realized that a clear and sharp definition must first be had of the objectives to be attained. The Legion's concern was with education in its relation to American citizenship—American education, distinctively. For this reason the name American Education Week was chosen.

There are fundamental essentials of education that enable a person properly to assume the responsibilities of citizenship. To the cultivation of these
essentials the Week was dedicated. To place the program more clearly before all participants, each day was assigned a special subject for consideration; and the following program was worked out as follows:

**AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK**

**Program**

Children today, citizens tomorrow
A man of knowledge increaseth might.
No illiteracy by 1927
A sick body makes a sick mind.

**THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**THE NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**

**THE UNITED STATES BUREAU OF EDUCATION**

**FOR GOD AND COUNTRY**

Sunday, December 3, 1922.
1. Education in the home.
2. Education in the school.
3. Education in the church.

Slogan—A Godly nation cannot fail.
Ministers of all denominations are urged to preach a sermon on education, either morning or evening. All communities are urged to hold mass meetings. Request for speakers should be made to The American Legion Posts throughout the country for meetings during this week.

**AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP DAY**

Monday, December 4, 1922.
1. Children today, citizens tomorrow.
2. Naturalization for all alien-resident men and women.
3. Help the immigrants to become Americans.
4. The duties of citizenship.

Slogans—Visit the schools today. American all by 1927.

**PATRIOTISM DAY**

Tuesday, December 5, 1922.
1. The flag—the emblem of freedom.
2. Music as a nation builder.
4. The citizens' duty to vote.

Slogans—Visit the schools today. Patriotism is the basis of a happy nation.

**SCHOOL AND TEACHER DAY.**

Wednesday, December 6, 1922.
1. The necessity of schools.
2. The teacher as a nation builder.
3. The schools' influence of the coming generation.
4. America as an educated nation.

Slogans—Visit the school today. Better trained and better paid teachers, more adequate buildings.

**ILLITERACY DAY.**

Thursday, December 7, 1922.
1. Illiteracy as a blot on our nation.
2. No illiteracy in 1927.
3. A citizen's duty toward the uneducated.
4. No immigration until illiteracy among native and foreign-born is removed.

Slogans—Visit the schools today. Let every citizen adopt and teach an illiterate to read and write.

**EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY.**

Friday, December 8, 1922.
1. Equality of opportunity in education for every American boy and girl.
2. Rural schools—City schools.
3. High schools—Colleges.
4. American institutions.

Slogans—Visit the schools today. Let all have an equal opportunity for education. A square deal for the country boy and girl.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION DAY.**

Saturday, December 9, 1922.
1. Playgrounds.
2. Physical education and hygiene.
3. The great out-of-doors.
4. The country's need in conservation and development of forests, soil, roads and other resources.

Slogans—A sick body makes a sick mind. Playgrounds in every community. Athletes all.
The National Education Association printed and mailed out about 200,000 of these programs for American Education Week and about 25,000 forty-eight page bulletins giving up-to-date statistical and other information on each of the subjects on the main program. The Commissioner wrote letters to all county and city superintendents, to all normal school and college presidents, and to thousands of other people, calling attention to the importance of observing the week in every community, suggesting policies and plans, and giving general help.

National organizations and local and state educational authorities were authorized to reprint the program and bulletin. It is estimated that this resulted in printing and distributing 500,000 additional programs and other information.

The cordial co-operation of the United States Bureau of Education, under the able direction of John J. Tigert, United States Commissioner of Education, cannot be too highly emphasized or too gratefully acknowledged. It is owing to this co-operation that practically all of the educational publications in the country, to the number of 325, carried illustrative material of current interest on American Education Week. This material was broadcasted by the Bureau of Education. Mr. Tigert also maintained personal communication with all state educational agencies and officials, in addition to writing for publication in the interest of the Week. To the abilities and energy of Mr. Tigert the Legion and the nation are alike indebted, in this field of the fostering of education.

National Co-ordination. In further preparation, the active co-operation of practically all the great national organizations of the country, to the number of 103, was secured through personal correspondence. As an example of this work of preparation, let me cite the manner of securing the co-operation of Chambers of Commerce. From these offices letters were written to the Chambers of Commerce of all cities of 10,000 inhabitants or above. This was one of many such enterprises.

The establishment of active liaison with all these organizations, co-ordinating their motive force and their great membership in this effort for the fostering of American education, gives promise of accomplishment under Legion leadership in the future. The Legion's appreciation is due these organizations.

Official Recognition. A special proclamation for American Education Week was issued by President Harding. In forty-two of the forty-eight States of the Union, official commitment was made by the Governors of those states, either by proclamation or by statement, to the observance of the week. Local proclamations or official statements were issued in practically all cities and towns.

The Work of The Legion. The success of American Education Week is direct evidence of the strength and loyalty of our national organization. The practically unanimous response of the Legion membership to such an endeavor of service is most significant. It augurs well for the future leadership of the Legion in the nation, for a better country.

Co-operation of posts and departments all over the country was afforded in the fullest measure. A typical example is that of the department which placed in every public and parochial school of its State a copy of the Legion's Americanism chart, and in addition supplied three hundred speakers for schools, clubs, lodges and commercial organizations. The commanders of all departments requested the Governors of their States to issue proclamations. Through the departments the programs of the week were distributed to all posts; in many States localized publicity matter compiled at department headquarters was also distributed. Department officers were invaluable in affecting liaison with State education authorities and officials. Most of the departments issued special bulletins of instruction to all their posts in connection with the observance.

No less praiseworthy was the work of our posts, the essential units of the Legion. Space limitations forbid any save general mention of their activities.
They put the program over. There is no report of any community in the country wherein the local post did not afford complete co-operation.

There are many reports, moreover, of the assistance afforded the local posts by their Auxiliary units. Work for the education of American youth appeals to woman-kind. The women of the Auxiliary, through their knowledge of local conditions, brought home that appeal and translated it into action. Acknowledgment is due Dr. Kate Waller Barrett, National President of the Auxiliary, for her eloquent proclamation to the women of her organization and for her cordial co-operation in all ways.

Publicity. Special articles on American Education Week were secured from Nicholas Murray Butler, President of Columbia University; John J. Tigert, United States Commissioner of Education; and other educators and publicists of note. These articles were carried widely in the press, with excellent results.

Newspaper publicity was obtained in far greater measure than any educational project ever received before, bar none. It is conservative to state that the story of American Education Week has been placed at least once before the eyes of every reader of English-language newspapers in America. And many translations and editorials were likewise carried in the foreign-language press, to a reading public to whom this educational endeavor bore a peculiar appeal.

The national aspects of the campaign from a news viewpoint were presented through 16,000 newspapers of the country, and likewise through 197 department and post publications of the Legion. Pictures and stories originating from these offices were distributed by such newspaper syndicates as the Newspaper Enterprise Association, the Central Press Association, the Western Union, Underwood and Underwood, Autocaster Service, Pacific and Atlantic Photos, and the Time Wide World. The Associated Press, the United Press and the International News Service carried stories of current interest concerning the week.

Local news notices, stimulated by the above-mentioned service, were greatly facilitated and advanced by the plan of the week itself. The plan as a whole afforded material for one story in the papers; and the developments of each day as observed in the community afforded other items. The week, and each day in addition, called also for editorial comment. It is not too much to say that in most of the communities of the country the local papers carried stories on education, in connection with The American Legion, through the course of the entire week.

The second and fourth Weekly magazines in America, in point of circulation carried complete articles on the week and its accomplishments. These magazines are the Literary Digest and The American Legion Weekly. Their combined circulation is over two and a quarter million, comprising about the most thoughtful and influential element of the reading population of the country.

So much for printed publicity. The spoken work carries often a more direct appeal. Provision was made for this. It was suggested that clergymen of all denominations avail themselves of the topic of education for the Sunday of December 3, the opening day of the week. As a result, thousands of sermons upon this subject were delivered.

Data for speakers was likewise prepared by the Speakers' Bureau of National Headquarters, in the form of a set oration under seven subheads corresponding to the subjects assigned to each day of the Week. Each subhead afforded material for a four-minute speech; or all might be combined in a general address running half an hour. This material was mailed to the listed Legion speakers, numbering three thousand. Through the courtesy of the circulation department of The American Legion Weekly the letter was likewise mailed to every post adjutant of The American Legion, to the number of 11,048. Addresses on Education Week were broadcasted by radio on several occasions to large audiences.
PRESS COMMENT. Facilities for the collection of newspaper clippings are limited in these offices. Nevertheless enough have been secured to afford an accurate gauge of the public response to American Education Week. Editorials to the number of 624, taken from publications of all sizes and from all parts of the country may be considered a safe basis for the drawing of conclusions. With but one exception, the sense of these is highly favorable to the Legion and its endeavor.

Practically all make two main points in commin: Surprise at the fact, hitherto ignored, that the United States stands eleventh in literacy of the leading nations of the world; and appreciation and a new understanding of The American Legion in its great work for the national welfare. Such editorial comment may be taken as representative of the public mind on the matter.

Instances of the Observance. For clearer understanding, let me give a few concrete examples of the observance of the week. Please understand that these examples are taken at random, merely for illustration, that no effort has been made to select any locality for special mention, and that any general summary of these observances is impossible because of limitation of space.

In Des Moines, Iowa, one feature of the observance was an Americanism pageant put on by more than two hundred students representing twenty different nationalities. In the city of Denver the week was inaugurated by a parade of school children, featuring seven decorated floats illustrative of the principles of each day's observance. The American Legion night school at East Rochester, N. Y., graduated forty aliens for naturalization during the week. In the city of Minneapolis the high school students under endorsement of the Legion took over the entire city administration for the course of one hour. To continue:

New Orleans, La.—More than 20,000 adults visited the schools of the city in the course of the week. Dunkirk, Ind.—Prizes were awarded by the local Legion post for the best essays written by the school children on Americanism. Columbia, S. C.—Mass meetings were held for amendment of the State constitution to allow a larger appropriation for education. Quincy, Ill.—Essays by the school children on Americanism subjects were published in the local papers. Columbus, O.—The public schools were hosts at mass meetings for discussion of citizenship and illiteracy.

Duluth, Minn.—Seventy-five per cent of the city's parents visited the schools during the course of the week. Cincinnati, O.—Three thousand silk flags were presented to the schools, and patriotic exercises were inaugurated. Hagerstown, Md.—Students conducted a program of speech-making, discussing educational matters from their own viewpoint. Springfield, Ill.—Legion speakers delivered addresses in the twelve school auditoriums of the city on the ceremonials of the flag. Lancaster, Pa.—Community organizations acted as hosts to the school children in a day's program, including movies, a bazaar and a community party. Kansas City, Kan.—Local Legion organizations gave prizes for essays on citizenship. Louisville, Ky.—Reunions of school graduates featured a "Visit-the-Schools Night." Huron, S. D.—Special American Education Week edition of the local newspaper was published entirely by Legionnaires (and a good job done). Houston, Tex.—Women's organizations sponsor playgrounds and physical culture. East Rochester, N. H.—Students give public demonstration of school methods before mass meeting. Lynn, Mass.—A seven-city mass-meeting was held to discuss education; immigrants studying for citizenship spoke before the meeting.

Summary. All this constitutes but a brief survey of the salient features in the national observance of American Education Week. It is a summary in itself. Briefly to recapitulate, let me observe that your National Americanism Commission has in this affair succeeded in translating into terms of concrete progress the great endeavor of the Legion for better citizenship.
Through this observance, great national interest has been awakened in the education of the youth of the land. The problem has been that of presenting the educational needs of America to the people who support the schools. This has been done. It is the first step in our building for the years to come; for only through education can be developed a citizenship worthy of a great nation. It has been our privilege to aid in this work.

The results of such an awakening of public sentiment are instant and various. Unfortunate local educational conditions, once brought to light, will be corrected. The ground is prepared for the enactment of needed education legislation. In the light of open discussion brought about by this observance, the further educational endeavors of the Legion are facilitated; the patriotic teaching of true American history, for example, and the introduction of courses of instruction tending to the development of civic responsibility through understanding. A great blow has thereby been dealt those forces of lawless self-interest who would substitute anarchy for order, by virtue of misleading propaganda designed to appeal to the ignorant. And, last but not least, a great stimulus has been given to the American education of alien immigrants.

The observance of American Education Week has brought forward the posts of The American Legion in their proper character—that of the leaders in community endeavor for a better America.

Such is the record of American Education Week for 1922. This annual observance has, in the course of three years, become an established feature of the life of the nation.

AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK NOVEMBER 18 to 24, 1923.

Preparations have been initiated and carried out in full detail for the observance of American Education Week in 1923. The date has been advanced to the week of November 18 to 24, inclusive. The observance is to be held under the same sponsorship, with the same nation-wide cooperation to an even increased measure.

At the suggestion of our late beloved President Harding, who was vitally interested in this movement and who believed that the advanced holiday season interfered somewhat with the plans as outlined in our program, we were advised to hold American Education Week the week before Thanksgiving. The committee in charge decided that the President's suggestion was very valuable and advanced the date to November 18 to 24, inclusive.

We have already started on our campaign and have received the assurances of nearly all the great national organizations that they will cooperate with us. The campaign this year will far surpass any endeavor of such a nature ever undertaken in the United States of America or elsewhere.

It would be well at this point to discuss briefly the suggestion offered in the program. Communications received from chambers of commerce, boards of trade, luncheon clubs, fraternal, civic, religious, labor, patriotic and other organizations in almost every community, inform us that they look to the Legion posts to assume the leadership and that they will cooperate in every way possible. If therefore is incumbent upon every post to appoint an Americanism officer to take charge locally. He should organize a committee consisting of representatives from all local organizations, public and school officials, and work out a constructive program, at the same time placing before the people of his community the educational questions which should have their attention.


1. Urge ministers of all denominations to preach upon the subject of education, Sunday, November 18, 1923.

2. Urge the Mayor to issue a proclamation setting aside this week as American Education Week and asking the people to cooperate.
3. Urge the newspapers to give all space possible to educational matters, articles, editorials, and news material.

4. Urge the merchants to use window displays appropriate for the occasion. Urge them to devote as much space as possible to matters of education in their newspaper advertisements.

5. Ask the moving picture theaters to flash slides on the screen urging the people to visit the schools and study educational questions.

6. Have speakers, at all public meetings held that week talk a few minutes on the necessity of education.

7. Cooperate with educational officials and with patriotic, civic, and fraternal organizations.

8. Advertise American Education Week on letterheads and envelopes.

The American Legion’s local Post is working with you. The country looks to The American Legion to pave the way to patriotism and education—service to Nation, State, and community.

Great forces in this country are unalterably and unwisely opposed to correcting the evil of illiteracy which menaces the very foundation of our Republic. These interests spend vast sums of money annually to combat those patriotic Americans who desire that we should advance our country to the highest plane of civilization. They have not enough foresight to see the ultimate result of their foolhardiness. They would bring into our country millions and millions of illiterate foreigners as laborers in order to gain a few miserable dollars for themselves; they would ruin their country for paltry sums of money; they would wreck its ideals to gain their own selfish ends. The phrase in our Declaration of Independence, “that all men are created equal,” means, I believe, that all men should have an equality of opportunity in a government such as ours. Therefore, it is the duty of The American Legion to work towards the accomplishment of those things set out in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States of America. We are combatting the attempts of these interests in their un-American, unpatriotic and selfish views. Again I must remind you that we can only accomplish our ends through the closest cooperation and through coordinating the efforts of all patriotic, civic, and other organizations. Let every post put forth its best efforts in taking the leadership in this work.

The following is the program for American Education Week, 1923:

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY
Sunday, November 18, 1923.
1. Education in the home.
2. Education in the school.
3. Education in the church.
Slogan—A Godly nation cannot fail.

Ministers of all denominations are urged to preach sermons on education, either morning or evening. Communities are all urged to hold mass meetings. Requests for speakers should be made to Legion Posts throughout the country for meetings during this week.

AMERICAN CONSTITUTION DAY
Monday, November 19, 1923.
1. Life, liberty and justice.
2. How the Constitution guarantees these.
3. Revolutionists and Radicals a menace to these guarantees.

Slogans—Visit the schools today. Ballots, not bullets.

PATRIOTISM DAY
Tuesday, November 20, 1923.
1. The flag—the emblem of the nation.
2. Help the immigrants and aliens to become Americans.
3. Take an active interest in governmental affairs.
4. Music as an influence upon a nation.

Slogans—Visit the schools today. America first.

SCHOOL AND TEACHER DAY
Wednesday, November 21, 1923.
1. The necessity of schools.
2. The teacher as a nation builder.
3. The school influence on the coming generation.
4. School needs in the community.
5. The school as a productive institution.

Slogans—Visit the schools today. Better trained and better paid teachers, more adequate buildings.

ILLITERACY DAY
Thursday, November 22, 1923.
1. Illiteracy—a menace to our nation.
2. An American's duty toward the uneducated.
3. Let every citizen teach one illiterate.
4. No immigration until illiteracy among native and foreign-born is removed.

Slogans—Visit the schools today. No illiteracy by 1927—it can be done.

COMMUNITY DAY
Friday, November 23, 1923.
1. Equality of opportunity in education for every American boy and girl.
2. Rural schools—City schools—Colleges.
3. A public library for every community.

Slogans—Visit the schools today. An equal chance for all children. A square deal for the country boy and girl.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DAY
Saturday, November 24, 1923.
1. Playgrounds.
2. Physical education and hygiene.
3. The great out-of-doors.
4. The country's need in conservation and development of forests, soil, roads, and other resources.

Slogans—A sick body makes a sick mind. Playgrounds in every community. Athletes, all.

THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL ESSAY CONTEST 1922.

Last year more than 50,000 participated in the American Legion National Essay Contest, which was won by Ah Sing Ching, a Hawaiian youth of Chinese extraction, and interest promises to be even greater this year.

The subject announced for 1923, is "Why America Should Prohibit all Immigration for Five Years," and echoes one of the principal policies of the national organization of the Legion.

The contest is also in conformity with the Legion's plan for furtherance of Americanization through education, and is under direction of the Americanism Commission. Interest in national questions among children, believe leaders of the Legion, will become one of the vitalizing forces for the development of Americanism. The success of the 1922 contest is an example.

It is conservative to estimate that 250,000 essays will be submitted in the present contest. This means that a quarter of a million coming citizens of America will be engaged for a period of time in studying a national problem of vital concern.

The following report is submitted of the 1922 essay contest, initiated to foster civic spirit in the students of the country by awakening their interest in current public problems, and managed for that purpose by the National Americanism Commission, supervising the cooperative activities of the Department Americanism Commissions of the Legion, in conjunction with the school establishments of the various States.

The future of the republic to which the service of the Legion is devoted depends ultimately and entirely upon the degree of intelligent interest in public affairs that is manifested by the citizenship. The great patriotic activities of the Legion center largely upon this end—the cultivation of better citizenship, adequately to meet and deal with the problems arising in the popular management of the national affairs. These activities of the Legion have been entrusted to the National Americanism Commission for conduct and co-ordination.
The success of such policy has been sharply set forth by such instances as the great national observances of American Education Week. A similar example is the establishment of the National Essay Contest.

The Idea and the Application. The project of the Essay Contest was developed early in 1922, at National Headquarters. To the patriotic spirit of Hanford MacNider, then National Commander of the Legion, is owing the national prizes in the form of three scholarships for the first, second and third prize winners; for which purpose Mr. MacNider donated $2,000. Mr. MacNider has repeatedly expressed the desire that his name be given no publicity in connection with this donation. But, in this instance of the official report of the contest, the National Americanism Commission wishes duly to express its appreciation to Mr. MacNider, and to accord him due acknowledgment.

Plans were immediately worked out for the conduct of the contest.

On May 25th of 1922, the following bulletin of instructions compiled by the National Americanism Commission was issued to all departments and posts of the Legion.

THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL ESSAY CONTEST.

Subject: "How The American Legion Can Best Serve the Nation."

The American Legion National Scholarship Prizes:
- First prize, $750.
- Second prize, $500.
- Third prize, $250.

First prize in each State will be a silver medal, second prize a bronze medal; the award for the essay entitled to third place, a certificate of merit issued from National Headquarters of The American Legion.

The cash prizes will be used only toward scholarships in colleges designated by the winners.

Rules. All boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 18, inclusive, are eligible to enter this contest.
- Only one essay to a person.
- Essays will not be over 500 words in length.
- Essays should be written in an affirmative and constructive way.
- Only one side of paper to be used. A margin of one inch must be allowed on either side of the paper.
- After essay is completed, paper should be neatly folded—not rolled.
- Spelling, penmanship and neatness will be considered in judging the winner.
- Age will also be given full consideration.

Date. All essays must be received at a place designated by the County Superintendent of Schools not later than midnight of October 6, 1922.

County Judges. The County Superintendent of Schools is asked to select three judges for his county, whose duty it will be to judge the one best essay for their respective county. The Americanism officer of the county shall co-operate in every way with the Superintendent of Schools and the judges of the contest.

The winning essay of each county should be forwarded to the Department Americanism Chairman of The American Legion not later than midnight of October 20, 1922.

Department Judges. The State Superintendent or School Commissioner of the State Schools will be asked to select three judges for his state. The duties of the state judges will be to select the three best essays from the winners in the counties of the state.

These essays shall be forwarded to the National Americanism Director
of The American Legion, Indianapolis, Indiana, not later than midnight of October 31, 1922.

Pledge. At the end of each essay, the following pledge must be signed:

"I hereby pledge my word of honor that I have written this essay myself. I am__________ years old."

(Signed) Name of Contestant.

It will be observed that this plan calls for the cooperation of divisions and subdivisions of The American Legion, National, State and local, working in conjunction with the corresponding agencies of public instruction. Such a scheme of endeavor brings forward the Legion in all its establishments throughout the nation, as the general sponsor for a noteworthy educational effort. The result is an increase of the interest of Legionnaires in their posts and departments, and of communities in the Legion.

National Judges. It was apparent that men of high standing and of national note should be selected as judges to select the national prize-winning essays. In fulfillment of this decision, the following gentlemen were invited to fill these places, and accepted:

John J. Tigert, United States Commissioner of Education.
E. E. Brown, Chancellor of New York University.
S. S. McClure, Editor and Publisher.

Acknowledgment is due these gentlemen of our sincere appreciation of their cordial cooperation and assistance.

The Course of the Contest. The contest thus initiated was carried on from these offices by your National Americanism Commission. In spite of the fact that the summer vacations in practically all schools came directly within the time set for the contest, wide interest was aroused. The National Americanism Commission established direct liaison, through personal correspondence, with all Department Americanism Chairmen of the Legion; with all State Superintendents of Schools, and even with all County Superintendents.

Announcements of the contest were inserted and carried in The American Legion Weekly to the eight hundred thousand members of the Legion. Announcements and expositions of the contest were broadcast to three thousand Legion speakers, through the National Speakers' Information Service issued at National Headquarters. As the contest developed, stories and pictures were disseminated to the press through the American Legion News-Service.

Further publicity was obtained through the personal cooperation of Mr. John Tigert, United States Commissioner of Education.

The result of these efforts surpassed all expectations. From reports received from all departments of Continental United States and from the American territories overseas, the most conservative estimate of essays written for the contest places the number at fifty thousand.

The Winners. In spite of the great extent of territory covered, the difficulties of coordination of all cooperating agencies, these fifty thousand essays were handled and judged very nearly in accordance with the schedule first set. Three winning essays were selected in order of first, second and third, in each department; and these were sent from all departments to the offices of the National Americanism Commission at National Headquarters. Here they were classified and filed. And from these offices, a copy of each essay awarded first place in its department was mailed to the national judges in Washington, D. C. From these first-prize essays of all departments were selected the three national prize-winners. Therefore, the announcement
of the national prize-winners came last in point of time. The winners of
the national prizes were:

First prize—Ah Sing Ching, Ewa, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii.
Second prize—Pauline Virginia Chastain, Indianapolis, Indiana.

In addition, the National judges awarded honorable mention to the fol-

owing:

Philip E. Moseley, Westfield, Mass.
Ralph R. Sullivan, Two Harbors, Minn.

To those given first place in each Department was awarded a silver medal
of artistic merit, bearing the American Legion emblem as an insert in a
conventional design with the words “American Legion National Essay Contest.”

For second prize winners the medal was duplicated in bronze. Those who
made third place received a certificate of merit from National Headquarters
of the Legion, signed by the National Commander and by the National
Director of the Americanism Commission.

In distributing these awards your National Americanism Commission
arranged for a formal presentation ceremony for each recipient, in so far
as possible; the ceremony to be conducted by the local post of the Legion in
the winning contestant’s community, in connection, if possible, with some
form of patriotic school exercise.

Conclusion. Through the establishment of the Essay Contest for the
year of 1922, the attention of more than fifty thousand of the coming citizens
of America was focused upon The American Legion for its relation to national
problems. Cooperation to this effect was secured throughout the organization
of the Legion and the Nation’s schools.

Pictures and stories of various officials of the contest and of the national
prize winners, as well as the many prize winners in the departments, were
carried widely in the press all over the country. The leading press syndicates
carried pictorial and narrative data along this line. News syndicates such as
(and including) the Associated Press, carried the story on the wires. In addi-
tion to this general distribution, the stories of the contest and of the various
winners in their localities, were “played up” without exception in the local
press. Such a volume of publicity in connection with education is more than
gratifying; and very significant of the great influence of the American Legion
in its patriotic service. Moreover, much favorable editorial comment was
evoked throughout the country.

Significant also is the list of the National prize winners. First prize was
won by a Chinese-American boy in Hawaii; second prize by a girl student of
the old American stock, in Indianapolis, and third prize by an Italian-American
boy in Connecticut. Such a list splendidly illustrates the geographical
extent in which a wide diversity of race and inherited culture is uniting
under the same ideals, beneath the same flags, making use of the same lan-
guage to develop the great Americanism of the years to come. In its contri-
bution to such a development, through the medium of this National Essay
Contest, your National Americanism Commission has handled a work worthy
of the Legion which established it for such purposes.

The following program has been worked out for The American Legion
National Essay Contest for 1923:

THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL ESSAY CONTEST 1923.

May 25th-October 12th, 1923.

“In conducting an Essay Contest for American school children, The
American Legion is fulfilling one of its many duties, namely, the promotion
of interest in patriotism among the younger generation and the fostering
of education.”

Subject: “Why America Should Prohibit Immigration for Five Years.”
The American Legion National Scholarship Prizes:
First prize, $750.
Second prize, $500.
Third prize, $250.

First prize in each State will be a silver medal; Second prize a bronze medal; Third prize a certificate of merit issued by National Headquarters of the Legion.

The cash prizes will be used only toward scholarships in colleges designated by the winners.

Rules. All girls and boys between the ages of 12 and 18, inclusive, are eligible to enter this contest.
Only one essay to a person.
Essays will not be over 500 words in length.
Only one side of paper to be used. A margin of one inch must be allowed on either side of the paper.
After essay is completed, paper should be neatly folded—not rolled.
Spelling, penmanship and neatness will be considered in judging the winner.
Age will also be given full consideration.

Date. All essays must be received at a place designated by the County Superintendent of Schools not later than midnight of October 12, 1923.

County Judges. The County Superintendent of Schools is asked to select three judges for his county, whose duty it will be to judge the one best essay for their respective county. The Americanism officer of the county shall co-operate in every way with the Superintendent of Schools and the judges of the contest.

The winning essay of that county should be forwarded to the Department Americanism Chairman of The American Legion not later than midnight of November 1, 1923.

Department Judges. The State Superintendent or School Commissioner of the State schools will be asked to select three judges for their state. The duties of the state judges will be to select the three best essays from the winners in the counties of the state.

These essays shall be forwarded to the National Americanism Director of The American Legion, Indianapolis, Indiana, not later than midnight of November 5, 1923.

These essays shall be classified first, second and third.
The National winners will be announced a few weeks after November 15, 1923, by the National judges, whose names will be announced later.

Pledge. At the end of each essay, the following pledge must be signed:
"I hereby pledge my word of honor that I have written this essay myself. I am_________ years old."

(Signed) Name of Contestant.

Street Address.
Town.
Date.

This contest has received the widest publicity ever accorded a similar endeavor. Its beginning being set on May 25th, advance publicity was arranged for prior to the closing of the schools. Department adjutants and department Americanism officers of the Legion, School Superintendents of
States, and National organizations to the number of one hundred and thirty, were notified in advance of the contest, and were supplied with programs in quantity. They were requested to disseminate these programs throughout their respective regions, to secure publicity for them in their local press, and the like. The results were surprising and very gratifying; your Americanism Commission received the utmost of cooperation from practically all these individuals and organizations. Programs of the contest were published in local papers all over the country, and in many magazines.

Besides the favorable press comment early elicited by the contest, publicity was renewed at the time of the reopening of the schools after the summer holidays, to very good effect. The contest was closed to further entries on the twelfth of this month. The essays submitted are now in the hands of the county judges selected in accordance with the program above set forth, undergoing the preliminary ratings. A conservative estimate, taken from all available sources of information, places the number of essays submitted at two hundred and fifty thousand.

**Essay Contests.** Scholarships, silver trophies, cash prizes, certificates of merit, medals and other prizes have been offered by the different departments and posts in the National Essay Contest. They have helped to stimulate an interest in the departments where they are offered.

At different times during the past year various departments and posts have conducted essay contests in their communities, aside from the National Essay Contest conducted by your Americanism Commission. All such activities are worthy of praise as they stimulate the desire for education.

**HISTORY INVESTIGATION.**

The committee on history investigation, at the time this report was written, had about half completed their investigation.

Much of the agitation and complaint regarding school textbooks in history has apparently come from prejudiced sources—from men and institutions that are themselves propagandists and who use this method of checking their own un-American sentiments.

The formal complaints published after "investigation" have been by men apparently incompetent to sit in judgment on historical data. For example, the Commissioner of Accounts of New York City. We believe that there are a sufficient number of thoroughly competent educational experts who can pass on such matters without calling in a Commissioner of Accounts.

We do not believe that such men as Muzzey of Columbia University, West of the University of Michigan, Hart of Harvard, McLaughlin of Chicago University, Van Tyle of the University of Michigan, Guiteau, Director of Schools, Toledo, are unpatriotic or that their books were written as the result of organized propaganda.

We believe, however, that the authors have laid themselves open to just criticism because of the fact that they have sometimes made statements from the point of view of a critic or investigator rather than from that of a teacher. Their work is thus perhaps legitimate for the advanced student and investigator but not in our opinion for the public school pupil.

We believe also that some of these authors are at fault in placing before immature pupils the blunders, foibles and frailties of prominent heroes and patriots of our Nation. History should be taught with a view to inspiring our boys and girls with love of country and admiration for noble ideals. If a pupil is lead to believe that a great National hero was guilty of weakness and crime he is likely to excuse such failings in himself and others. School texts should not belittle men who have given their lives for their country even if it should be discovered by experts that they have been subject to ordinary human frailties.

We believe too that some of the writers have been guilty of introducing matters of controversial nature without giving adequate space (which in the nature of the case they could not do) for presentation of the essential facts on both sides. In some instances the author's own personal views in
such subjects seem to be exploited. An example is the treatment of the
tariff in some of the text books.

Material is sometimes presented to give critical results of recent his-
torical research, rather than to influence good citizenship. The list of funda-
mental principles of The American Legion History given above states our
ideas of the matter which should be presented and the method of its
presentation.

With regard to subjects that may be internationally controversial, such
as the American Revolution, it should be borne in mind that a good majority
of the colonists supported the Revolution and had firm faith in the rectitude of
their conduct and that almost all of our people have since believed that they
were right, and we do not believe that it is in the interest of good citizenship
to have that faith called in question.

We believe that much of the criticism against so-called pro-Anglican
statements is prompted by pro-German sentiments. For example the objec-
tion to referring to England as the mother country. The Colonist themselves
used this term. The objection seems to be purely captious and in a line
with a recent agitation to create another language than the English as the
language of America.

While we do not believe in glorifying war we believe that some of our
great National victories and our National heroes should be written up in a
more inspirational manner than is done in some histories. We are confident
that this will be accomplished in The American Legion History now being
written.

HISTORY.

The teaching of American history should be made compulsory in all
our schools. There is a great basic idea, which is an ideal as well, that lies
at the very foundation of our established nation. That practical concept
and that glorious ideal alike are this—that through our democratic govern-
mental system of republican form, the people are competent to manage the
public affairs of the people.

This concept, this vision, constitute the great American contribution to
civilization. It was something new and strange and untried at the time of
the American Revolution. It was an ideal which the American people
vindicated through struggle and sacrifice. If struggle and sacrifice are indeed
considerable things, then it must be our duty to maintain and forward this
principle of popular government.

In so maintaining and in so forwarding this ideal, we must mark with
clear eyes the first prime requisite of popular government. What might this
be? Surely above all things, an intelligent and informed voting population;
for the vote is the lever whereby the citizen sways the affairs of the nation.
For the casting of this vote, there must be thoughtfulness, there must be
judgment, there must be knowledge of the nation. No men can properly
decide upon matters which they have not come adequately to understand.

The board of directors of any good corporation is made up of men
trained and experienced in the business world and familiar with the in-
dustry upon which their corporation is based. Then what of the board of
directors of the United States of America, who are none other than the
people of America—for in their hands is the management of the national
affairs.

We believe that training in citizenship is essential to the future of the
nation. Such training in citizenship can not be had, without proper knowl-
dge of the development and history of the nation.

Man loves to create, to build things up rather than destroy them. He
is naturally constructive, not destructive. Otherwise our race could never
have continued to exist on earth—and to progress. The World War taught
all of us this one thing, that war is a horror of destruction to be resorted
to only in absolute necessity.

War can only be prevented by good Government. Government is the
effort of men to find some way of living together in society, instead of each
man hiding in a separate cave and defending his life and possessions with a club. Government means organization; construction as opposed to destruction. It means civilization. To it we owe all that makes life worth while, our cities, post-offices, opera-houses, roads, ships, harbors, books, SCHOOLS.

Destruction, however, is far easier than construction. Only a strong government can keep in check those treacherous or insane persons who seek to destroy rather than create. When these enemies of society plunder solely for themselves, they are criminals. When they rave in crazy denunciation of all government, they are anarchists. In addition to these two destructive classes, thieves and anarchists, there are always some unfortunate folk so densely ignorant that they become the dupes and tools of the other “destroyers.” Those poor ignorant folk are the really dangerous enemies of society, for they are in reckless earnest. They thrive in Russia where there are few schools. America’s chief defense against them is the SCHOOLS.

These schools are the most valuable possessions of our nation, its strongest help to progress. In an autocracy the only way to defend society against its destroyers is to meet violence with violence. In a Democracy our chief weapon of protection must always be, not our police, but our SCHOOLS.

We boast that our people do their own governing. They do not need to have a powerful king or a wise aristocracy to do it for them. But a government is a complex and difficult affair; it can be no stronger nor wiser nor better than its governors. A stream cannot rise higher than its source. Our future lies in the hands of our children. If they are badly trained, their government will be bad. If they grow up ignorant or anarchistic or otherwise “destructive,” our Government will be destroyed. Let us look to the SCHOOLS.

We are determined that these schools shall continue to be what they always have been, the best in the world.

To make good citizens of our children, the most effective study in our schools is HISTORY, our own history. Our past, despite its occasional mistakes, has been so glorious that its proper study must inspire any child to patriotism and to “constructive” desire for the future.

Of late, however, with scholars’ increasing study and knowledge of the past, there has appeared a tendency to tell the child more than he can grasp, to overcrowd the history, and to emphasize the mistakes of our ancestors rather than their victories. This may have been done with honest motives; but its effect upon the child may too easily lead him to despise our former government, and distrust our present one.

People who despise their government will not strongly uphold it. When the World War came to America, this nation had to turn to its young manhood for defense. There was but one appeal, and that was to PATRIOTISM, to faith in our form of government. It was not made in vain. Yet there were some few of our youth who had been brought up on muckraking history. They could not thrill to the words of Washington’s Farewell Address, because they were recalling foul stories they had heard about him personally. They would tell you where our people had always been wrong or base or cowardly, in this thing or that. And these foul-tongued young orators were the draft evaders. They were the hypocrites, the cowards, who sought in every way to escape repayment of our Government for all the social benefits they had received.

The men who fought the War followed the bold example of their fathers and their fathers’ fathers. They stood by their country. Now, not only as parents of young children just entering the schools but as veterans of the War which sought to preserve what our fathers had built up, these same men are determined to see taught in our schools the kind of history that will make patriotic citizens.

Two years ago the American Legion began investigating the histories actually used in our Public Schools. It found that some of them were seriously open to the above charge of teaching disloyalty.

Complaints as to other defects in our school histories have also been
widespread. Some have been accused of carrying propaganda for other countries; some of spreading racial or religious prejudice; some of partisan bias and sectionalism; some of pomposity or intolerable dullness. For each one of these charges there has been some ground. Some such histories have even been officially condemned by our state legislatures.

The character of this history teaching explains the cynical attitude of many of our young people. It is a poison in their systems. This is a matter of concern not only to their parents but to every citizen.

The Americanism Commission desires that there shall be no more such destructive teaching in our schools. Therefore it obtained authorization for the making of a school history on its own lines. Its action has been approved by many patriotic organizations, and it seeks the support of all. This history is now being prepared and should be ready by first of year.

Our officials have consulted with many statesmen and educators from all parts of the land, and have reached the following conclusions as to what such a text book should be and say:

The proper education of the young in history is the antitoxin against degeneracy in government. America's faith in this is shown by the fact that the history of our country is taught in some form in every year of the child's school life. The majority of our children do not go beyond the Grammar grades. Hence we must give them as complete and clear a history as they can understand at the average age of fourteen. The Legion's history will be fitted to the upper grades of the Grammar or "Junior High" school.

The writer of history for our schools must not be primarily an historian seeking to impart his oldest and least known scraps of recently discovered facts. He must be primarily a builder of character. Our schools must be considered as a portion of our government. They must teach no doctrines belittling that government. Any speech made in our schools or any textbook, which does not BELIEVE in our government, is thus stabbing the schools in the back. It is self-contradictory.

The time which a pupil can devote to history is limited. There is enough inspiring history to occupy all that time. None of it must be spent teaching the child that we are the offspring of a degenerate race, or that our country's triumphs were mere mistakes, or that our great men and women succeeded by accident, or that our country was usually wrong and the other country usually right where their interests conflicted.

A boy's first hero is his dad. Does a father take his three year old son upon his knee and tell him of the father's business trickeries or cowardice? Instinctively the father knows that he must appear to the child as a figure of both power and justice. In history too, the child must be given ideals.

If a child develops such interest in history that he wants to go deeply into the subject, there are plenty of books in which he can carry on his research outside the school. If he develops a taste for muckraking, he will find that there always have been croakers and pessimists and spite-workers who have pictured each period as seen through their glasses. But that is not the kind of historic material that the taxpayer wants spread through the Public Schools to make good citizens.

We would hide nothing from the thinker who has first acquired the broad general knowledge and the strength of character which will enable him to understand and weigh fairly what he reads; but to hurl tragic facts at the head of a half-taught child is like running over him with an automobile so as to teach him to be careful.

In 1922, a committee of educators which was called to investigate this subject in the New York City schools condemned eight histories that had been complained of. The committee reported that a textbook history should have the following aims:

1. To acquaint the pupils with the basic facts and movements, political, industrial and social, of American History.
2. To emphasize the principles and motives that were of greatest influence in the formation and development of our government.

3. To establish ideals of patriotic and civic duty.

4. To awaken in the pupil a desire to emulate all praiseworthy endeavor.

5. To emphasize the importance of weighing permissible evidence in forming judgments.

6. To present the ethical and moral principles exemplified in the lives of patriotic leaders.

7. To inspire in the pupil an appreciation of the hardships endured and sacrifices made in establishing and defending American ideals.

8. To develop in the pupil a love for American institutions and the determination to maintain and defend them.

9. To bring the light of reason and experience to bear on radical or alien theories of economic and political systems.

10. To enable the pupil to interpret the present in terms of the past and to view intelligently the functions and the value of existing institutions.

The American Legion endorses every one of these conclusions. For its history textbook it has also set up the following requirements:

The American Legion School History of the United States is to follow these lines:

1. It is meant for a textbook to teach history, not literature nor the meaning of words. Hence, it must be simple, easily read in the upper grades of Grammar Schools, that is by boys and girls from twelve to fifteen. It must fit their intelligence. Avoid Inflated Words; Explain Unknown Ideas.

2. It must inspire the children with patriotism, must preach on every page a vivid love of America. It must Believe in our land, and make others believe in it. It must believe in democracy. Speak Warmly; Have Enthusiasm.

3. It must build up character. It must emphasize that our ancestors accomplished great deeds, and must thus strengthen the children to attempt brave deeds themselves. It must tell of noble things and praise them. Hence it should preserve the old patriotic legends, though pointing out where these are legends rather than facts. Preserve The Legends; Praise Noble Deeds.

4. It must speak in an earnest spiritual strain, believing in God, and not being afraid to mention Him—though of course never in a sectarian way. It must not rouse religious or racial hatred or distrust. It must create a confidence in righteousness and decency. Encourage Faith; Build High Self-Respect.

5. It must speak the truth, so that no child learns afterward to distrust it. But in telling the truth it must be careful to tell truth optimistically. It will mention the blunders of the past so the child learns to be careful; but it must dwell on failure only for its value as a moral lesson, must speak chiefly of successes. Emphasize Effort and Success, Not Failure.

6. It must be non-partisan. It must give each State full space and value for the achievements of each, not centralize on any one section. It must give each political party praise for what the party has accomplished, but praise none unduly by belittling others. Carry No Propaganda.

7. It must Interest the children. Too little emphasis has perhaps been laid on this point. A few facts made living will last with the child; a mass of unattractive detail is soon forgotten. Keep lists of things for an appendix. Deal With People Rather Than Things.

8. As it is to be studied by as many girls as boys, it must interest girl students. It must bring out the womanly side, must mention women, their inspiration to their men, their deeds of devotion as well as their material accomplishments. Enlarge The Woman Part.
9. As the students have already heard of Columbus, Washington, etc., the text must allow for this. It must avoid repeating obvious things; but it must gather all the child’s odds and ends of historical knowledge into one complete view, a sustained narrative. Make a Complete Picture.

10. In brief, the book is intended to encourage patriotism, strengthen character, stimulate thought, and impress the worth of Truth.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM FOR EDUCATIONAL MEASURES.

The National Americanism Commission has been untiring in its efforts to carry out its legislative program in the different states, following the resolutions passed by the four National Conventions that we should support laws concerning the following subjects:

1. Compulsory education.
2. English as a medium of instruction in our schools.
3. Instruction in American history and civic government.
4. College credit for history and civics.
5. A flag on every school house.
6. Patriotic exercises.
7. Education of adult immigrants and illiterates (night schools).
8. Courses in citizenship.
9. Course in the United States and State Constitutions.

The high degree of physical strength which has brought most international sporting championships to American athletes is not typical of the bulk of the population of the United States. America needs the assistance of all patriots in raising the physical standard of our people. The results of the Army draft, based on a report made by the Provost Marshal General, showed that 29.4 per cent, or 1,340,623 men, were rejected for general military service on account of physical disabilities. There were 4,650,500 men in the United States Army, while the total casualties of the war were 248,107.

These figures are especially significant when it is realized that all of the physically disqualified were included in the ages from twenty-one to thirty, the period of life when a man is supposed to be at his best physically. Had the examinations included those over thirty years, the percentage of the unfit would be more than doubled.

It is the verdict of medical men that most of the defects listed as the causes for rejection could have been prevented by adequate physical education programs. One authority states: 1. Heart disease could be prevented by proper strengthening of the heart through physical activities, by proper removal of physical defects such as bad tonsils and infected teeth. 2. Malformation of the limbs may be prevented to some extent by proper physical activities. 3. Defective vision oftentimes could be prevented by exercise. 4. Under size would not exist in many cases if there were physical activity and proper instruction in regard to nutrition, preparation of food and the like. 5. Hernia undoubtedly in the majority of cases would be prevented by the development of abdominal muscles. 6. Instruction in care of the feet and selection of shoes will prevent a large proportion of the flat feet.

The Legion’s purpose is to raise the general standard of physical development as an essential feature of the Nation’s future.

We have added to this list physical education and believe that it is as important to develop the body as the mind—“A Sick Body Makes A Sick Mind.” We have this year aided and assisted the National Physical Education Service in its nation-wide campaign for physical education.

A healthy body is as much a necessity in time of peace as it is in time of war. It is our duty to help in the correction of this evil by working for playgrounds in every community and physical education in all schools. The Fourth National Convention at New Orleans passed the following resolution:

Whereas, The training of all school children for health and normal physical development is an important part of allround education for American citizenship; and
Whereas, A large proportion of the school children of this country are not receiving this fundamental training; therefore

Be It Resolved, That the American Legion hereby directs its officers and pledges its members to cooperate with such agencies as are undertaking to promote effectively the establishment of adequate physical education for all school children of the nation.

We should reaffirm our stand and bend every effort to accomplish this work.

A survey of the school laws by your National Americanism Commission was in progress at the time this report was written. This survey, so far as it has gone, shows that most every State has compulsory education laws but that in a great many instances the State authorities are lax in their enforcement of this law. Ignorance upon the part of the ignorant and the usual inclination of the child to avoid school is the cause of this increase of illiteracy in many communities. The Legion should take the initiative in seeing that these laws are enforced as the future happiness and prosperity of our nation depends upon the children of today, citizens of tomorrow. We, who are considered by the world as leaders, should ever work and strive to wipe out illiteracy. Today we stand eleventh among the enlightened nations of the world in matters of illiteracy.

Upon completion of the school law survey your National Americanism Commission will immediately get in touch with the department Americanism chairman in an effort to establish a program in each department as outlined by the National convention.

NIGHT SCHOOLS.

The establishment of night schools, for immigrants and aliens, either by Legion posts or the schools of their community has ever been one of our chief aims. Your National Americanism Commission has made rapid progress in this regard.

Here affords us another opportunity to combat revolutionary radicalism to the best advantage; night schools established for the alien and the illiterates offer one more weapon to aid in wiping out the Reds which menace our country. By this method we can teach those whom the radicals rely upon most for recruits, a truer sense of American citizenship; a better understanding of our Government; a greater vision of our ideals and principles.

Most every community of our country has its illiterates and aliens and offers the Legion its opportunity to step in, if not through its own means, by urging the public officials to establish these schools. Ignorance and stupidity is the cause of most of the unrest which is aroused by revolutionary agencies working upon these ignorant people.

A campaign for the development of night schools which will cover every Legion department is now under way. Investigations conducted by your commission have shown us that when the immigrant arrives in this country he seeks his own people who have been segregated in small colonies, no matter where the community. There he speaks his language and follows the customs of the country from which he emigrated. He is drawn apart from America and her ideals. It is in these colonies that the seeds of discontent are sown. It is in these colonies that the Legion has its best opportunity for good. Survey your alien colonies. Urge them to attend school. Make them feel they are wanted. Teach them their duties as citizens. This is one of the most important objectives of the Americanism Commission.

PLAYGROUND AND COMMUNITY SERVICE.

We have encouraged all posts to further the playground movement in every way possible in cooperation with Community Service and the Playground Association.

Many posts have established playgrounds in their communities. More than that, they have supplied supervisors. Proper supervision is essential. Playgrounds keep the children out of doors and instruct them in physical
education. Many of the physical disabilities which prevented over one-fourth of the men who appeared before the draft board of our country from serving their government in the general military service of our country could have been prevented by recreation on properly supervised playgrounds. Legion posts, through their Americanism officers, should find a wide field for real community service in playgrounds.

OUTLINE OF AMERICANISM SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION AT DEPARTMENT, DISTRICT OR POST MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES.

1. Education.
   (a) Legislation.
      1. English as medium of instruction.
      2. Compulsory education.
      3. Instruction in history and civics.
      4. College credit for history and civics.
      5. Flag on school house and public building.
      6. Patriotic exercises.
      7. Education of adult immigrant.
      9. Classes in citizenship.
     11. Physical Education and playgrounds.
   (b) Encouraging higher education in the youths of today—the citizens of tomorrow.
      1. Essay contests.
      2. Playgrounds.
      3. Children's welfare.
      5. Girl Scouts.
      7. Games, outdoor life, etc.
   (c) Co-operation with educators and school authorities.
      1. Speakers for patriotic organizations.
      2. Referees in athletic matches.
      3. General Cooperation.

   Note: Under the sub-heading "(a)" The American Legion is striving to pass legislation in each State covering the many subjects under sub-heading "(a)". Every effort should be made to encourage the passage of such legislation by getting community assistance through publicity, speeches and personal interview with members of your law-making body.

2. Immigration and Naturalization.
   (a) Immigration. The Legion's policy on Immigration is total exclusion of all immigrants for a period of five years. A thorough study of this question disclosed the fact that we were getting an inferior class of people from each country.
   (b) Education of the immigrant. The class of immigrants that we are getting are illiterate and of a revolutionary tendency. It is necessary to educate them.
   (c) The increase of Bolshevism, Radicalism and I. W. W. ism has been traced to the present class of immigrants that are coming into this country.
   (d) Naturalization. The Legion favors naturalization for men and women alike. Naturalization ceremonies should be made dignified and uniform throughout America. (See program under Naturalization.)

3. Radicalism.
   (a) Radicals should ever be kept under the close observance of All Americans, especially The American Legion. It is our duty as Americans and
as Legion members to do all within our power to combat any anti-American
tendency, whether it be Bolshevism, I. W. W. ism or some other form of violent
revolutionary radicalism.

(b) Americanism Propaganda. We should spread propaganda in the
following manner:
1. Newspapers.
4. Our own literature.
5. By example.

(c) Any anti-American movement should be reported to National Head-
quarters immediately. Remember it is our duty to spread the principles of
Americanism in any way we can, and to combat all violent revolutionary
or anti-American movements.

4. Co-operation With Other Organizations.
(a) Patriotic.
(b) Civic.
(c) Educational.
(d) Religious.
(e) And other organizations having for their purpose patriotism and the
welfare of the community, state and nation.

NOTE: Relationship should be established through The American Legion
with the officials of these organizations, and co-operation should be given in
any public movement when it is possible. (See publication.)

5. Service to Community, State and Nation.
(a) It is ever our duty to work and co-operate with the public officials to
the fullest extent, to aid and assist them in public work.

6. To Consecrate and Sanctify Our Comradeship by Our Devotion to Mutual
Helpfulness.
(a) Do not forget the wounded and sick buddy from your community
who is lying in the hospital, either Government or State.
(b) Start a movement to keep him in touch with his friends by sending
the local newspaper or letters written by individuals. Tell him what's going
on in his home community. Would you have left a wounded buddy on the
field of battle who was crying for water without giving him a drink if you
had it? No! That wounded buddy today is crying for news from home, for
some signs of friendship from his old buddies. Will you desert him now?
(c) Do not forget the buddy who is out of employment or whose family
is in want. Lend every assistance to getting him a position. There should
be a director or chairman of an employment committee for each post, county
council and department, whose duty it is to co-operate with the various manu-
facturers and employers. He should also keep at all times a list of unem-
ployed veterans and have these men placed in suitable positions as soon as
possible.

7. Observances of National Holidays.
(a) It is the duty of the post to assist the community in the observance
of such national holidays as Armistice Day, Memorial Day, Independence
Day, etc. Proper observance of these holidays is the patriotic duty of every
American. (See program for holidays.)

8. Our Flag.
(a) See that proper respect is given to our National Emblem at all
times. The National Americanism Commission of The American Legion will
gladly furnish rules, regulations, etc., for the proper use of the American Flag.
NATIONAL HOLIDAYS.

Arbor Day. Arbor Day is observed generally over the country but on different dates in different States. A pretty ceremony can be arranged through Legion posts and other civic organizations for a community planting of trees. The Legion's interest is to make the tree a memorial—a living memorial to a dead buddy. School children will take to this kind of observance gladly.

A memorial highway lined with trees is a thing of beauty. The civic organizations, especially such as the Civic Federation of Women's Clubs, will be interested in Arbor Day. Here is a place for the Legion's Auxiliary to help. Urge the appointment of Arbor Day committees within every post of the Legion, inviting the Auxiliary to help lay plans for a successful day.

Park and shade tree commissions, local agriculture bureaus and florists should be consulted to get the right kind of a tree in the right place. Declare an open season for the planting of trees and dress up our old home towns.

Companies—battalions—regiments of trees are emblematic of the living service the Legion strives to render.

Most Legion posts participate in school programs when asked to do so. Most every post affords a man who is especially interested in the conservation of our forests and other natural resources of wealth and beauty. A definite program could be worked out with the cooperation of the school children and the local organization.

A suggested program:
1. Music.
2. A brief talk on conservation of forests and beautifying our country.
4. Talk on the dire results of the disappearance of our forests and trees.
6. Planting of trees.

Americanism Day. There is a certain observance called "May Day," which has nothing to do with the coming of harvest time, or with the security of farmers and workmen, or with the rejoicing of an established and happy people, or with the exaltation of labor as it is organized legally in America. This observance is the "May Day" of the communists, who have consecrated it to internationalism and the overthrow of institutions. All traditions and establishments for the ordering of the life of man, built up through the struggles and sacrifices of mankind for thousands of years, are to be overthrown; the development of civilization through hundreds of generations is to be put aside, the hands of the clock turned back, all concepts of liberty under law are to be erased from the mind of men, and the world is to begin anew.

To the consummation of such a mad idea this fantastic and yet ominous "holiday" is dedicated.

We are told that the word "holiday" is a contraction of "holy-day." A strange name surely, for an observance in propagation of a cult of anarchy.

The American Legion is made up of men who have undergone some hardship in the defense of the development of civilization. They have a memory of their comrades who died in arms. They have a knowledge of the suffering of others of their comrades, stricken and disabled. They are citizens of that nation which finally and most gloriously took up the defense of civilization and thereby saved, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the civilization of the world. They are devoted to the service of that nation, having offered themselves against its enemies.

Therefore, they are committed against the destruction of the nation and its civilization. They will not tolerate the offering up of this Nation on any altar of internationalism, they will not tolerate the overthrow of this civilization by the forces of anarchy. In the United States of America the men of the Legion see the greatest and most constant power in the world for the maintenance of human rights and liberties, and for the ordering of the lives
of men in justice and security. In the Constitution of the United States they see the foundation stone. And in the American Flag they see the symbol fraught with high significance and entitled to the love and honor of our people.

For the Flag, the Constitution and the Nation, therefore, the men of the Legion have ordered the establishment of an observance to be known as Americanism Day. This day is to be observed throughout the country under the auspices of the Legion, on the Friday prior to the First Day of May of this year and of succeeding years. This has been done, in the conviction that such a genuine holiday will afford opportunity for the expression of the patriotic feeling of true citizenship; and to afford contrast and a rebuke to the festival of anarchy set for the first of May.

The National Americanism Commission of the Legion has taken measures for the National observance of Americanism Day. The posts of the Legion have been bulletined, suggested programs for the day have been broadcast, and liaison effected with other patriotic associations. It remains for the post in its community, with the aid of its department, to bring this observance home to the citizens of the nation. It is a work worthy of the Legion.

The American Legion at its Fourth National Convention held in New Orleans, erected Americanism Day and directed each post to hold some patriotic exercise and to ask the churches to co-operate by having an appropriate sermon preached on the subject of Americanism the Sunday preceding May Day. This celebration was held throughout the country according to the mandates of the National Convention and the success of same was beyond question. In many localities organizations co-operated with the Legion posts in their program. We are convinced, upon investigation, that the creating of this holiday in each year will offset and discourage demonstrations held by the revolutionary radical groups all over our country. Last May Day was probably the quietest day of its kind ever known in America since its inception. The following program was suggested by your National Americanism Commission:

1. Opening by singing America.
2. Invocation.
3. The reading by all of the American's Creed.
4. Welcoming the newly made American citizens. Make the naturalized citizens feel that they are welcome in the community by setting a democratic example and making them feel we are interested in them.
5. Introducing the principal speaker.
6. The principal speaker, whose talk should be on the duties of citizenship, as well as discussing respect for law and order thus condemning the revolutionists who would destroy our government and constitution.
7. Remarks by any foreign-born American citizen on what America and her Constitution means to him.
8. Star Spangled Banner.

It is further suggested, where it is possible, that Americanism moving pictures be obtained and shown free of charge. The posts should call upon other organizations to co-operate with them in this movement and help make it a community affair.

Mother's Day. The program for Mother's Day is more or less taken in charge by the Auxiliary unit in each community. The Legion Posts have been urged to attend church services on this day and to co-operate with the Auxiliary in their plans for proper observance.

Auxiliary units in many communities arranged concerts in hospitals for the veterans of the World War and programs of entertainment are also given in orphan asylums in which the children of the world war veterans have been placed. They urge each veteran to send some word or flowers to his mother.

The Americanism Commission sent bulletins to its Americanism chairman
asking them to urge the members of their posts to co-operate with the Auxiliary each year in the observance of the day so dear to us all.

**Memorial Day.** Extract from the first proclamation setting forth May 30th as Memorial Day:

"We should guard their graves with sacred vigilance. All that the consecrated wealth and taste of the nation can add to their adornment and security is but a fitting tribute to the memory of our slain defenders.

"Let no wanton foot tread rudely on such hallowed grounds; let pleasant paths invite the coming and going of revered visitors and fond mourners; let no vandalism or avarice or neglect, no ravages of time testify to the present or to coming generations, that we have forgotten as a people the cost of a free and undivided republic.

"If other eyes grow dull and other hands slack and hearts grow cold in the solemn trust, ours shall keep it well as long as the light and warmth of life remain in us.

"Let us, then, gather around their sacred remains and garland the passionless mound above them with the choicest flowers of springtime; let us raise above them the dear old flag they saved from dishonor; let us in this solemn presence renew our pledges to aid and assist those whom they have left among us as a sacred charge upon a nation's gratitude—the soldiers' and sailors' widows and orphans."

Memorial Day has been handed down to us by our forefathers as a day sacred to the hearts of all true Americans. It is fitting that we, as veterans of the World War, should pay tribute to those who have gone before us and to those who have given and sacrificed their all to preserve this Union of ours, and it is our duty as well to see that Memorial Day is fittingly observed by leading the way for all Americans.

This is not a day of revelry or rejoicing or celebration, but the one day set aside in the year for America and Americans to pay tribute to the country's defenders. Sacred to the heart of every man, woman and child should be the memories and brave deeds and the great sacrifices made by the soldiers and sailors of America.

The following program is suggested for services held in public hall or grove:

After the audience is seated, the post enters, either in uniform or wearing ceremonial badges, and files into reserved space or seats, the post commander presiding or someone designated by him.

1. Invocation.
3. Roll call by the Adjutant of those who have made the great sacrifice.
4. Thirty seconds silent prayer.
5. Introduction of the speaker or speakers of the day by the chairman.
7. Benediction. (See Manual of Ceremonies.)

Where ceremonies are only held at the cemetery instead of the post headquarters or hall, it is suggested that Memorial Day Services No. 1, should be amalgamated with Memorial Day Services No. 2, as follows:

1. Invocation by Chaplain.
2. Brief introduction of Memorial Day speaker by Post Commander.
3. Memorial Day Address.
4. A salute to the dead by the firing squadron (all heads will be bowed in silent prayer for thirty seconds during this salute).
5. Taps.

In a great many communities no organized effort has ever been made to place flags upon the graves of veterans of all American wars. It is the duty
of the Legion to see that flags are placed upon graves of all veterans of all American wars.

On May 30th, which has been set aside as Memorial Day, there are held throughout the country many events which could be termed celebrations, such as baseball games, automobile races, sports of all kinds, and so forth. Memorial Day is not a day of celebration. It is a day of national mourning; it is a day which should be held sacred in the hearts of all Americans. Nevertheless, as it would be a tremendously difficult undertaking at this late date to insure that all celebrations be discontinued, it is, therefore, suggested by your National Director that we call on the President of the United States and the Governors of the different states to set aside the last Sunday in May as Memorial Day, and at the same time, ask that fitting ceremonies be conducted throughout the land and that all celebrations, sports, etc., be discontinued in respect for those who so ably defended our country.

Independence Day—Citizenship Day, July 4th. The Fourth of July is the one outstanding day of each year. It marks the celebration of America's independence. It signifies the birth of a Nation conceived in the spirit, "that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their creator to certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." This day in the year 1776, gave the world a new conception—that of a Government of the people, by the people and for the people. It is therefore fitting that on July 4th, Americans everywhere should hold appropriate ceremonies to breed a new spirit of Americanism in the aliens who come to our shores seeking "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." We owe it, not only to our country, but to the aliens themselves to make them feel that as long as they have come to our land they are not undesirables and that we have an interest in them. This is another way to offset the work of revolutionary radicals. Let us teach them on this appropriate day what the spirit of America means. For this purpose the following program is suggested:

1. Music—"America."
2. Opening remarks by the chairman.
3. A brief history of the oppressed thirteen colonies who fought and won their freedom.
5. Speech, "The Privilege of Citizenship."
6. A short talk on the use of the ballot.
7. "Star Spangled Banner."

Make friends whenever possible with newly made citizens or those who hope to become citizens. Show them that it is not the desire of America to kick them from pillar to post or that we believe they are undesirables, but let's get them before the paid field workers of the revolutionary radicals contaminate their minds.

Constitution Week, September 17 to 22. The National Americanism Commission of The American Legion is co-operating with other national organizations in conducting Constitution Week, September 17th to 22nd, inclusive, and in turn we are asking the departments and posts to lend every assistance in this most praiseworthy work.

Few people realize that the Constitution of the United States of America is one of the greatest instruments ever written. This most valuable document insures to the people of our Nation those inalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. No country since the beginning of time has held these ideals higher than the people of the United States, yet very few Americans know what the Constitution contains. Let us help to co-ordinate the efforts of those patriotic organizations who are spending their time and money in this great work. Let us co-operate to the fullest extent with them in obtaining not only legislation concerning the study of the Constitution in our schools, but let us endeavor as well to teach the real meaning of the document to our aliens.

It is the duty of every American citizen, as well as those who hope to become citizens, to know and fully understand the Constitution of the United
States of America. People cannot be law abiding citizens or stand for law and order when they do not know the fundamental principles of the foundations upon which the laws of their land is based. We can only be a uniform nation by understanding the rights guaranteed to the citizens under the Constitution.

 Revolutionary radicalism would almost become obsolete, if the ignorant people whom the paid agents of radical organizations are sent out to convert really understood the Constitution of the United States.

Columbus Day. Columbus Day has become an established holiday throughout the United States. It is fitting that we should pay tribute to the man who in earlier days typified the present American spirit of “Do or Die.” Standing upon his convictions, he underwent many trials and tribulations; he received discouragement from every side and little or no encouragement. A man who staked everything and overcame all obstacles, and in the year 1492 he discovered America. He gave to the world its first knowledge of a continent which has progressed so rapidly that today it stands foremost among the continents of the world.

Your National Americanism Commission has had repeated requests for a suggested program dealing with Columbus Day. The following program is suggested:

1. Opening remarks by the Chairman.
3. An appropriate talk.
4. A tableau or moving pictures.
5. Brief history of the discovery of America.
7. Short talk on the progress of America.
8. “Star Spangled Banner.”

Armistice Day—A Day of Thanksgiving. Armistice Day is truly the World War veterans’ day. The day was brought about directly by the men who so ably defended their country. It is a day of great rejoicing. It brought to an end the world’s greatest conflict. It spelled the defeat of autocracy, selfishness, greed and oppression. It carried forward Christianity, justice and liberty. The following program is suggested for ceremonies held at a post, public hall, or a meeting place in a grove. The meeting should be presided over by the post commander or someone designated by him. It should be held at 10:30 in the morning:

1. Invocation.
2. Music. Where there is no band or orchestra present, it is suggested that a solo be rendered by an artist.
3. Opening words by the Post Commander or presiding officer.
4. The eleventh hour. It matters not what part of the ceremony is going on, at eleven o’clock the gavel of the presiding officer should fall and all standing with bowed heads, a silent prayer should be offered for thirty seconds in memory of those who made the great sacrifice. At the end of thirty seconds the gavel should fall again and the program be resumed.
5. Roll call by Post Adjutant. The names of those who made the great sacrifice in the World’s War should be called by the Adjutant and in response to those names, one or more should be designated by the Commander to give a brief outline of his war record.
6. Introduction of the speaker by the presiding officer.
7. The “Star Spangled Banner.”

In arranging for a parade, if one is to be held, the Post Commander should ask the co-operation of the local veteran, fraternal, civic, patriotic and other organizations. He should ask them to appoint someone to serve on a
committee in arranging for the parade. The parade should follow in the order named:
1. Veterans of the Civil War.
2. Veterans of the Spanish-American War.
4. Other organizations as arranged for by the committee.

If it is possible, there should be only one United States Flag at the head of each division. If there is more than one flag, they should be grouped at the head of the division. No little flags should be carried in the parade.

When Armistice falls on Sunday, the day should be observed on Monday.

Christmas. The American Legion, in its program of care for the disabled, views the season of Christmas as the most appropriate time for the further development of the personal element of this endeavor. With the coming of Christmas we cannot forget the tens of thousand buddies, disabled through their military service, still in hospitals and institutions for their care, suffering and largely alone. We should be derelict in our duty to our disabled if we make no holiday provision for their happiness.

Since the Auxiliary's development it has been peculiarly the province of the women of that organization to supply the personal touch of loving kindness that is so sharply needed by the disabled. The work of the women of the Auxiliary in the hospitals and among the families of the disabled is beyond all praise. The Legion's work in this matter has been rounded out and made complete only by the efforts of the Auxiliary.

Realizing this, the Legion, through its National Americanism Commission, desires to acknowledge the invaluable endeavor of the Auxiliary for the disabled. We desire to co-operate in the providing of Christmas cheer and hope for the disabled ex-service men of the nation. In the vicinity of practically every unit of the Auxiliary and every post of the Legion disabled men may be found or the families of disabled men. It is unthinkable that any of these should face this Christmas season in distress or in any lack of cheer that our efforts might supply. Let us co-ordinate our efforts and make each Christmas a cheer and thanksgiving to our sick, wounded and disabled comrades and to their families.

Division Celebrations. Many times during the past year we have been called upon to make up a program for the observance of the beginning or winning of a battle or an offensive in which some local community or organization has gathered together to celebrate.

The following program is suggested:
1. Bugle call to arms.
2. Roll call. The names of those who fell in the defense of our country from that local community should be read.
3. Taps.
4. Thirty seconds silent prayer.
5. "America."
6. Brief history of the regiment by the historian.
7. Recalling funny incidents of the war.
8. "Star Spangled Banner."

THE AMERICAN LEGION AND ORGANIZED LABOR.

For the information of all Departments, County Councils, Posts and members, the following quotations are taken from a pamphlet issued by your National Americanism Commission, which fully explains the Legion's stand on the question of labor.

The American Legion is ever ready and willing to work hand-in-hand with every organization whose aim is better citizenship and higher ideals in our American life. It is not concerned whether men are laborers, capitalists, Catholics, Protestants, Gentiles or Jews. It only wants to know whether they subscribe to those principles of good citizenship and sane government which every American should consider fundamental. Inasmuch as The American
Legion and Organized Labor follow these fundamentals, they travel the same path.

The American Legion and Organized Labor understand each other. They know each other as two of the greatest forces in our national life—the citizen-soldier and the citizen-worker. Headquarters of labor organizations, in particular the American Federation of Labor, have come to appreciate the impartiality of The American Legion on economic questions.

The American Legion is a cross section of American life and includes people in every walk of life engaged in every industry. It is made up of farmers, merchants, bankers, laboring and professional men. These men are united in their devotion to America, and this is the thought that keeps them together and inspires the activities of the Legion.

Made up as it is, the Legion can take no other stand on economic questions than that of strict neutrality. All action by individual posts which would tend to commit the name of the Legion either to Labor or to Capital has been discouraged and censured by the National organization of the Legion. This principle of staying out of economic disputes is now well established.

"The attitude of The American Legion toward Organized Labor is exactly the same as its attitude toward all groups of American citizens who are interested in a square deal for all in the maintenance of law and order and the protection of the institutions handed down to us by our forefathers.

"The purpose of The American Legion is two-fold—service to our comrades and service to our country.

"Under the head of 'Service to Our Comrades' we will exert all of our influence and all of our strength to the end that the ex-service man, especially the disabled man and his dependents and the dependents of those who paid the supreme sacrifice, shall receive that just and fair treatment which they have reason to expect from a patriotic and liberal country.

"In serving our country we shall endeavor to keep alive that spirit of service which induced us all to respond to our country's call in the time of her need even to the extent of being willing to pay the supreme sacrifice. And this we propose doing by assisting in the maintenance of a hundred per cent. Americanism based on fair play and a square deal for all.

The members of organized labor are patriotic American citizens and the members of The American Legion are patriotic American citizens who have proven their patriotism and their loyalty. Consequently, on the purposes of The American Legion both they and we are in accord. Many of our most loyal members are members of Organized Labor, and it is our hope that we may be able to convince every ex-service man who is a member of Organized Labor that our purposes are the same as loyal citizens and that every ex-service man in Organized Labor will join The American Legion. All ex-service men who are members of Organized Labor have proven their loyalty and their patriotism to the country and now appreciate their responsibilities as citizens, and we therefore hope it will not be long before they are all active members of The American Legion."

In November of 1920, Samuel Gompers submitted to F. W. Galbraith, Jr., then national commander, the following declaration of principles on behalf of the American Federation of Labor:

"Organized labor contends for the improvement of the standard of life, to uproot ignorance and foster education, to instill character and manhood and an independent spirit among our people, to bring about a recognition of the interdependence of the modern life of man and his fellowman. It aims to establish a normal workday, take the children from the factory and the workshop, and place them in the school, the home and the playground. In a word, the unions of labor, recognizing the duty of toil, strive to educate their members, to make their homes more cheerful in every way, to contribute an earnest effort toward making life the better worth living, to avail their members of their rights of citizens and to bear the duties and responsibilities and perform the obligations they owe to our country and our fellowmen. Labor contends that in every effort to achieve its praiseworthy ends all honorable and
lawful means are not only commendable, but should receive the sympathetic support of every right-thinking progressive man."

Mr. Galbraith replied in part:

"Is there anything in that declaration to which The American Legion can object, you ask. Certainly not. The Legion subscribes to every word of it. Compare it to the preamble of the constitution of our organization. But, as you and I must be aware, it is one thing for a great organization like The American Legion or American Federation of Labor to aspire to lofty aims and in conventions assembled give birth to excellent pronouncements; and it is another thing for such organizations to go out and in the daily acts and deliberations of its individual members and small groups to always adhere to such declarations.

"I know the truth of your words when you speak of the difficulty in attaining such an end. I appreciate the work you have done in keeping so large, so virile and so intent an organization as the American Federation of Labor so generally in accord with the professed principles of that great body. In the Legion, especially in the formulative period now passing, we have experienced like difficulties. One of your experience can appreciate the problem presented in providing a common ground for elements so diverse as those which constitute The American Legion; you can appreciate the difficulties attendant upon creating in a year and a half an organization structure capable of giving effect to such a purpose."

Since that time there has existed an understanding and genuinely cordial relationship between the leaders of the two organizations. Both have made an effort to acquaint their members with the real aims and objects of the other.

In furtherance of the Legion's policy of seeking clear understanding, Alvin M. Owsley, director of the Legion's Americanism Commission, addressed the national convention of the A. F. of L. at Denver in June, 1921.

In opening his address, Mr. Owsley said: "Just before his death, Colonel Galbraith, our very illustrious commander, said to me: 'You must go to Denver and say to the representatives of the laboring people of America that the heart of the Legion beats for them.'"

Reviewing the problems faced by both organizations and every American citizen today, Mr. Owsley declared that with all the victories of the war, we must yet win industrial and educational liberty for ourselves. Referring to the problems presented by the immigrant, he said that the question is not where a man is born, but "Had he taken America as his own?"

"There is but one kind of loyalty in this country," he continued, "that will be acceptable to this great organization, and that is the loyalty that we of the Legion have adopted—undivided allegiance to the American government."

In a plea for the banishment of petty jealousies and selfish interests, the speaker presented to the labor representatives the direct appeal of the Legion. He said, in part:

"The time has come in the history of this nation when the men who defended it from the foes without must now join hands against the foes from within; and when the great laboring masses of this nation join hands with their brothers in The American Legion the nation will go forward."

Mr. Gompers expressed his personal appreciation of the address, later writing to Mr. Owsley as follows:

"Please accept my thanks for the message of good will which you brought to the delegates of the American Federation of Labor at Denver. I hope that you will convey to your membership my admiration for their contributions to American ideals and my best wishes for their continued success."

The impression made by Mr. Owsley at the Denver Convention was so convincing that the American Federation of Labor decided to send a representative to the Legion convention at Kansas City. George L. Berry, President of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union of North America, was sent as Labor's representative and in a very able speech before the convention said in part:
"While the purposes of organization of the American Federation of Labor and The American Legion are not the same in all respects, yet fundamentally the aspirations of the two organizations are identical.

The two great American organizations stand for the conservation of the Republic of the United States, the protection of its constitution, the safeguarding of its ideals and the maintenance of freedom and democracy for all. The two organizations stand for advancement by understanding, for evolutionary progress arrived at by the exercising of constitutional rights granted every citizen of our Republic.

"As the messenger for the American Federation of Labor, and speaking as the proxy of the present, Mr. Samuel Gompers, it is my pleasure and privilege to transmit the facilitations and good wishes of the American labor movement as represented by the American Federation of Labor, to this convention and to the membership of The American Legion."

Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor, in a statement to National Commander MacNider said: "That the pleasant relations between The American Legion and the American Federation of Labor be extended to every post and local union of both organizations is my earnest and sincere wish."

Commander Hanford-MacNider in a statement regarding these two organizations, said in part: "A small percentage of the public have a vague idea that The American Legion is opposed to organized labor. Nothing is further from the truth. The American Legion can no more be held responsible for acts of certain irresponsibles than can union labor be held responsible for the actions of some agitators who pose as their adherents.

"I predict to you the American Federation of Labor and The American Legion will be found working hand-in-hand through all the years to come, for the benefit of all their members and the good of their country."

There is no good reason for the existence of any other than the most cordial, friendly relationship between The American Legion and Organized Labor. The Legion is going forward and is confident of meeting the approval of all true Americans.

THE AMERICAN LEGION POLICY ON IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION.

"We favor the complete exclusion of all aliens for a period of five years."

The question of Immigration is National. Examination of our immigration records reveals the interesting figures that over thirty millions of foreigners have emigrated to America during the last hundred years. One-third of our population, therefore, has involved in it the just solution of this all-important and vexing problem of immigration with its sister subject—naturalization.

When the early immigration policy was adopted we were a young country with untold millions of acres of uninhabited and waste lands awaiting the hand of somebody to make it productive. It was necessary then for us to offer great stakes and alluring inducements to all the white races to come to our shores and they did. The best that Europe had came to America up until recent years. One question that every American is concerned with today when he speaks of immigration is the type and character of the immigrant that is now coming to America—is he or she up to standard; if not, why not? Are we willing to lower our standard in 1922? In the years that are to follow? What type of men and women are to become the future citizens of America?

This question of immigration should be studied with common sense. It requires a practical working solution. It is not an abstract question; it is not a problem for the dreamer or the idealist. It is the business of the country and the biggest job that is now before us. It involves the whole future of the Republic. We call ourselves the United States of America. Does that convey to the mind of the average man or woman a Union of States geographically, or a meeting of minds, a union of minds and hearts of our hundred and ten million people? If we look at the population of the United States is there
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convincing proof that we are united in spirit, in heart and in hand? All to the contrary, we are separated into as many different groups as there are different races of people in America. Our aliens have gathered in groups, in clans, so to speak, and they have built around them a wall of nationalism that separates them from the rest of the country. They are speaking their own tongue; they are still reading their own newspapers. They are still thinking of the old country they left behind; they are still living the old life they should have left behind; they are still telling their children stories of the Fatherland; they are still controlled and dominated by ancient prejudices, ideals and ambitions that caused them to enter upon their pilgrimage across the seas into this new land—America.

One thing is certain, our past policy of handling the immigrant is a failure; it must be replaced by something different and new. We are failing to reach the foreigner in this country. Before we can expect him to give up all thought of the old country we have got to give him a new country to attach himself to. There must be a rebirth of every alien in America and he must learn to speak our language, know something of our history, become acquainted with our customs and be fully convinced that this America to which he has come is really and actually a better place than the country he left behind. When we prove to these people that we have got something better to offer than that they are giving up, they will voluntarily and willingly enter into American life and become real American citizens.

Citizenship is not a matter of birth or naturalization; it is a question of faith. Before we can expect the alien to have faith in America and our institutions we must give him a knowledge of America and our institutions. We must go to the immigrant and through the immigrant. Americanism is an ideal and a spirit that can be taught, and must be taught. There is ample proof that the speaking of the English language, which fate has decreed shall be the language of Americans, is the best means to weld all of our races into a united race of Americans.

To whom does the immigrant first go when he lands in America? He immediately gravitates to those speaking his own tongue. It is natural, it is the human thing to do. Some people say that the alien's children will pick up the English language and find our customs in the streets. We have been relying upon this haphazard pick-up Americanism long enough; it has proved a failure. We must carry America to our foreigners. There must be the exercise of a spirit of willingness to give to the immigrant that which we inherited by reason of being born in America. If we do not tell the story of America to the alien, to the immigrant; if we do not furnish the school houses and schoolrooms, the means and the agencies by which he can become acquainted with this America of ours, then he is blocked and the child of today will become the old man and woman of tomorrow and our policy of immigration will go on in the future as it has in the past and the problem will still remain unsolved.

Every man and woman should be naturalized separately and individually and the time will come in this country when the foreigner, standing in the Naturalization Court of America, will be required to present a certificate showing that he has attained a certain degree of efficiency in the use of the English language and has a measure of understanding of our history and our form of Government. This must come—it will come if we will it.

The breaking down and the failure of our immigration policy is proof positive that a new policy should be adopted. It is the old question of pouring water into a vessel when the bottom has been bursted out. More immigrants are coming into America than we have been able to take care of. All immigration to America should cease for a period of five years at least and give America a chance to put her house in order.

The English language must be the medium of instruction in all elementary and high schools, public, private, and parochial in this country. There can be no compromise on this question.

Our foreigners constitute a large element in our laboring classes, especially in our great mining and manufacturing industries. Look at the record
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for injuries and accidents and the loss of life because of the inability of the worker to read the danger signs that were written in English. Get on a street car in some of our larger cities and you will find the danger signs printed in two or three different foreign languages as well as in English. The foreigner wants to learn the English language. He wants his children to speak English and know something of the customs and the life of America. But we have not furnished a place for his children to go, we have not furnished a way by which his children can learn.

The purpose of Americanism in education is to make better citizens of native and foreign born. It is the finished product, the citizen, that we are after. The problem of the education of the foreigner is a Federal and a State duty and responsibility. There must be an awakening of the public conscience to a realization of peril that is now existing, that we are separated into racial groups, each group fighting for its own existence with no thought of the interest of any other group. Sectional lines, racial lines, group divisions, must be stamped out and we must think only in terms of nationalism when we are discussing immigration.

The American Legion has been instrumental in helping to establish night schools for those who work by day and day schools for those who work by night. Large numbers of members of the Legion are devoting several hours a week to the instruction of immigrants. The American Legion Auxiliary is rendering invaluable service, not only for the instruction in language and history and civics, but in the establishment of classes for the teaching of sanitation, the care of the sick, and the health of babies. These are all practical things. It is well to mention too that all over the country Legion posts are interesting themselves in the welfare of the alien to the extent of securing him employment and bettering his living condition. This was a part of the Legion's National employment campaign.

Naturalization ceremonies must be made simple and yet dignified. It should be made an occasion of great moment in the life of the alien participating. It is really an event in his career. He is being reborn, he is denying and rejecting his allegiance to a foreign monarch and is asking for acceptance into the great family of Americans where the citizen is the sovereign. Naturalization ceremonies should be given for the purpose of instruction. It is an occasion for great rejoicing and yet for the exercise of solemnity. A great change is taking place; a new American is being born; he will work for the good or the evil of America. If he has been properly trained and if he understands something of our history and our form of Government there is every reason to believe that he will love and defend it. We cannot expect a man to defend a thing he does not understand and if naturalization ceremonies can be made to serve as commencement exercises, as graduating day from one standard to another standard, from the status of an alien to the proud distinction of the American citizen, there will come a feeling of exaltation in the minds and hearts of these people that will hold them steadfast to America throughout their lives.

Summary. The Legion's policy on immigration has not changed since the Kansas City Convention in October, 1921, and is as follows:

1. The complete exclusion of all aliens for a period of five years.

2. Until cessation of immigration, an examination of all emigrants at port of embarkation or nearest United States consulate before embarkation, this examination to include not only the present literacy and physical test, but a further examination into the general desirability of the emigrant, including a test of his or her degree of mentality, low-grade mentality being inheritable. Also, that the Bureau of Citizenship under the Department of Labor be required to have all aliens register for the purpose of education for citizenship.

3. Continuous residence in the United States for five years before taking out first papers, and an additional five years before the granting of final papers.

4. As a pre-requisite to naturalization, proficiency in the reading and writing of English and a knowledge of civics and American history, all evi-
denced by a certificate granted after examination conducted by lawfully con-
stituted authorities of public instruction, the present system of granting
application for naturalization being too often mere form, leaving untested the
alien's capacity for citizenship.

5. Uniform and dignified naturalization ceremonies, which shall impress
on new citizens the dignity, responsibilities and privileges of American citizen-
ship, in all courts with naturalization jurisdiction. Such ceremonies should
be held periodically so that new citizens can be received in groups.

Segregation of Immigrants. An investigation conducted by this Com-
mmission to determine where the immigrant goes upon arrival in this coun-
try shows that as a rule he settles in the manufacturing districts among his
own people who have colonized themselves in such localities. Because no
steps have been taken by the Congress of the United States towards the
proper distribution of immigrants in our country the country has lost many
good farmers. We should again reaffirm the stand taken by the Fourth Na-
tional Convention at New Orleans and call upon the Government to devise
ways and means for the proper distribution of immigrants.

Education of Immigrants. Survey of every locality and community
within the reach of each Legion Post should be made at once, to ascertain
how many alien-immigrants are there.

What are their means of livelihood, their business, vocation, avocation,
position or job?
Do they speak English? If not—are the adult members of the families
willing to attend day or night schools? If willing to attend schools and not
already attending see that provision for their attendance and registration is
made at once. This can be done through your county superintendent of edu-
cation or other school authorities.

Are their children attending school? If not, arrangements should be
made immediately for their enrollment. (This applies with equal force to our
native born children out of school.)

Explain the compulsory school attendance law of your State to the heads
of each household. Is that alien family looked upon as an asset to the
community? Has a friendly attitude been adopted toward them by the
people of the community and The American Legion? Are they naturalized?
Have the naturalization laws been explained to them? If not see that the law
is fully explained and everything is done to encourage the alien to prepare
himself for naturalization. Has there been established between the American
Legion and the alien-immigrant a relation of friendliness and of confidence
showing that the Legion is his real friend and anxious and willing to help
him by lesson and example grow into usefulness as an American citizen? This
is the task of the Americanism officer of the Legion post. Here is a place for
the Legion through you, its Americanism officers keep up the fight for education every
day in the week. Your success depends upon your will to do it.

Naturalization Ceremonies. The following program is suggested for nat-
uralization ceremonies in connection with aliens obtaining their final papers:

1. Open by singing America. It would be well if possible to obtain the
services of some band or orchestra.
2. Invocation.
3. Welcoming the new citizens by the judge granting the papers; by one
prominent citizen as well. This latter should be the principal ad-
dress.
4. A musical number or short musical program.
5. Short exposition by Legion speaker on the duties of an American
citizen.
6. The reading by all of William Tyler Page's "American Creed."
7. Presentation of a booklet Constitution of the United States. These
will be supplied at cost by your National Americanism Chairman.
8. "Star Spangled Banner," played by the band or orchestra. Audience will stand silently at attention.

9. Greeting the newly made citizens.

The alien who becomes a citizen of the United States is usually given his naturalization papers without any ceremonies. He is not impressed at all by becoming an American citizen under those circumstances. He gathers more or less the idea that the American people do not care whether he becomes a citizen or not. He falls into the hands often of the communist or the revolutionary group and, ignorant and uninstructed, he becomes the tool of visionary, radical and malicious propaganda.

There is only one way to impress upon the minds of these people that it is a privilege to become an American citizen, and that is by taking an interest in them and by attempting to make them feel that they are wanted, provided they accept American ideals of order and liberty.

**RADICALISM.**

The Government of the United States was ordained by the people to establish domestic tranquillity and to insure to the citizens their right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. For a century and a half this government has functioned to fulfill these purposes.

This great establishment has been assailed by preachers of communism and anarchism, who take advantage of the right of freedom of speech to attack that government which guarantees them freedom of speech. These perverts preach the bomb and the barricade for selfish purposes, hoping for advancement for themselves through some general overturn.

The National Americanism Commission of the American Legion intends to acquaint the people of this country with some of the details of this endeavor of destruction. There are hundreds of thousands of agitators who are at work under cover in this country, endeavoring to inflame the ignorant and alien elements of our population to the overthrow of established government and the ordered activities of life. These agitators are busy everywhere. Their aim is anarchy, their ultimate object self-advantage. They dream that they can bring their dupes to wreck the machinery of civilization, that they themselves may build a tyranny of their own upon the ruins.

They work under cover and they appeal to the uninformed because their cause is hopeless if exposed to the revealing light of reason. They know that the Constitution of the United States is the most effective instrument yet devised for the expression and application of the people's will. They know that the Constitution embodies in itself adequate provisions for any alteration which the people wish. They know that there is no need of bullets, they know that the ballots of a majority of the citizens have ultimate authority over the makeup and manner of the American Government. They know their own mad doctrines can never convince a majority of the citizens of the United States.

Any change or revolution in the United States Government can be brought about by constitutional means. But these means require the will of the majority of the people of the United States to put them into effect. Such a majority the Bolshevists of America know very well they never can attain. Yet they desire to substitute their own will for the will of the people. Therefore they spread the doctrines of sabotage and destruction, hoping to bring about a state of industrial and moral confusion which will in time enable them to overthrow the people's government.

They furnish bombs and urge their dupes into acts of lawlessness. They send out their converts to blow up warehouses, but stay at a distance themselves and prepare an alibi. They incite good workmen to slow down and stop the wheels of industry, unmindful of the suffering and ruin which that would bring on all men and all families alike.

"If I were king," they dream, "in a land of famine I should find plenty for myself; let others die."

Such iniquity cannot endure the light of day.
Wherever there is unrest, there the Red appears to preach violence to excited men. Wherever peace reigns in an industry there the insidious propaganda of the Reds is being whispered to those whom they hope to dupe. They always make the situation worse. "Bore from within" is their slogan. "Trouble" is their rallying cry. Swarms of their agents are in the Army, the Navy, the National Guard, in labor unions, in public schools. They are even spending money to incite the negroes against the whites.

Syndicalism is one of their favorite practices. Valuable machines are mysteriously ruined—machines that offer honest men an opportunity to make a living. Fires break out and burn up the plants where good men work. Dynamite is planted in factories. Innocent people are killed. Homes of public men are bombed. They could explain many murders. They work secretly and are hard to catch.

The doctrines and doings of these people are foreign to us. They hinder, never help. With their half-baked ideas of a "workers' republic," "dictatorship of the proletariat," "Confiscation of the tools of industry," "communistic paper money" and other vagaries, together with their preaching and practice of every form of violence and crime, they are a danger to America.

Every decent man hopes to better himself. He knows he cannot do it by destroying the ladder on which he hopes to climb. When he does succeed he wants to live under an orderly government where he can enjoy the fruits of his labor. He does not want a "Dictatorship of the Proletariat" confiscating his savings or his home. He does not want a hairbrained crank blowing up the shop in which he earns his bread. He does not want the door to success slammed in his face. He does not want his employer driven out of business. If he goes into business himself some day he does not want to run it under the dictation of men who stop at no crime to work their destructive will. He does not want his children taught that their father is an industrial slave; that there is no chance for a poor man to rise in this country; or that the form of government that has proved a blessing to millions of people is an instrument of oppression and should be changed to fit the imported views of agitators whose only experience is in tearing down, never in building up.

It has taken work to build up America. It will take work to preserve it and more work to make it better. The country needs constructive effort, not destructive effort. Every loyal citizen wants to play the game fair and do his share. He wants to work at the tasks he can do best and that pay him best. He knows that radical agitation never got him anything. If these agitators have systems of government and industry that are better for America than the ones we live under, the law allows them to come out in the open and tell their story. The constitution guarantees them full freedom of speech to appeal to reason and to common sense. But it does not guarantee them freedom to blow up homes and churches and factories. It does not allow them to preach or practice sabotage and destruction. They deliberately choose the criminal course, and should be punished as criminals. Many of them have been sent back to the other side. They are now showing other nations how to save themselves. Many of them are in our jails. Thousands of their leaders are still enjoying liberty and working under cover. Every citizen owes it to himself and his family and his country to help weed out these undesirables as enemies of the people. They are easily recognized. They call themselves Red.

The Americanism Commission has laid great stress upon revolutionary radicalism in our country. We have been untiring in our efforts to combat this menace which is daily increasing through the work of paid agitators and agents of the Communist party.

The communistic program of the Workers' Party of America, with many similar organizations, co-operating with it or actually under its guiding hand, is:

1. Adopt Russia as a model and stick to it.
2. Achieve your purpose by having the masses rise up and rebel against private ownership in modern society.
3. Nationalize all industrial establishments and declare the land the property of the Nation, to be used only by those who work it by their own hands.

To bring about these results the American communists are advised by Moscow to organize a strong party in the working class, start a revolution and seize the power of State. These people are everywhere and it is incumbent, not only upon the membership of The American Legion, but all American citizens to be on their guard and to combat the insidious and vile propaganda put out by the so-called reds or by the “workers’” party. They have been discovered in schools, factories, public institutions, army, navy, and elsewhere, always inciting the ignorant and the discontented by their revolutionary and anarchistic ideals.

The National Americanism Commission desires to call your attention to the many organizations throughout the United States who ostensibly are collecting funds for charitable purposes; when, as a matter of fact, the funds are being used to spread foreign anti-social propaganda which is detrimental to America and her institutions.

The people of the United States are the most charitable people in the world and take great pleasure in giving for any humanitarian cause. There are organizations of high standing in this country for this very purpose. These organizations are headed by prominent Americans whose integrity and honesty can never be questioned. They are the outcome of years of work and they operate on the highest economic basis. Their scope of operation extends all over the world. Their agents are paid experts. Every penny given to them is accounted for. I have in mind organizations such as the American Red Cross and Secretary Hoover’s organization for the relief of starving Russia. These organizations are abler and more capable of spending the American dollar for the purpose for which it was contributed than any other.

On the other hand, there have sprung up recently, many organizations such as the Friends of Soviet Russia, who proclaim a purpose of collecting funds for the starving Russian children. There is no necessity for organizations of this kind except to give employment to various Sovietists and Communists who continue in underhand fashion to spread communistic propaganda throughout America. There is no necessity for any organization other than those whose operation cannot be questioned.

It is incumbent upon us to protect the American people in their charity and to advise them fully.

All Legion Posts should be on the lookout for such appeals for charity and investigate same thoroughly.

One of their leaders openly advocated a campaign of violence in a speech in New York. It is an extremely serious matter when a man of this type can get up in this country of ours and openly advocate such principles. It is time that America should take notice and put a stop to revolutionary talk. If it cannot be done through educational means, then I would respectfully suggest deportation. There is no place in the land of the free and the home of the brave for un-American principles.

Several departments of The American Legion have met and coped with situations arising from revolutionary anarchistic movements and are to be commended for their excellent conduct on such occasions.

It is suggested that in all localities where there is the slightest indication of movements of this kind, the Legion Posts start an active Americanism campaign against these people. Information will be readily supplied by your National Americanism Commission and all help cheerfully given.

The “worker’s” party convention this year claimed great strides toward revolution in a cable sent to Moscow headquarters of the convention. They work for the overthrow of democracy and the dictatorship of the proletariat. They are also working among the Negro. The New Orleans police arrested ten at a meeting and at the same time seized a great amount of literature denouncing the Government and advocating its overthrow. A former Assistant Attorney-General of the United States made the statement that there were four hundred periodicals, daily, weekly or monthly, with a combined circula-
tion of approximately five million, which are openly or covertly advocating violent sedition and insurrection, by force of arms, against the Government of the United States.

There are many organizations in this country who have spent vast sums of money supplied through the Bolshevists, much of which was obtained through charitable collections, which is being used today to spread propaganda in this country favoring the recognition of the Soviet Government. We have successfully combated such propaganda. Where we find it we immediately start a counter-campaign against the recognition of this dangerous form of government which tends to the destruction of civilization.

It is truly amazing to your National Americanism Commission that some of our Senators and men in public life, who have been the guests of Lenin and Trotsky upon their invitation, upon returning from Russia advocate the recognition of the Government there. The reports received by the Americanism Commission, which have been of an impartial nature and not made by those who have been the guests of the Soviet Government and who have only seen the best that Russia can offer, makes it incumbent upon us again to recommend that the Legion reaffirm its stand against the recognition of the present Soviet Government of Russia.

The Americanism Commission has urged at all times during the year, where aliens have been found guilty of treasonable statements or openly preaching armed revolution, that these people be deported immediately. It has been difficult for us to accomplish anything definite, unless we know the names of people who have made such statements, the time and the place they were made, and what actually was said. These things should be reported immediately to National Headquarters, which will bring them to the attention of the Department of Justice, in order to have the undesirables deported immediately.

ANTI-WAR PLEDGES.

The signing of "Anti-war" pledges now being circulated by the Women's Peace Union and various pacifist organizations should automatically forfeit citizenship rights in this country.

Government is established for the security of the governed and citizenship should be regarded in the nature of a contract between the individual and the government. A contract involves the bestowal of a benefit for a consideration. The Government is established to guarantee to the citizen certain benefits; personal security, and the opportunity of engaging in peaceful activities for personal advantage. In return, the citizen engages to support and maintain the Government. Forgetfulness or disregard of this obligation is the greatest menace to the American State and to American civilization today.

The anti-war pledges now widely circulated for signature commit the signer absolutely to refuse to bear any share in any sort of war activity. The signer of such a pledge must refuse to take over the work at home of a soldier going to the front; he must even refuse to contribute to the Red Cross or even "turn over his hand" to alleviate the suffering of a wounded soldier.

Such a proposition is anarchy pure and simple. It would mean the abolition of Government, for all government depends upon the support of the citizens. War is a bitter and terrible thing, and it is the hope of all that it can be wiped out forever. But anarchy is worse, for it would bring more suffering to more people. These non-participation pledges which strike at the very foundation of our Government are the sign-boards of anarchy.

The promoters of the Women's Peace Union and other pacifist organizations are trying to capitalize sentiment to pay salaries. All circulars for signature are accompanied with pleas for money contributions.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY.

The Communist International has inaugurated a movement among the youth of our nation which they celebrated on September 14th of this year. It
is customary, as I have stated before, for these agitators to work upon the minds of the ignorant and the undeveloped mentality of youth. This movement, if not counteracted immediately, will have a far-reaching effect.

The American Legion, to offset and discourage revolutionary demonstrations on May Day, inaugurated Americanism Day, which has been referred to before. Let us bend every effort through Constitutional Week to offset International Youth Day on September 14th.

"RUSSIA THROUGH THE SHADOWS."

Please advise every post in your department to the effect that a moving picture called "Russia Through the Shadows," is nothing more or less than communist propaganda. It is owned by the society called the Friends of Soviet Russia which is spreading insidious bolshevistic propaganda by means of money collected through various methods, included among which is the exhibition of the moving picture "Russia Through the Shadows." It is very important to our Americanism work that this propaganda be combated on every side.

DOPE.

One of the greatest evils now confronting us in this country is the general increase of addiction to habit forming drugs among the people of the United States, as well as the source and disposition of drugs to the addicts.

Statistics show that one person in every seventy-three in this country is already a confirmed drug addict. There are one and a half million people now in America who cannot face existence without their daily or hourly use of drugs. These people induce others to use opiates and it is estimated that in the course of their life, each causes three or four other persons to become addicts.

Of the middlemen who represent the leaders of the drug ring and who dispense drugs to the peddlers, ninety-five per cent. are foreign-born or of foreign extraction, according to authoritative statistics. They come from countries where the Government is a thing to be shunned, not shared, and they have no sense of responsibility to society.

The American Legion through its National Americanism Commission desires to lend every bit of assistance possible in combating this evil which threatens to undermine the very foundations of our republic. We believe it is our duty to carry on this fight against the use of narcotics in that we are battling for the lives and happiness of the children of America, as well as for the future of our nation.

We also believe that this is another argument in favor of our immigration policy. If the ninety-five per cent. of the middlemen who are aliens were incarcerated or deported, it would be a difficult matter for the peddlers to obtain drugs; thus one of the greatest blows to the drug traffic would result.

Your Americanism Commission calls upon all Americanism officers and all officials of the Legion to lend their full support to extinguishing the drug traffic, at the same time keeping your National Americanism Commission advised of any information you get regarding the use of drugs in your State or community.

WAR CRIMINALS.

Over the protest of The American Legion, the FIDAC and many other organizations, a great many war criminals, commonly and erroneously known as "political prisoners," have been released by the Federal Government during the last year. They were freed by executive order. Great pressure was brought to bear in their behalf. Such men as Senator Pepper of Pennsylvania backed the demands of their radical friends and sympathizers.

The attitude of this commission and of the American Legion has always been that there is no difference between a man who commits a crime against the Government in time of war and the man who commits a
crime in time of peace. If there is to be any distinction or favoritism, it should go to the less malicious criminal—the burglar or the counterfeiter, whose offense is against individuals, and not against millions of his countrymen. The Legion could not regard war criminals in any light but that of men and women who sought to hamper our progress in the war, knowing that their obstructionist tactics might cause untold loss of life or even result eventually in the utter ruin of our Nation. To my mind there is an exact analogy between releasing a war criminal and releasing a murderer; to give the former his liberty after the war in which his offense is committed seems identical to releasing a murderer merely because his victim is dead and cannot be killed again.

All these objections were made known to the executive powers at Washington, but our opinions apparently were outweighed by the opinions of those who held contrary views, and views, I believe, which were based on mawkish sentiment and upon the utterly dissimilar precedents established by the Civil War.

GERMAN PROPAGANDA.

The National Executive Committee passed a resolution at its January meeting this year supporting France in her position on reparations and in the taking over of the Ruhr Valley to guarantee payment.

Your attention is invited to the tremendous amount of German propaganda in this country today. The picture of Von Hindenburg is reappearing in the American papers as it did in 1914. He has been selected by the German Monarchist Party to lead a movement to restore the old regime. He opened this campaign by calling for war with France in his address to the German Veterans' League in the city of Hanover. Hindenburg is still the hero of Germany and his reappearance is a menace to the peace of the world.

It is our utmost duty to combat all propaganda of any sort with the exception of American propaganda. The American people do not yet realize that Germany can afford to spend millions for propaganda in America while refusing to pay reparations to France and our other Allies, on the plea of poverty. Germany is today in a better position for war than the world realizes but German propaganda is being exerted to bring the American people to believe otherwise.

The Americanism Commission has information of the course of German propaganda efforts in this country for the last year. In blocking these attempts we have put the pro-German element to a vain expense of millions of dollars. This is a matter of Americanism pure and simple. The people's will is supreme in this country, therefore, patriots must resent all foreign efforts to influence the people's will to foreign advantage. There are thirty thousands Americans buried in France who fell in breaking the Hindenburg line in 1918. The American people will not accept with equanimity Hindenburg's new threats of war.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

Your Americanism Commission, through its work of handling the great national campaigns of the Legion, has come to function as the Legion's agency of liaison with the other great national organizations of the country. Your director reports that this work has proceeded with excellent effect this year. The number of national organizations of note co-operating with The American Legion in one or more of its great national endeavors has more than doubled since October of 1922. Following is the list of these organizations.

American Federation of Labor.  American Red Cross.
Associated Press.
Associated Advertising Clubs of the World.
Baptist Young Peoples, Union of America.
Better America Federation.
Boards of Trade.
Boy Scouts Foundation.
Boy Scouts of America.
Brooklyn Bureau of Charities.
Camp Fire Girls.
Chambers of Commerce.
Children of the American Revolution.
Constitutional Defense League.
Colonial Sons and Daughters.
Community Service, Inc.
Council on Immigrant Education.
Cooperative Educational Association of Virginia.
Daughters of American Revolution.
Disabled American Veterans.
Farmers National Council.
Foresters of America.
Fraternal Order of Eagles.
General Federation of Women's Clubs.
General Society Sons of Revolution.
General Society of War of 1812.
Girl Scouts, Inc.
Grand Army of the Republic.
Illiteracy Commission of the National Education Association.
Immigrant Publication Society, Inc.
Improved Order of Red Men.
International Order of Good Templars.
Inter-Racial Council.
International Correspondence Schools.
Jewish Welfare Board.
Junior American Red Cross.
Kiwanis Club.
Knights of Columbus.
League of Foreign Born Citizens.
Lions.
Methodist Episcopal Church, Women's Home Missionary Society.
Modern Woodmen of America.
Motion Picture Producers & Distributors of America, Inc.
National American Council.
National American War Mothers.
National Association for Constitutional Government.
National Association Newspaper Executives.
National Catholic Welfare Council.
National Civic Federation.
National Congress of Mothers & Parent Teachers Association.
National Council of Catholic Women.
National Council of Women.
National Education Association.
National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs.
National Geographic Society.
National Grange.
National Guard Association.
National League of Women Voters.
National Liberal Immigration League.
National Motorists Association.
National Nursing Association.
National Personnel Association.
National Reform Association.
National Security League.
National Society of Children of the American Revolution.
National Women's Christian Temperance Union.
Naval Order of the United States.
New Jersey Patriotic League.
North American Civic League for Immigrants.
Order of Eastern Star.
Polish Falcons Alliance of America.
Polish National Alliance.
Rotary.
Salvation Army.
Service Star Legion.
Society of American Wars.
Sons of American Revolution.
Sons of Revolution.
Sons of Confederate Veterans.
Sons of Veterans.
Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias.
Union of American Hebrew Congregations.
United Confederate Veterans.
United Daughters of the Confederacy.
United Press Association.
United Spanish War Veterans.
United Society of Christian Endeavor.
United States Chamber of Commerce.
United States Junior Chamber of Commerce.
U. S. Department of Labor.
U. S. Navy.
Veterans of Foreign Wars.
Volunteers of America.
War Department.
Woman's Overseas Service League.
Woman's Relief Corps.
Woman's Service League.
Woodmen of the World.
Young Men's Christian Association.

One sees that this list of cooperating organizations, to the total number of one hundred and ten, comprises within its membership not less than seven
million five hundred thousand individuals, which constitute the massed forces of the active citizenry of this country. It is in these millions of thinking and acting citizens that the greatest of all aids to the Legion lies, and its illustrious program of service to community, state and nation. The acknowledgments of the National Americanism Commission of the Legion are hereby conveyed to all these organizations, in the sincere hope and assurance that such cordial relationships as have been established will continue and increase.

THE BALLOT AND JURY SERVICE.

As citizens of the Republic we derive certain benefits and blessings and the individual owes corresponding reciprocal duty and responsibility. Two duties of every American citizen are:—Casting the Ballot and Jury Service.

The ballot is the safeguard of American liberty. It is the safety-weapon of peace by which changes are brought about under our constitutional form of government without resorting to revolution. A clean ballot honestly counted expresses the will of our people. It is the solemn duty of every American to pay his poll tax, make registration or fulfill other requirements and qualify himself to cast his ballot at the polls for decent government in America.

The American Legion, in the preamble to the constitution, pledges itself to uphold law and order. The strongest means of maintaining the law and keeping peace under law is to choose and elect competent, efficient, patriotic men or women to office whose love for and devotion to American institutions and ideals are unquestioned and whose characters are unimpeachable. As a part of the Americanism program of the Legion, we will stimulate a desire in every man and woman in America to qualify himself or herself to take part in all elections that are to be called in 1922, and let their voices be heard for the cause of good government and urge that they become real and fullfledged American citizens, forearmed with the ballot to make their influence felt in their communities, their states and their Nation.

There is a common complaint about the results of jury trials. If the men and women who complain of the miscarriage of justice would bear in mind that it is their obligation to serve upon the juries of the country and enforce the law, we will find the remedy for the shortcomings and the failings of the present jury trial system. Citizens who do not serve on juries as a civic and patriotic duty have no reason to complain about the miscarriage of justice. One way at least to slacken, and we trust put an end to, the wave of crime now sweeping over America is for all men and women who are qualified for jury Service seriously to enter into the discharge of this patriotic duty and not ask judges to excuse them when they are summoned for such service. An aroused public opinion in creating a sentiment, a desire to serve juries and have a part in the administration of our courts and the enforcement of our laws will do much toward breaking up the wave of crime and radicalism waves of today.

As a part of this year's work the Americanism Commission of the Legion asks a strong resolution of all true Americans to cast their BALLOTS for good government in America; to obey the laws and uphold and defend the Constitutions of the United States and of our several States, with a willingness to serve as a part of our judiciary as members of the juries in the courts of the country.

SPEAKERS' BUREAU.

Due to the limited amount of money the Legion had to operate on its incoming administration turned over to your National Americanism Commission the Speakers' Bureau.

This Bureau functioned as an information section as well as in its more obvious task of supplying suggestions through the Speakers' Letters, which was published monthly for the use of the Legion speakers.

As no financial provision was made for carrying on the work, the Americanism Commission was left without means to publish the Speakers'
Letters and especially to supply information to the Legion corps of speakers. We have supplied at all times that information which we had on hand. We published one Speakers' Letter on Memorial Day and found that the cost was so great that it would be impossible to carry on the work.

If financial provision is made, your National Americanism Commission can carry on this work. A separate budget would have to be considered over and above the budget as set forth in the report for Americanism work. The suggested budget for the Speakers' Bureau follows:

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Pay Roll ........................................ $5,000.00
Printing .........................................  1,200.00
Postage, telegraph and telephone ..........  600.00
Miscellaneous ..................................  500.00
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Many requests were received throughout the year by your commission, addressed to the Speakers' Bureau, for information which we could not supply due to the lack of funds. Investigation proved that the Speakers' Bureau is an effective means of selling The American Legion to non-member service men and to the general public. Each post should have at least two speakers who can at all times refer to the Speakers' file and give addresses as representatives of The American Legion before some public gathering. It is a service we owe the community. I strongly recommend its continuance.

AMERICANISM FILMS.

At the direction of the last National Convention the Americanism Commission has endeavored in many ways to have Americanism films produced by different motion picture companies in the United States. Your National Director has had conference with the producers, who are perfectly willing to undertake this work provided they could get cost price on these productions. Because no financial provision was made by the Fourth National Convention in passing the Americanism Film resolution, and because of the limited budget which we are operating upon, it was impossible to carry out the letter of this resolution, although great effort was made to do so, if the desire of the Legion to undertake this excellent piece of Americanism work. proper financial provision must be made.

PUBLIC RELATIONS.

Your National Director of Americanism has endeavored during the year to coordinate the efforts of many patriotic organizations in Americanism work. He has met with a great deal of success through conferences at various places with the heads of organizations. A plan has been suggested which has for its purpose economy, greater accomplishments and a more thorough and systematic means of promoting Americanism. This plan was first suggested by your commission through the Flag Conference, where sixty-eight national organizations gathered with their representatives and adopted a Flag Code which has been much needed in this country. Since that time the number of National organizations cooperating in this matter has been increased to one hundred and eleven. The National Flag Association was organized to educate the people of our land in proper respect to the Flag of the United States and to perpetuate the history of the living symbol of our great Republic. This organization should receive the cooperation of all national organizations and individuals in its work, as a great amount of the work undertaken along the lines as set forth is duplicated because many patriotic organizations do not know what the others are doing. If the National Flag Association took over the direction of such work and allotted a certain field for each organization to cover, a thorough and systematic plan could be devised whereby every person in the United States of America could be reached and taught the proper respect for the Flag of our Nation.

The same plan is suggested concerning the study of the Constitution of the United States and other specific Americanism subjects. It would mean a
great saving of money with far better results and accomplishments. We are all working for America and her institutions and are seeking the best way to accomplish these purposes.

We have been asked to attend many national conferences of great significance this year. The people are looking to the Legion more and more to lead the way in Americanism. We have established most cordial business relations with a great number of patriotic, civic, fraternal and other organizations this year. We are endeavoring to coordinate the efforts of all. We are trying to give to the country our best services and to the world our ideals.

BOY SCOUTS.

The National Americanism Commission has distributed a great amount of Boy Scout literature during the year; pamphlets on “How to Form Scout Troops,” “How to Conduct Scout Meetings,” etc. We have urged the Legion posts all over the country to adopt Boy Scout troops and to further this worthy movement in every way possible. Boys look to men for guidance and we must consider that fact in our duty to the future America.

Because we made a nation-wide campaign many posts adopted Scout troops and are in every way encouraging the Scout movement. It is hoped that next year many more will interest themselves in this movement. The Commission will continue its efforts.

GOOD ROADS.

The National Highways Association, an organization formed to promote the construction of good roads in our country, is an association which should receive the cooperation of all Americans and of all American organizations. Your National Americanism Commission believes it to be part of its Americanism program to work for any purpose that has for its objective the betterment of the United States. Therefore, we heartily endorse the work undertaken by the National Highways Association and offer our cooperation.

Transportation is vital in time of war. It is an absolute necessity for commercial growth in times of peace. Good roads mean quick and safe transportation. They offer the farmer a market for his products; they offer the rural boy and girl opportunities in school; they bring a closer relationship between communities and States; they help unify our nation.

The Government spent millions for good roads during the war as a necessity to our national welfare and defense. Good roads pay the people who live near or close to them many times over what they cost the taxpayers. They afford comfort and a closer touch with the world’s affairs. Good roads mean prosperous communities and it should ever be our endeavor to lend aid and assistance in obtaining highways which will connect every community in the United States.

HOSPITALIZATION.

The National Rehabilitation Committee has this particular function in hand, namely, to care for the wants, desires and needs of those of our buddies who are in the hospitals throughout the country. It is, however, incumbent upon every division of The American Legion to cooperate with the Rehabilitation Committee in giving or doing all that they can for our sick and wounded buddies.

The National Americanism Commission urges all Americanism chairmen, officials and committee men at every opportunity to visit the hospitals in local communities and ascertain the desires and needs of the disabled. Do not wait for a bulletin to be issued, but have the post send cigarettes, newspapers, letters and whatnot to the boys in the hospital. Remember, a word of cheer now and then often does more good than the use of medicine—remember, that on the field of battle, under the strain and stress of fire, you would not have deserted a buddy who was disabled. The Commission in investigating found that the men who occupy our hospitals become despondent,
down-hearted and pessimistic due entirely to the lack of interest or words of encouragement from those of us who are able to give them.

Do not forget your obligation under the preamble of our constitution. I would suggest that the following subject be discussed at each post meeting: "What has been done the past two weeks for our disabled buddies."

**UNEMPLOYMENT.**

As has been customary in the past, the Americanism Commission has kept a close watch on business conditions in our country. At the beginning of 1923, about 256,000 veterans were out of employment. This, of course, was due to the winter season when all outside construction had stopped. With the coming of spring the number of unemployed was greatly reduced and throughout the summer it was at a minimum.

Most of the thickly populated communities, who established employment bureaus during the Legion's National Employment Drive, retained some sort of employment officer to care for the needs of the veterans as they applied for assistance. This work will be continued until there is no unemployment.

**ORIENTAL COMMITTEE.**

The Oriental situation is becoming very acute on the western coast and it should have the attention of all Legionnaires no matter in what section of the country they reside.

The Oriental report last year was very comprehensive and disclosed many startling facts. Since last year's report was published the Oriental Committee has uncovered many things dealing with this question which should have the attention of the Legion.

The Western states need our assistance in every way possible. Let us do all in our power to bring this matter to the attention of the people of the United States, as well as urge the United States Congress to follow the policy adopted at our several national conventions, namely, the exclusion of all immigrants.

Since the enclosed report was published, several very startling discoveries have been made with reference to the Japanese. We should lend every assistance possible in carrying out the policy as adopted at our national conventions.

A separate report will be brought before the convention Americanism Committee.

The Americanism Commission in cooperating with the Oriental Committee sent a copy of the Oriental Report to every Chamber of Commerce, Legion Post, and other organizations east of the Mississippi river, as well as those states immediately west of the river. We have written to all United States Senators and Representatives, enclosing a copy of the Oriental Report and calling their attention to this question confronting our buddies on the West Coast. We will ask all posts to write to their Congressmen along the lines adopted at the Fourth National Convention upon the next opening of Congress. We have included in our program for the coming year a most vigorous campaign following the recommendations of your Oriental Committee which were adopted at the last National Convention.

**THE BUDGET.**

The budget as submitted by your National Americanism Commission for 1922-23, was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Payroll</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing and Stationery</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel for Director and Members of Commission</td>
<td>7,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone and Telegraph</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contingent Fund</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$29,850</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following resolution was passed by the Fourth National Convention at New Orleans:

Whereas, after careful consideration a very reasonable budget has been approved by the National Americanism Commission of The American Legion for 1923; therefore, be it

Resolved, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled that the National Finance Committee use every effort to appropriate the amount of $29,850, to continue and enlarge the activities of the Americanism work during the coming year.

The budget for 1923, as passed by the National Finance Committee was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Payroll</td>
<td>$13,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone and Telegraph</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing and Stationery</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage and Express</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$21,350</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The budget as allowed by the National Finance Committee greatly curtailed the work of the Americanism Commission. Economy dictated that many plans for Americanism work of a very constructive nature should be abandoned. The budget as proposed for the year 1924, if the American Legion desires to maintain its leadership in the Americanism work, should be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Payroll</td>
<td>$16,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Travel Members of Commission and Director</td>
<td>5,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing and Stationery</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone and Telegraph</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Meetings</td>
<td>3,000</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$33,500</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our accomplishments this past year were due to the cooperation and assistance received from other organizations, all of whom look to the Americanism Commission of The American Legion to lead the way in matters pertaining to our work.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN.

At the time of going to press many of the departments had not held their conventions. In many of these departments the Americanism chairman has rendered a partial report. The departments which have held their conventions have sent in complete reports.

All of these reports show that the departments have followed the mandates of the National Convention. Their accomplishments have been many and they have been untiring in their efforts and work. Many have had to work without financial assistance, which hindered the progress they could otherwise have made. It is suggested where possible that each department allot so much for Americanism work. This has already been done by several.

We have had the full support and cooperation of patriotic and civic associations. We will need the cooperation and support of all in carrying out the program of the coming year.

It is our desire at this time to thank the departments for their cooperation and work. It is through their efforts that the success of the Americanism work was assured from the beginning. It is through their cooperation that the country now looks to us to lead the way in the many patriotic endeavors undertaken by the Legion.
IN CONCLUSION.

The foregoing report summarizes the most important things undertaken this year by your National Americanism Commission, but in no way is an attempt to discuss fully any subject. Many miscellaneous questions have been omitted. It is impossible to bring to the attention of anybody in such a short space of time the many matters and things that are constantly brought before this Commission at National Headquarters during the course of the year for our attention and solution. The progress made is highly encouraging—the accomplishments many. The work of the commission has grown to such proportions that it is necessary to increase the budget if we are to continue its program. We must assume the leadership in those things that the country has looked to us to do. Never in the history of our country has there been a greater need for Americanism, due to the unrest and the increase in immigrants and revolutionary radicals. We are successfully combatting these menaces. We are placing the Legion before the public in its true spirit, in its unselfishness and its desire to serve the Nation in time of peace as well as in time of war.

The effectiveness of our work is shown in many ways. The radical groups throughout the country condemn our organization in all their conventions because we stand for “Ballots not Bullets.” In a recent national convention held in New York by the “worker’s” party of America, The American Legion was denounced as a common enemy “unfolding a record replete with the blackest crimes against every vestige of constitutional liberty that the workers still have today.” All workers were enjoined to leave The American Legion and join the World War Veterans. A further interesting program for 1923, which was unanimously adopted at this same convention was to “accept the principles of the Communist Internationals and set as goal a Soviet America and a dictatorship of the Proletariat.” All these things show us that these revolutionists despise and hate The American Legion, because we are successfully combatting them at every turn.

The increased number of Legion night schools and the increased attendance at them also indicates that in our educational program we have met with tremendous success. In fact from all over the country national organizations, public officials and others have commented on and praised the Legion for its Americanism efforts.

The support received by your National Americanism Commission has been of the best, most loyal and generous. We have worked all year under the most trying conditions—a limited budget as well as office staff. We have given our best efforts and have endeavored at all times to carry out your mandates and wishes. If we have made mistakes, they were honest ones. If there were shortcomings, they were due to the increased amount of work this office has assumed, and for your patience and indulgence you have my sincere thanks and deep appreciation.

[Signature]

National Director.
DIVISION III

REPORT

OF THE

NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

TO THE

FIFTH NATIONAL CONVENTION

OF

THE AMERICAN LEGION

October 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 1923
San Francisco, Cal.
FOREWORD

Service to the Disabled Man
Service to the Ex-service Man

In submitting this report to the Fifth National Convention of The American Legion at San Francisco, October 15-19, your National Legislative Committee completes four years of work at the National Capital. As the Legion has grown in its activities of a national character, just so the work and the accomplishments of your National Legislative Committee have continued to increase. The results which have been obtained, and the absolute necessity for continuing this work at Washington, met with the unanimous approval at the New Orleans Convention which adopted a resolution,

Urging the continuance in Washington of a National Legislative Committee with an allowance sufficient to continue its efforts in assisting disabled men, and in securing the consideration by Congress of the resolutions adopted by this Convention.

In accordance with the mandate of this resolution, your Committee has continued its efforts in behalf of the veterans of the World War at its already established offices at the National Capital. It was in keeping with this resolution that the one supreme object of the Legion has been the adequate care of the disabled, and your Committee has met with more than ordinary success in its legislative efforts in their behalf. The Congress had adjourned when the New Orleans Convention concluded its deliberations, and did not reconvene until called into extra session by the President on November 20th, 1922. The extra session merged into the regular or fourth session of the 67th Congress, which adjourned on March 4th, 1923. There was, therefore, but little more than three months in which to accomplish the program outlined at New Orleans.

For the care of the disabled, the 65th Congress had appropriated $150,000,000. The 66th Congress appropriated $358,545,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1921. The closing days of the 66th Congress and the special session of the 67th Congress appropriated $266,951,700. The 67th Congress appropriated $582,385,954. During the short session above outlined there was appropriated $451,452,035 for the care of the disabled. These results were obtained almost solely through the constant attention and efforts of the National Legislative Committee of The American Legion, working untiringly toward this end.

One of the outstanding accomplishments for the disabled was the enactment on the closing day of the 4th session of Congress of the Third Sweet Bill. Although in force but six months, already $85,755,282 has been paid out to the disabled ex-service men under its provisions, which could not have been paid under previous existing law. The manner in which this legislation was enacted, together with its results, are fully set forth in that portion of the report dealing with the disabled men.

It must be appreciated by the delegates to this Convention that the duties and activities of your National Legislative Committee do not cease with Congress or with legislation that is to be enacted—our duties go much further. The administration of the laws concerning ex-service men and women, particularly the disabled, has given your Committee almost as much work as Congress itself. Hospitalization, insurance, vocational training, land settlement, civil service, passports, immigration, naturalization, and the adjusted compensation legislation, have occupied much of the time and labor
of your Committee. In addition, it has been necessary for this Committee to insist upon a liberal interpretation of the existing laws, that the ex-service men and women should receive the maximum of benefit.

Bills were introduced in both the Senate and the House immediately upon the convening of Congress covering all resolutions adopted at the New Orleans Convention. All Committee hearings were attended before both branches, and the attitude of the Legion forcefully set out. It was necessary to prepare data and material in support of these resolutions for presentation to the proper committees, in order to carry out the expressed will and intention of your National Convention. Your National Legislative Committee is governed by the instructions laid down by the National Conventions, the National Executive Committee, and by the National Commander, and these have been followed to the letter. From the establishment of your Committee in Washington, there has been compiled copies of all bills and reports of all committees in both the Senate and the House relating to legislation for ex-service men and women, together with copies of all the laws which have been enacted as a result of the work of your Committee. There is presented herewith as a partial list of bills covering the resolutions of the New Orleans Convention, and copies of all bills introduced in both the House and the Senate which in any way affect the ex-service men and women of the country.

The Legion has constantly grown in its ability to express the sentiment of all former service men, to express this sentiment to the nation; and to obtain in return from the Congress definite and concrete answers in the way of national legislation for the benefit of those who defended their country.

Your National Legislative Committee has cause to be deeply grateful for the help it has received from National Headquarters and all National Officers. The National Executive Committee and the Standing Committees have contributed their part in presenting a solid American Legion front on all questions of national legislation. To The American Legion Weekly, The American Legion News Service, The Americanization Commission, The National Rehabilitation Committee, and all other Standing Committees, your National Legislative Committee is indebted for support and untiring assistance, and at this time extends to them its thanks, as well as its congratulations in that our common efforts in matters of national legislation have resulted in such conspicuous success. The National Officers and the various Departments and Committees of the American Legion Auxiliary have become thoroughly and completely organized so far as national legislation is concerned, and have contributed much to the success of your program. Almost all of the Departments of the Legion now have thoroughly organized Legislative Committees, which act as liaison between your National Legislative Committee and the members of the Departments. The result has been an increased interest and activity on your national legislative program, with accompanying success. They have responded promptly and forcefully to all requests sent out by your Committee, and through coordination, now exercise a great influence upon the members of Congress in matters of national legislation.

To our present National Commander, Alvin Owsley, we are particularly indebted. On all matters of legislative importance, he was in Washington, and from his experience and knowledge of the situation, he contributed largely to the final report now submitted by this Committee. He outlined a program looking, not only to the immediate enactment of laws for the benefit of ex-service men, but having in mind the short period during which the Congress would be in session, he laid the plans for the work which must be done in the future. Legislation is not merely a temporary and present matter of accomplishment, but is continuing. Bills which are introduced today in compliance with resolutions adopted by your Convention may not come up for consideration until a year hence. It is necessary, therefore, that much intensive preliminary work be done in order that the final results may be accomplished. To this the National Commander has given his careful thought
and consideration, and the results of his work will be plainly seen in the years to come.

In the following pages appears an exact account of what your Committee has actually accomplished, and what has been enacted into law, together with a record of what has been done on all pending legislation. It will be seen that our disabled comrade has always been our first consideration, and that Legislation affecting him and his condition has received our particular attention. In the approaching session of Congress much can be accomplished for the benefit of ex-service men and women through the enactment of national legislation. The Adjusted Compensation Bill, the Universal Draft Bill, the Retirement for Disabled Emergency Army Officers, the creation of separate committees in the House and the Senate for the consideration of soldiers' legislation, and additional amendments to the laws affecting the disabled, in compliance with resolutions passed at previous conventions, are still to be enacted into law. With the approach of a presidential election and the marked changes which have taken place in both the Senate and the House as the result of the last election, The American Legion occupies a most advantageous position to secure the enactment into law of the foregoing legislation.

In the four years which have elapsed, the members of the Senate and the House, through the efforts of your National Legislative Committee have become thoroughly acquainted with the ideas and the ideals of The American Legion. It is only through coordinated effort, however, of every member of The American Legion that a full understanding of the purposes and intent of the Legion can be fully gained by the members of the Congress. We must, therefore, continue our fight vigorously and forcefully until our program is accomplished, and our efforts should follow the same general principles as laid down at the previous Conventions. All resolutions affecting national legislation should be forwarded through the regular authorized channels to your National Legislative Committee. With each Department thoroughly organized, and with each Post within the Departments responding immediately and vigorously on all matters of national legislation, we shall continue to maintain our position as the most powerful influence for good in our country, and through Congressional action secure those benefits to which the men and women who served in the World War are justly entitled.

With this foreword, the following report of your Committee is respectfully submitted:

WAYNE DAVIS, Texas, Chairman,
JOHN THOMAS TAYLOR, D. C., Vice Chairman,
JOE MORRISON, Arkansas,
ANTON STEPHAN, D. C.,
WATSON B. MILLER, D. C.,
WALTER HARRIS, Georgia,
WILLIAM R. McCauley, Illinois,
T. SEMMES WALMACLEY, Louisiana,
LEO M. HARLOW, Massachusetts,
A. H. VERNON, Minnesota,
GEORGE J. LEFTWICH, Jr., Mississippi,
MARCUS L. POTTER, Nebraska,
T. J. SALTER, Nevada,
I. G. GORDON FOSTER, Pennsylvania,
GEORGE L. BERRY, Tennessee,
H. NELSON JACKSON, Vermont,
R. BALDWIN MYERS, Virginia,
PRESTON T. MCAVY, Wyoming,
EDWARD M. LEWIS, Missouri, Executive Secretary.

FINALLY ACCOMPLISHED.

The efforts of your National Legislative Committee have contributed greatly to the enactment of the following laws:

Aliens, Immigration. Public Resolution No. 78, 67th Congress, (H. J.
Res. 279) permitted aliens, who entered United States prior to March 7, 1922, in excess of quotas and under bond, to remain in this country under certain restrictions and have their bonds cancelled. This has been referred to as the Christmas Present.

Trading With the Enemy. Public Law No. 536, 67th Congress, (H. R. 14,522), limited the return to individual aliens, subjects of Germany, Austria, Hungary or Austria-Hungary, money or other personal property to amounts not in excess of $10,000.

American Legion. Public Law No. 464, 67th Congress, (H. R. 13,032), authorized the sale for $1.00 of the Montreal Liver Lighthouse Reservation of forty acres at Bessemer, Michigan, to the Gogebic County Board of the Legion for use as a home for invalid Legionnaires.

Public Law No. 253, 67th Congress, (H. R. 6,577), permitted the Robert E. Kelly Post of Flandreau, S. D., to acquire government land at appraised value as a site for a memorial building.

Public Law No. 25, 67th Congress, (H. R. 8,460), authorized the Ketchikan Post No. 3, American Legion, Department of Alaska, to build a clubhouse upon government land at Tongass Narrows, Alaska.

Americanization. Public Law No. 457 of the 67th Congress (H. R. 13,660) appropriated $8,980 for instruction of foreigners in Americanization work, in night and day classes in the District of Columbia.

Aviation. Public Law No. 409, 67th Congress, (H. R. 13,696), appropriated $283,000 to the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, for scientific research and technical investigations in the field of aeronautics.

Civil Service. Public Law No. 516, 67th Congress, (H. R. 8,928), the Re-classification Bill. This Act reclassified the Civil Service employes of the Federal Government and in effect brought a general increase in salary to them. In theory it has standardized the work and pay in the various positions. This gives practical effect to the Act of 1912.

Public Law No. 409, 67th Congress, (H. R. 13,696), appropriating $876,395, to the Civil Service Commission for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1924.

Disabled Men. Public Law No. 409, 67th Congress, (H. R. 13,696), appropriated the following amounts for the U. S. Veterans Bureau for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1924:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$49,984,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus</td>
<td>3,353,289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing</td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compensation</td>
<td>118,460,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical and Hospital Services</td>
<td>$6,781,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for Additional Beds in Existing Hospitals</td>
<td>48,683,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational Rehabilitation</td>
<td>120,743,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military and Naval Insurance</td>
<td>96,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$431,514,063</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Public Law No. 543, 67th Congress, (H. R. 14,408), the deficiency bill, appropriated $13,235,000 for Military and Naval Insurance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1923. It also appropriated $362,000 for the support of the National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers.

Public Law No. 465, 67th Congress, (H. R. 13,793), under the heading of non-military activities of the War Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924, appropriated $5,154,500 for the support of the National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers.

Public Law No. 395, 67th Congress, (H. R. 13,559), appropriated $1,000,000 for the maintenance of St. Elizabeth's Hospital for the Insane, $100,000 for general repairs and improvements, and $46,500 for the construction of seven brick bungalows.

Senate Resolution No. 466, provided for the creation of a senatorial
committee of three to investigate the U. S. Veterans Bureau. Twenty thousand dollars was appropriated for the Committee's expenses.

The Total Appropriations Made for Disabled Men Since the Last Convention, as Described in This Report, are $451,452,053.

Public Law No. 370, 67th Congress, (H. R. 8,002), the Fish Bill, increased the pay from $20 a month to $50 of nurses for blind, legless or armless veterans.

Public Law No. 460, 67th Congress, (H. R. 10,003), provides that the compensation of mental patients of the U. S. Veterans Bureau shall be administered by the Director of the Bureau where no legal guardian has been appointed.

Public Law No. 537, 67th Congress, (H. R. 14,226), provides compensation and care for nurses contracting sickness in line of duty.

Public Law No. 542, 67th Congress, (H. R. 14,401), the third Sweet Bill, provides sixteen specific amendments to the War Risk Insurance Act. The payments awarded and made under this law up to September 1, 1923, total $35,755,322.

General. Public Law No. 438, 67th Congress, (S. 4,036), provides fines and imprisonment for unauthorized wearing, manufacture or sale of the Congressional Medal of Honor and other War Department medals.

Public Law No. 535, 67th Congress, (H. R. 14,144), limits the time under which suits may be brought under Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act.

Public Law No. 532, 67th Congress, (H. R. 14,077), validated commutation payments made to National Guard and Reserve officers, and provides hospital care for National Guardsmen injured at maneuvers.

Public Law No. 544, 67th Congress, (H. R. 14,436), appropriated $35,799,000, or $240 apiece as an annual bonus to government employes whose pay is less than $2,500.


Public Law No. 396, 67th Congress, (H. R. 13,559), making appropriations for the Reclamation Service Department of the Interior, (all of which lands are subject to preferential right of settlement by ex-service men) totaling $12,250,000, allocated as follows:

Salt River project, Arizona: For examination of project and project accounts, $5,000;
Yuma project, Arizona-California: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $430,000;
Orland project, California: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $50,000;
Grand Valley project, Colorado, including Orchard Mesa unit: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $395,000;
Uncompahgre project, Colorado: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $185,000;
Boise project, Idaho: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations: Provided, That the expenditure for drainage shall not exceed the amount paid by the water users pursuant to the provisions of the Boise public notice dated February 15, 1921, except for drainage in irrigation districts formed under State laws and upon the execution of agreements for the repayment to the United States of the costs thereof, $1,390,000;
King Hill project, Idaho: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations $35,000;
Minidoka project, Idaho: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, with authority in connection with the construction of American Falls Reservoir, to purchase or condemn and to improve suitable land for a new town site to replace the portion of the town of American Falls which will be flooded by the reservoir, and to provide for
the removal of buildings to such new site and to plat and to provide for appraisal of lots in such new town site and to exchange and convey such lots in full or part payment for property to be flooded by the reservoir and to sell for not less than the appraised valuation any lots not used for such exchange, $665,000;

Huntley project, Montana: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $115,000;

Milk River project, Montana: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $140,000; Provided, That repayment of the construction cost of the project may be made through a division by the Secretary of the Interior of such cost into a primary construction charge and a supplemental construction charge, of approximate equality, the former payable according to section 2 and the latter payable according to section 4 of the extension Act of August 13, 1914, (Thirty-eighth Statutes at Large, page 686);

Sun River project, Montana: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $145,000;

Lower Yellowstone project, Montana-North Dakota: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $120,000;

North Platte project, Nebraska-Wyoming: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $1,420,000;

Newlands project, Nevada: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $735,000;

Carlsbad project, New Mexico: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $900,000;

Rio Grande project, New Mexico-Texas: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $990,000;

North Dakota pumping project, North Dakota: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $100,000;

Baker project, Oregon: For investigation, commencement of construction, and incidental operations, $80,000;

Umatilla project, Oregon: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $900,000;

Klamath project, Oregon-California: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $700,000;

Belle Fourche project, South Dakota: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $95,000;

Strawberry Valley project, Utah: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $45,000;

Okanogan project, Washington: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $900,000;

Yakima project, Washington: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction and incidental operations, $1,310,000;

Riverton project, Wyoming: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $600,000;

Shoshone project, Wyoming: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $925,000;

Secondary projects: For cooperative and miscellaneous investigations, $100,000;

For the continued investigation of the feasibility of irrigation, water storage, and related problems on the Colorado River, and investigation of water sources of said river, $100,000.

Memorials. Public Law No. 534, 67th Congress, (H. R. 14,087), created an American Battle Monuments Commission, to erect suitable memorials overseas commemorating the services of our expeditionary forces. Legionnaires were appointed members of the Commission.

Public Law No. 497, 67th Congress, (S. 4,562), incorporated the Belleau Wood Memorial Association, which will purchase land and erect memorials at Belleau Wood, Department of Aisne, France, commemorating the actions there.
Public Law No. 473, 67th Congress, (H. R. 13,326), to investigate the feasibility of a National Military Park at Yorktown, Va., where Lord Cornwallis surrendered the British forces to General Washington at the close of the Revolutionary War.

Military Affairs. Public Law No. 485, 67th Congress, (H. R. 13,793), the Army Appropriation Bill for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924, carried total appropriations of $336,000,000 for military and non-military activities. It provides for an enlisted personnel of 125,000 and 12,000 officers.


Naval Affairs. Public Law No. 384, 67th Congress, (H. R. 13,374), the Navy Appropriation Bill for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924, appropriated $329,906,528. This authorizes an enlisted personnel of 86,000. The bill is designed to maintain our Navy at the 5-5-3 ratio.

Public Law No. 543, 67th Congress, (H. R. 14,408), the deficiency bill, appropriated $6,500,000 to increase the range of the turret guns of thirteen battleships.

War Frauds. Public Law No. 377, 67th Congress (H. R. 13,232) appropriated $500,000 to the Department of Justice for the investigation and prosecution of war frauds.

Public Law No. 465, 67th Congress, (H. R. 13,793) the Army Appropriation Bill for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924, appropriated $500,000 to the Finance Department of the War Department for the auditing of World War contracts.

ADJUSTED COMPENSATION.

When the Fourth Annual Report of your National Legislative Committee went to press, the Adjusted Compensation Bill lay on the President's desk for approval. On September 15th it had been agreed upon in conference by the Senate and the House, passing the Senate with 36 "yeas," 17 "nays" and 43 not voting. The following day it went to the President.

On September 18th the responsible heads of twelve veteran organizations, headed by a representative group of nationally known Legionnaires, called upon the President and formally requested him to approve the bill. These were The G. A. R.; The American Legion Auxiliary; The Disabled American Veterans of the World War and Auxiliary; The Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliary; The United Spanish War Veterans and Auxiliary; The Gold Star Mothers, The War Widows; and The Disabled American Officers Association. The President greeted the delegation courteously and listened to the arguments set forth, but did not indicate what action he would take. The next day, September 19th, he vetoed our bill and returned it to Congress with a remarkable message, in which figures supplied by the Treasury Department predicted a deficit for the current fiscal year of $650,000,000. This estimate proved to be inaccurate, as the Secretary of the Treasury reported on June 30th, 1923, that the year had ended with a surplus of $310,000,000, or approximately $1,000,000 more than the sum predicted by the Treasury when its officials were urging the President to veto our bill, and supplying him with arguments to make the veto stand up. Thus the "Anti-bonus deficit" of $650,000,000 became an actual surplus of $310,000,000. Just a little error of a billion dollars.

On September 20th, the House of Representatives voted five to one to override the President's veto, the vote showing 258 "yeas," 54 "nays," and 115 not voting. The bill then went to the Senate, where the Legion, aided by Senator Porter J. McCumber, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, sought to pass it over the veto. When the roll call came in the Senior body, 15 Senators who had declared themselves in favor of our measure were absent from the chamber, while only two Senators opposed to the measure were absent.
The Senate failed to give the necessary two-thirds majority, the roll call showing 44 “yeas,” 28 “nays” and 24 not voting. A careful check of the record of the Senate made by your Committee, counting all pairs and announcements of intention to vote on the floor, shows that at the time of the veto the Senate actually stood 61 in favor of the bill and 35 opposed. This was after two of our supposed friends, who had voted for the bill upon its passage, changed over and voted against the bill in order to sustain the President’s veto. These were Senators Ralph Henry Cameron, of Arizona, and William B. McKinley, of Illinois.

Two days later, on September 22nd, Congress adjourned, not to convene again until called into extra session by the President on November 20th. This, then, was the situation when the Fourth National Convention met at New Orleans on October 16th, 1922. At that convention serious minded men of the Legion gave full consideration to the status of this legislation, and the events leading up to it. The Convention Committee on National Legislation, in conjunction with the Convention Committee on Resolutions, prepared and presented the following resolutions reaffirming The American Legion’s stand on Adjusted Compensation, and proclaiming to the country that the fight had only begun:

Whereas, there was introduced in the Congress in the United States immediately following the Armistice, November 11th, 1918, more than fifty separate and distinct bills providing for the payment of an adjustment of compensation in various forms to the service men and women of America who served in the World War, practically without pay, while the workers at home were receiving unusually high wages with many bonus features; and

Whereas, the American Legion in National Convention assembled at Minneapolis in 1919, at Cleveland in 1920, and at Kansas City in 1921, endorsed the justness in principle of such adjusted compensation, realizing the great financial and economic handicap suffered by our service men and women, and, whereas adjusted compensation for military service in principle and practice is based upon historic precedents; and

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

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

Whereas, after careful consideration by this convention of all the arguments advanced in opposition to this measure, including the letters of the Secretary of the Treasury, the address of the President to Congress in 1921, and the message of the President to Congress accompanying his veto after this legislation had been passed by the Senate and by the House, we still firmly believe in the justness, the fairness, and the immediate necessity for adjusted compensation legislation; now therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, the American Legion, at the Fourth National Convention assembled, do reaffirm our belief in The American Legion plan for adjusted compensation, with full confidence of the support of the American people, and we do now instruct the newly elected National Commander, the National Executive Committee, and the National Legislative Committee, to continue the fight for this legislation until it has been enacted into law.

These resolutions were presented to the Convention and unanimously adopted. A copy was later presented to every Congressman and Senator and read into the Congressional Record from the floor of both the House and the Senate immediately upon the convening of the extra session.
The November elections held during the recess clearly demonstrated the resentment of the voters at the failure of the Senate to override the Presidential veto, and Senators Calder of New York, Dupont of Delaware, France of Maryland, and Frelinghuysen of New Jersey, all of whom voted to sustain the veto, were repudiated at the polls by their own states. Sweeping changes were also made in the House of Representatives, 140 new members being elected to the lower House, which in addition now contains 7 vacancies.

There has never been any question about the overwhelming desire of the House of Representatives to repeatedly pass our bill, and a careful check shows that as a result of the elections it will pass the lower body in the coming Congress by a vote of seven or eight to one. The situation in the Senate is also greatly altered, and our bill will pass the senior body with at least 18 votes to spare.

The following is an analysis of the Senate which vetoed our bill. Counting all Senators who voted or were paired against it at the time of the veto, based upon the vote the next day, September 20th, 1922, the total opposition was 35, as follows:

### Remaining In Present (68th) Senate:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Votes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ball, Borah</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Cameron, Djal.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>*Edge, Ernst</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fernald, Glass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Keyes, King</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>*McKinley, Moses.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>*Owen, Pepper</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Phipps, Reed (Pa.)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Shields, Smoot</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sterling, Swanson</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Underwood, Wadsworth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warren, Weller</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Not In Present Senate:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Votes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Defeated</td>
<td>(Calder, Dupont, France, Frelinghuysen, New)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Candidates</td>
<td>(Meyers, Page, Williams)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Died</td>
<td>(nelson, Dillingham)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resigned</td>
<td>(Newberry)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total against in 67th Senate:** 35

Counting all who voted for, or were paired in favor of the Adjusted Compensation Bill at the time of the veto, based upon the vote the next day, September 20th, 1922, the number stood 61 in favor, as follows:

### Remaining In Present (68th) Senate:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Votes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ashurst, Brandegee</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Broussard, Bursum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capper, Caraway, Colt</td>
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<td>Cummins, Curtis</td>
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<td>Elkins, Fletcher</td>
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<td>Gerry, Gooding</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hale, Harrell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harris, Harrison</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hefflin, Johnson</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jones (N.M.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jones (Wash.)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kendrick, Ladd</td>
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<tr>
<td>LaFollette, Lenroot</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lodge, McCormick</td>
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<tr>
<td>McKeller, McLean</td>
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<tr>
<td>McNary, Norbeck</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norris, Oddle</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Overman, Pittman, Randsell, Reed (Mo.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robinson, Sheppard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shortridge, Simmons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Smith, Spencer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stanfield, Stanley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trammell, Walsh (Mass.)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walsh (Mich.)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watson (Ind.)</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Not In Present Senate:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Votes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Defeated</td>
<td>(Culberson, Hitchcock, Kellogg, McCumber, Sutherland, Townsend, Poindexter, Pomerene)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Candidate</td>
<td>(Rawson)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Died</td>
<td>(Nicholson, Watson, [Ga.])</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total in favor in 67th Senate:** 61

The foregoing shows that the “holdover” Senators number 74, with 60 of them favorable and 24 listed as opposed. The number of new Senators is 21, and 1 vacancy, a total of 96.

Of the 24 “holdover” Senators listed as opposed, *Cameron and *McKinley had voted for the bill upon its passage. Cameron voted against it on the veto, while McKinley who was in Europe, was paired in opposition. On
June 30, 1923 *Edge declared himself conditionally for the legislation. *Owen stated in the debate he would vote favorably, if in receipt of a mandate from his legislature.

A first-hand poll of the 21 new Senators discloses from the campaign speeches and statements made since the elections, at least 18 of the 21 newly elected Senators will vote in favor of our measure, irrespective of a veto.

There is one thing absolutely certain, and that is that the Adjusted Compensation Bill will become a law during the next session of Congress. The opposition realizes this, and are making their plans accordingly. They no longer hope to defeat the measure, so that the tactics of delay will be invoked and the old subterfuge of loading it down with unpopular or impractical amendments, will be again attempted. Legionnaires may expect the maximum of publicity “barrages” opposed to the measure, and the invocation of every parliamentary ruse and device, in committee and on the floor, to delay the passage of the bill. But delay can only serve to strengthen the determination of the ex-service men and women of the country, and that of their friends in the House and the Senate, to push this just measure to early enactment.

On November 9th, last, the President issued a call for Congress to convene in extra session on November 20th, in the hope that by this early start, he could obtain enactment of the Ship Subsidy Bill before the expiration of the 67th Congress. This bill (H. R. 12,817) was quickly passed by the House, and promptly sent to the Senate, where it was reported favorably early in December by the Senate Committee on Commerce. A masked filibuster, gradually gaining in strength, finally operated against this bill, which had been made the unfinished business of the Senate. This filibuster jammed the Senate calendar to such an extent that long before the termination of the short session, March 4th, 1923, it became apparent that few measures could be enacted by the Congress because of the legislative blockade caused by the Ship Subsidy Bill in the Senate. This measure, as the unfinished business in the upper body, held the right of way. As the debate on it continued for week after week, your National Legislative Committee realized that only a miracle would make possible the enactment of an Adjusted Compensation Bill during the short session. A week before the session expired, the administration forces, which had been pushing the Subsidy Bill for months, finally gave up, admitted the success of the filibuster, and withdrew their bill on February 28th, when it was finally displaced as the unfinished business of the Senate. This left only four days for the passage of many vital measures, and under the circumstances it was deemed advisable not to attempt to force the issue of the Adjusted Compensation Bill.

The enactment of our bill into law is a certainty at the coming session of Congress, but it will require constant watchfulness by your National Legislative Committee backed by the united efforts of The Legion to accomplish this. Our opponents are strong, and more active than ever. The powerful interests which have heretofore conducted the chief campaigns against Adjusted Compensation, are again in the field urging defeat for the soldiers’ measure. As Legionnaires well know, these powerful financial interests have fought the legislation bitterly in the past, distorting figures and statistics to aid their ends, and erecting straw man after straw man in an attempt to block the path toward justice, only to see the creatures of their own imagination thrown down when the light of truth was turned upon them by your Committee.

The Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America, the chief representative of Big Business in this fight, is again to the fore, and is preparing a comprehensive campaign of propaganda designed to persuade Representatives and Senators in Congress that the people of America do not desire Adjusted Compensation for the soldier, and that even if the people do desire it, it is unsound economically, will be responsible for all of the future financial ills of the country, and should therefore be defeated.

Legionnaires will recall that last year the National Chamber conducted a referendum upon the question among its own members, which resulted in a
vote of 4,116 in favor of Compensation to 2,657 opposed, or a clear majority of 1,459 in favor of justice to America’s fighting men. By clever manipulation, these figures were distorted into the appearance of a mandate of opposition from the National Chamber, but in spite of the nation-wide campaign conducted, the Legion successfully showed the hypocrisy of its attitude toward its own referendum, and exposed the fraud with which it has attempted to deceive the thinking population of the country.

The National Chamber has already begun its new campaign. Julius H. Barnes, its President, together with a delegation of officials representing Big Business interests, officially called upon President Coolidge at the White House on August 20th—less than a month after he was elevated to his high office, and formally protested to the President against the enactment of the Adjusted Compensation Bill.

The National Association of Manufacturers has inaugurated a general campaign among its members throughout the United States, placing as the first matter of importance on their legislative program opposition to the Adjusted Compensation Bill. Officials of the National Association recently forwarded a general letter to its associated members, which reads in part as follows:

You have an opportunity that will not be repeated, to discuss these subjects with your Representatives and to make them topics for popular consideration in various forums through which opinion is formulated and expressed. Now is the period of growing opinion. Now is the time when constituencies are open to argument. By December many loose views will have crystallized into judgments. The time for correction of defects of reasoning and the presentation of views is now. The man who supports the bonus as proposed risks permanent loss for small and questionable temporary gain. We urge the imperative importance of presenting this subject to your Representatives and throughout your communities, in order that there may be a clear and popular understanding of the moral and economic issues involved in this unfortunate effort to add a staggering burden to our industrial life in the most delicate period of economic adjustment.

So much for the manufacturers’ plan to “educate” the Congress and the voters to obtain a “clear popular understanding of the moral and economic issues involved.” The letter contains an open threat of retirement to private life for Senators and Congressmen courageous enough to vote for a square deal for the soldiers. This Manufacturers’ Association represents combined assets of more than $40,000,000,000.

The usual “Anti-Bonus League,” composed of a few service men, has sprung up again in response to hopes of financial “aid” from opponents. This is a continuation of the threadbare attempt to deceive the public and the Congress into the belief that a substantial portion of the Veterans are opposed to Adjusted Compensation.

The activities of the latest of these, the Ex-service Men’s Anti-Bonus League of New York City has recently been exposed through Richard Seelye Jones, Editor of the Stars and Stripes, a Legionnaire, obtaining copies of their instructions which outlined a pretense to organize a nation-wide referendum among service men on the subject. The organization well knew that such referendums have often been held in the past, and that they have invariably shown that the veterans favor Adjusted Compensation practically to a man. They know that each of the 12,000 posts of the Legion vote on this question annually, that instructed delegates elected from these posts vote upon the questions at their Department Conventions, and instructed delegates from the Department Conventions vote upon the question at the National Conventions. They know also that the vote at the New Orleans convention was 1,014 to nothing on the question, and that all other reputable veterans organizations have taken the same stand on this subject. The Anti-Bonus League did not hope to conduct a referendum, but planned to obtain publicity
for its “cause” through the request for a referendum. Some interesting extracts from the instructions of the Ex-Service Men’s Anti-Bonus League are as follows:

We must show them (the contributors) some action if we are to hold them in line.

Publicity merely enunciating our principles will not suffice to hold either the interest or the financial support.

Commander Owsley was to be requested by the National Director of the League, to co-operate in the proposed insincere attempt at referendum, which the Anti-Bonus League had hoped to induce him to accept and which would “make” them an organization, through Legion recognition. Through the exposure of their plans as outlined in their correspondence they were forced to abandon this proposed deceit upon the public and the ex-service men of the country.

The most recent evidence of organized effort on the part of Big Business to oppose the Adjusted Compensation Bill has been displayed by the National Industrial Conference Board of New York, which has issued a 50-page pamphlet under the title “Special Report No. 24—The Soldiers’ Bonus or Adjusted Compensation for Soldiers.” This special report pretends to speak fairly and judicially on the subject, and in furtherance of its appearance of impartiality, reprints a brief in favor of the Adjusted Compensation Bill, prepared by your National Committee. A careful study of this report shows the insincerity of this pretense, for the Conference Board in arriving at its final decision uses as arguments against our measure, conclusions which it has drawn, but which are not supported by actual and authentic figures, nor by the text of their report.

Thus it is to be noted that the general opposition to the Adjusted Compensation measure is being conducted by the United States Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers, and the National Industrial Conference Board, organizations composed of the Big Business interests of the country, and it would be an interesting study after a perusal of their various allied and affiliated associations to ascertain to what extent these industries profited out of the war, and if any of their members are included in those recently called to account by the Department of Justice of the United States in actions brought to recover vast sums of money paid them on war contracts.

The Adjusted Compensation legislation was first initiated in the Congress of the United States in 1919, by patriotic Congressmen who were appalled at the sums which our Government was pouring into the laps of the civilian population, the war contractors and the railroads. They realized that the soldiers would have to bear their share of the burdens of the repayment of the rewards others were receiving, and the idea of Adjusted Compensation crystallized in Congress in an attempt to partly even up the economic loss which the soldier suffered because of his service.

Those who profited most from the war immediately opposed the idea, through fear that they might have to disgorge a pittance of the vast wealth they had accumulated while the veteran was serving at a dollar a day. Chief among their plans for retaining these great profits was to sell large stock and bond issues. It was necessary therefore that the “public” be kept free from financial burdens so that it could purchase at a good price the securities which Big Business planned to issue.

We all know now that Big Business has made good on this plan. It has prevented the enactment of the Adjusted Compensation Bill for the four years it has been before Congress, during which period it has issued and sold to the American public $20,673,000,000 worth of securities, or five times the total cost of the forty years of payments under our bill. Big Business loaned $2,177,000,000 of this sum to foreign governments and corporations. So the American Dough-Boy has had to wait while foreigners have received American dollars—two billion of them.
This sum loaned to the foreigners is nearly twice what the soldiers’ measure will cost during the first twenty years after its enactment into law.

Since our bill was first introduced in Congress the national debt has been reduced $4,250,000,000, or by more than enough to pay the entire cost of the Adjusted Compensation Bill. In addition, the Government has completed the refunding of its short time loans amounting to 7½ billion dollars, and Government loans have been greatly over-subscribed at reduced interest rates.

But Big Business reserved its master stroke for the psychological moment—after the veto of our bill it had been pleading for. Protest that the enactment of our bill would cripple business, within two months after the Presidential veto last fall, Big Business issued stock dividends amounting to more than 2 billion dollars, or one-half of the total cost of the soldiers’ measure. If any additional proof had been required to show the prosperity of our large corporations, and the hypocrisy of their propaganda, this issuance of stock dividends clinched the matter. For this 2 billion dollars represents profits which these companies had been accumulating during the period it was shouting business can’t afford a bonus—and now the soldiers and their families will have to pay their part in providing the additional annual dividends on this huge sum which the corporations have presented to themselves. Big Business timed this stroke well—it waited until after the veto before it pulled its stuff.

But this prompt display of unparalleled prosperity has had its natural reaction on those Congressmen and Senators who had believed Big Business was telling the truth, and voted against our bill. A number of these Congressmen and Senators are men of high character, and the action of Big Business in boldly tearing off its hypocritical mask of poverty, has placed them in a false position which they realize they will have difficulty in defending when they are called to an accounting by their constituents. There is no doubt that some of these legislators have been permanently “cured” by the deception practiced upon them—and that they will vote for our bill at the coming session of Congress.

Great Britain’s funding of her 4,600,000,000 war debt during the past year has also had a marked effect on these men, for the terms of the payments—which have already begun—provide greater annual sums than the total cost of the Adjusted Compensation Bill during its 40 years of payments. The British debt alone is more than enough to pay the entire bill, and this refunding agreement has been made since the Senate failed to override the veto.

As we have pointed out, the first effort of Big Business was to delay the passage of our bill so that it could issue billions of dollars of securities and persuade the public to buy them. While they were loudly shouting poverty they were busy selling their securities at a rate heretofore unknown in the history of the world. The people were able to buy these securities because of the tremendous prosperity which the country as a whole was experiencing.

The plan of Big Business is now two-fold. It wants to continue to issue billions of dollars more of its securities and persuade the public to buy them. This is its first plan. But in its efforts to prevent the enactment of the Adjusted Compensation Bill, it has created such a bugaboo in the minds of investors that it believes it is necessary to inculcate in them the belief that these securities which it is selling will not be taxed heavily. We therefore arrive at the second part of the plan of Big Business, which is to make the purchaser of its securities believe that the time has arrived when the taxes on income from investment securities and on Big Business should be decreased.

Therefore it has devised a new slogan which is “There will be no reduction in taxes if the Bonus Bill becomes a law.”

Every argument which the enemies of soldier legislation have brought forward has been finally disproved and can be used no longer. We do not find them arguing now that the country cannot afford to pay the bill—for this pretense has been proved to be so absurd that it is no longer advanced. The
coming campaign against our measure will be the most intense that we have yet experienced, and from present indications it will be directed along the "no cutting taxes if we pay a bonus" theory. But the thinking population of the United States will not be deceived by this last desperate attempt to thwart the will of the people. With the united strength of the entire ex-service population behind it, the Legion will push forward to a triumphant conclusion, and the Soldiers' Adjusted Compensation Bill be enacted into law at the coming session of Congress.

From the Beginning This Has Been Inevitable Legislation.

A BRIEF FOR THE PASSAGE OF THE SOLDIERS' ADJUSTED COMPENSATION BILL.

By John Thomas Taylor, Vice-Chairman,
National Legislative Committee, The American Legion.

I. The four and one-half million service men and women and their families want the adjusted compensation bill enacted into law. All representative Veteran Organizations and their Auxiliaries have endorsed this measure. Those represented officially, in the delegation which formally requested President Harding, September 18, 1922, to approve the bill then before him, included:


These organizations, which are representative of the ex-service men and women have passed official resolutions approving this measure. Their membership totals one and one-half millions, and they speak with authority for the remainder of the ex-service population, as yet unorganized.

II. The Representatives of The American People Want This Just Debt Paid. This is a representative form of Government. Wherever and whenever the representatives of the American people have had the opportunity of expressing their will upon this measure, they have without exception shown they believe in the justice of this payment, and exhibited their willingness to meet the obligation.

Specific illustrations of this are as follows:

(a) The Legislatures of twenty-three States have petitioned the Congress to enact this legislation.

(b) The Legislatures of twenty-six States have acted favorably on the question of state legislation, five of these since our bill was vetoed.

(c) The governors of thirty-three States called upon the Chief Executive to approve the bill when it was before him. Those represented:


(d) The representatives of the people, in the lower House of Congress have four times voted favorably upon the measure, with increasing majorities, the third vote having been 338 to 70, and the last, 258 to 54.

(e) The representatives of the States in the Senate, have through the Senate Finance Committee three times approved this measure. The bill passed the Senate 47 to 22, before the President's veto, and 44 to 29 following his veto.

III. The American People Have Shown They Want This Debt Paid. In every instance where the American people have had an opportunity to register their will directly upon this question, they have voted in favor of Adjusted Compensation for the soldier. Instances of this are as follows:
(a) The people of twenty-two States have voted either directly, or by referendum for state compensation for their own veterans. These votes registered majorities in favor of compensation of from 2 to 1, to 8 to 1, and are proof of the sentiment of the people on this question.

(b) The Literary Digest undertook a national poll on the question, based chiefly upon subscribers to telephones. This poll resulted in a victory for Compensation—486,814 to 444,221—or a majority in favor of the soldier of 22,593.

(c) The Digest conducted a separate poll of the women, taken from voters' lists. This showed 64,609 in favor of Compensation to 42,738 opposed, or a majority in favor of 21,871.

(d) The Digest conducted a third poll from employees of factories. This showed 15,312 in favor of Compensation to 2,090 opposed, or a majority of nearly 8 to 1. There are more workers in America than there are subscribers to telephones. Had the Digest's poll been confined to the factories, can anyone doubt the overwhelming majority which the soldiers would have received?

(e) Even the Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America, in the referendum it conducted among its members, showed a total vote upon the four propositions submitted of 4,116 in favor of compensation to 2,657 opposed, or a majority of 1,459.

IV. The Soldiers' Claim Is a Just and Honorable One. The charge has been made that former service men are seeking "pay for their service." Could any charge be further from the truth?

Can it be supposed for a moment that if such were the case, such a modest adjustment of about a dollar a day would be asked for what service men went through?

For exchanging one's home for camp or ship or trench? For sudden and prolonged separation from family and loved ones? For abandoning career, or business or profession? For enduring the sacrifices and privations of war service, even though not in the actual fighting zone, to say nothing of what was suffered by those who experienced the hell of battle, with the imminent risk of death or worse?

The soldier asks no reward for his service in uniform.

That is his pride. For the hardships, dangers and sufferings he endured have already been paid for: in his knowledge for all time, that in the hour of his country's need he was called and not found wanting.

But he is forced to share the expense of the war, now and in the future, and pay his proportion of the debt incurred and of the profits earned in his absence by others.

He was forced to pay for the high cost of living imposed on the entire country through the prosperity of the civil population. He was forced to pay his share of the $20 a day wages paid to civil workers. He was forced to pay his share of the bonuses paid to the railroads and the war contractors. And he will be forced to pay in the future for the huge war debt incurred in part through these large payments to others in which he did not share, but for which he is jointly responsible.

V. Our Associates in the World War Have Already Adjusted the Compensation of Their Soldiers. These nations, with less national wealth, and greater national debts than the United States—the greatest and richest country in the world—have recognized the injustice of their Veterans' financial and economic handicap, and have met it as best they could, despite the plight of their own national finances.

VI. America Has Already Adjusted the Compensation of its Federal Employees and of the Army and Navy. Both the principle and the practice of Adjusted Compensation has been recognized by the American Government since the World War in paying an Adjusted Compensation to Federal employees of $266,000,000, and to the Army and Navy of more than $135,000,000.

This $400,000,000 has been paid as a war measure and has been in addi-
tion to the pay prescribed by law. It is nearly twice the payments required from the Government under the first three years of the Soldiers' Adjusted Compensation Bill, which amount to only $242,000,000.

VII. America Has Already Adjusted the Compensation of the Railroads and the War Contractors. The Government drafted the railroads during the war. Up to August 1, 1923, the Government, under the Transportation Act, has paid to the railroads an adjustment of compensation of $824,000,000.

Following the Armistice, the Government paid war contractors an adjustment on their contracts with the Government of about $700,000,000.

VIII. Adjusted Compensation Will Benefit the Veteran. It will enable them to escape the rent profiteer, by building their own homes;

It will lead many to financial independence through owning their own farms;

It will enable others to learn a trade or profession which will insure their future prosperity;

The loan feature may enable many to avert the disaster of foreclosure, or tide over financial difficulties caused by sickness or unemployment—and might well be the anchor to save a small business from ruin;

The insurance feature will tend to stabilize veterans and add to their feeling of security for their loved ones;

It will enable many to marry, and thus insure to future generations that American ideals will be cherished.

It will allay the feeling now held by many that America has lost interest in the soldier, now that her safety is secure, and therefore fails to recognize the financial handicap suffered by the soldier.

IX. Adjusted Compensation for the Soldier Will Benefit the Country. The expenditures made by veterans will stimulate building and industry, and bring employment to those out of work. It will benefit the merchant and the manufacturer and will be a general stimulus to the tide of prosperity rising over the country.

X. The Country Has Promised to Pay This Just Obligation. In the national campaigns of 1920 and 1922 a majority of the candidates for public office of both political parties stated that they would work for the passage of this legislation.

XI. Congress Asked the Legion to Draw the Bill—It Satisfied the Veterans. Four years ago at the request of the Congress The American Legion drafted the five-fold Adjusted Compensation Bill. This bill has since been approved by each national convention of the Legion and by national conventions of other service men's organizations. The present bill is a modification of the original Legion bill, altered to meet legislative and executive requirements. The veterans interest is in the principle of compensation, as well as the immediate benefits to be derived from it.

XII. The Bill Does Not Need an Accompanying Revenue Measure. The bill vetoed by the President was drawn in the belief that it fairly and squarely met the objections raised to the immediate payment of Adjusted Compensation. The reduction in the cost from $850,000,000 during the first two year period, to $242,000,000 for the first three year period, obviated the necessity of an accompanying financial measure.

In addition, the payment of interest on the debt by England to America has begun. England has paid $100,000,000 this year, and the interest payments from England alone will be more than sufficient to meet the annual cost under that bill. The entire $4,600,000,000 British debt has been refunded.

Conditions in the country are vastly improved.

Business is on the boom. Railroad and industrial stocks and bonds have increased hundreds of millions of dollars in value; Liberty bonds are near par, and the $7,500,000,000 of Government short term obligations have been refunded at low interest rates, at which they were heavily over-subscribed. More than $20,500,000,000 worth of securities have been issued and absorbed in this
country, while the Adjusted Compensation Bill has been before Congress, and in this same period more than $2,177,000,000 of this sum has been loaned to foreign governments and corporations—nearly twice the first twenty-year payments under our bill. Building operations for the year totaled $2,500,000,000. In the face of these enormous financial transactions the Government refunding operations have been completed, and the public debt has been reduced by $4,250,000,000—more than the entire cost of our bill.

In regard to the current finances of the Government, I would point out this fact: That in September, 1922, the Secretary of the Treasury predicted a deficit of $650,000,000 for the past fiscal year, but that when the year ended upon June 30th the Government showed a surplus of $310,000,000 instead of the deficit which had been predicted nine months before. An error of nearly one billion dollars, or enough to meet the first fifteen years of payments under our bill.

The banks can well afford to lend the comparatively small sums which the veterans will borrow upon their adjusted service certificates. The Chamber of Commerce of the United States has estimated that the maximum of this borrowing during the first three-year period will amount to $600,000,000, although others estimate this sum at much less. Compare this to the assets of $40,000,000,000 owned by the banks of this country.

During the war and the prosperity period immediately following, the banks of this country earned profits, which they still retain, of $1,747,605,000. This vast sum is three times greater than the retained profits for a similar period preceding the war, and three times the maximum amount which the Chamber of Commerce estimates the veterans will borrow upon their certificates.

Stock dividends, representing accumulated profits, of more than $2,000,000,000 were disbursed immediately after our bill was vetoed.

Money is now so cheap and so plentiful that it is almost a drug on the market, and financial magazines state that the difficulty now is to find investments for available money and not as ordinarily, to find available money for investment.

XIII. The Payment of Compensation Has Been Already Too Long Delayed. It is five years since the Armistice was declared, and the veteran still waits for the adjustment of his compensation. Further delays may prevent the veterans from realizing the full benefits designed under this measure.

XIV. This is the Last of the Great War Measures. The debt which this bill is designed to pay, is properly a part of the cost of the war and should be regarded as such. Other war measures have been approved by the Congress and the Chief Executive as follows:

(a) The declaration of war.

(b) The selective Service Act, which took the young men of the country from their peaceful pursuits on the farms, in industry and in the professions, and placed them in uniform to defend their country.

(c) The great Liberty Loans, which provided the funds for the prosecution of the war, paid out billions to American manufacturers, contractors, and war workers, and also provided the dollar-a-day wage of the soldier. Notwithstanding the great discrepancy in pay between those in the uniform and those in the factory, the soldier must bear equally with the ones who profited from the war in the future payment of the war's expenses.

(d) The drafting of the railroads.

(e) The payment, shortly after the Armistice, of an adjustment on war contracts to the war contractors of about $700,000,000.

(f) The payment to the railroads of an adjustment in their compensation exceeding $824,000,000.

(g) An adjustment of the higher rates on large incomes made an annual saving to the possessors of large fortunes of more than $90,000,000.

(h) A curtailment of excess profits tax, bringing an annual saving to the industries of this country of $450,000,000.
The payment of an adjustment of compensation to Federal employees amounting to date to $265,000,000.

(j) The payment of an adjusted compensation to the personnel of the Army and Navy, amounting to $135,000,000.

The foregoing can properly be referred to as war measures. All of these have been met and approved. The only one still to be met is an adjustment of the pay of the men and women who sacrificed most, and asked for the least, that their country might be successful in this great enterprise.

XV. President Harding and Adjusted Compensation. Four days before his election in 1920 Candidate Harding said in a speech at Cincinnati:

I want to say to the service men here that I want an America that will never forget its gratitude for the service they rendered the country.

A moment after he made this statement, he replied to a question asked him by an ex-service man in the audience, as follows:

A Republican House passed the bonus bill, and it is now up to the Senate. I, myself, think it ought to pass, but the patriotic men of The American Legion wouldn't have cared to have us pass a bonus bill last summer at a time when our war bonds were 15 to 20 below par.

When Mr. Harding made these statements he was a candidate for election. The Adjusted Compensation Bill had been passed a short time before by the House of Representatives by a vote of 289 to 92, and at the time of Candidate Harding's speech, lay in the Finance Committee of the Senate, where it died with the session.

Nine months later, when the bill was about to be voted upon in the Senate, President Harding on July 12, 1921, delivered a message to the Senate urging that our bill be delayed. Extracts from this follows:

If this measure could be made effective at the present time without disaster to the Nation's finances and without hindrance to imperative readjustment of our taxes it would present an entirely different question than that which is before you. In a personal as well as public manner, which ought to be a plight of good faith, I have commended the policy of generous treatment of the Nation's defenders, not as a part of any contract, not as the payment of a debt which is owing, but as a mark of the Nation's gratitude. Every obligation is to be disabled and dependent. In such references as has been made to general compensation there has been a reservation as to the earliest consistent time for such action if it is taken.

At the very moment we are obliged to pay 5 3-4 per cent. interest for Government short-time loans to care for our floating indebtedness.

Even were there not the threatened paralysis of our Treasury, with its fatal reflexes on all our activities which concern our prosperity, would it not be better to await the settlement of our foreign loans? At such a time it would be a bestowal on the part of our Government when it is able to bestow. . . .

It will be seen that in this message President Harding reaffirmed his belief in Adjusted Compensation, although with less vigor than when a candidate for office. He suggested deferring it until settlement of the foreign loans. The bill was then recommitted to the Senate Finance Committee as the President requested.

Seven months later, February 17, 1922, when the bill was before the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives, President Harding wrote a letter on the subject to Chairman Fordney of the Committee. This has been referred to as the "sales tax" letter. Extracts from it are as follows:

In accordance with the promise made to yourself and your associates on the Senate and House Committees, I have carefully looked into the program of taxation which has been suggested. In addition thereto I have made inquiry into the feasibility of issuing either short-time Treasury
notes or long-time bonds to meet the financial obligations which the proposed legislation will impose. It is not possible to commend to you either of the plans suggested.

It continues to be my best judgment that any compensation legislation enacted at this time ought to carry with it the provision for raising the needed revenues, and I find myself unable to suggest any commendable plan other than that of a general sales tax. Such a tax will distribute the cost of rewarding the ex-service men in such a manner that it will be borne by all the people whom they served, and does not commit the government to class imposition of taxes.

It is fully realized how great is the difficulty which confronts the Congress in solving this difficult problem. I am aware of the strong sentiment in Congress in favor of this adjusted compensation. I have spoken approvingly myself, always with the reservation that the bestowal shall be made when it may be done without such injury to the country as will nullify the benefits to the ex-service men themselves which this expression of gratitude is designated to bestow.

We have no serious problem in beginning the allotments of public lands and the immediate issue of paid-up insurance. The real difficulty lies in the payment of the cash bonus.

It will be noted that in this letter, President Harding still favored the measure. But, he said, "The real difficulty lies in the payment of the cash bonus."

Chairman Fordney realized that the Congress could not be induced to enact a sales tax. He therefore met the President's objection by reducing the cash payments, and giving a loan value at banks to the Adjusted Service Certificate, so that needy veterans could obtain cash when needed. The cash feature has been reduced to $15,000,000 in our bill, practically eliminating this item.

The objections which the President voiced in this letter were well met by Chairman Fordney, for the cost of the bill was reduced from $850,000,000, for the first two years to $242,000,000, for the first three years. This was primarily to aid the refunding operations of the Treasury on the short dated debt, which have now been completed.

It must be remembered that this cost of $242,000,000 for the first three years was less than the bonus already paid to Federal employees and the Regular Army and Navy; was only one-third of the bonus to the railroads; was less than one-third of the bonus already paid the war contractors; and that in none of these cases had the President asked for a special tax to meet the payments.

The bill was passed by the House of Representatives 330 to 70, and by the Senate 47 to 22.

Then President Harding vetoed it on September 20, 1922.

An analysis of some of the statements contained in the President's message follows:

With the avowed purpose of the bill to give expression of a nation's gratitude to those who served in its defense in the World War, I am in accord.

This is the opening sentence of the President's message. The title of the bill he vetoed is "A Bill to Provide Adjusted Compensation for Veterans of the World War and for Other Purposes." Nowhere in the Bill is there any mention of an "avowed purpose of the bill to give expression of a nation's gratitude," but on the contrary the bill expressly provides a payment of an adjusted compensation, with no mention of gratitude or the nation's attitude toward the ex-service men.

The President points out the binding obligation of the Government to provide for the disabled in the War and includes in the message the sum it is costing the Government.

If this obligation is admitted, it is on a parity with any other obligation of the Government, such as the payment of the interest on the Public Debt,
the payment of salaries to Government employees and the other expenses of the Government nine times the sum spent for the disabled. It is unfair, therefore, to single out the governmental cost of caring for its disabled, and in doing so it was plainly the purpose of the President to have it appear that the Government in this respect is acting “generously” toward the disabled men; and not, necessarily, fulfilling an obligation. This is further emphasized by his inclusion with the cost of the disabled, the amount of money paid out under the insurance policies which were paid for by the veterans out of their own meager pay. The Government has received approximately $500,000,000 from its soldiers in insurance payments, yet this fact is totally ignored by the President and not mentioned.

In legislating for what is called adjusted Compensation, Congress fails, first of all, to provide a revenue from which the bestowal is to be paid.

With this statement the President is consistent with his letter to Chairman Fordney, in which he asked that Congress provide a sales tax in the bill to pay its cost. But later on in his message the President makes a statement which nullifies even this sales tax proposal, and shows that he would have been against the bill even if the sales tax had been provided as he requested.

A peace bestowal on the ex-service men... is a perversion of public funds, a reversal of the policy which exalted patriotic service in the past, and suggests that future defense is to be inspired by compensation rather than conscientiousness of duty to flag and country.

This remarkable statement should be divided into two parts. That referring to the “peace bestowal... is a perversion of public funds” shows a remarkable reversal of opinion on the part of the President. If such a payment would be a “perversion of funds,” how could the payment be any less honest or just if made through a special form of taxation, such as the sales tax, than if the payments came through the general taxes, or from the interests on our foreign debt? How different this statement is from the one made by Candidate Harding two short years ago:

A Republican House passed the bonus bill, and it is now up to the Senate. I, myself, think it ought to pass, but the patriotic men of The American Legion wouldn’t have cared to have a bonus last summer at a time when our war bonds were 15 to 20 below par.

Candidate Harding took the attitude that he wanted a “bonus bill” to pass the Senate but The American Legion didn’t want it to pass “when our war bonds were 15 to 20 below par.”

In his veto message President Harding failed to mention the fact that at that moment war bonds were above par, nor did he comment upon this as having any bearing on the case. But he did say:

A reversal of the policy which exalted patriotic service in the past.

This is one of the most unusual statements in President Harding’s message.

Even in the years before the American Revolution this principle of economic readjustment after military service was worked out and well defined as a salient policy of the American people. For a hundred and forty years of the Republic’s existence it was never even questioned. Those who served in the French and Indian wars received land grants as compensation from the American colonies. Among these men was George Washington.

It is a matter of historical record that George Washington received an adjustment of compensation from his native State of Virginia in 1785—a grant of 3,000 acres of land in what is now Miami County, Ohio. This warrant was held by Washington when he relinquished all claim for his services during the Revolutionary war on the payment to him by act of Congress of $64,415 for his personal expenses. The State of Virginia likewise presented him with fifty shares in the Potomac Canal Company, valued at $10,000.

The Marquis de LaFayette is a national hero of America. By special act
of Congress he received $200,000 above all pay and emolument due him, and 200,000 acres of land. Congress in 1779, at the request of Washington, allowed $100 to every soldier who had enlisted early in the war, to equalize his compensation with that of the men who got larger bounties by enlisting later. The number of pensioners of the War of the Revolution was 98,953, and they received a total of $36,864,640, a great sum in those days, considering money value.

All survivors of the War of 1812 who had served sixty days received pensions, which totaled $45,000,000 before the century ended. Compensation in advance was the rule in the Mexican war of 1846. In that year Congress passed a law providing every soldier who had enlisted for twelve months with a bounty, on honorable discharge, of 160 acres of land or the equivalent of $100 in Treasury script bearing 6 per cent interest. One hundred dollars in those days equaled $500 of today in purchasing power. In addition, veterans of this war received as pensions over $33,000,000 in the next fifty-six years.

Abraham Lincoln himself not only advocated and signed compensation bills for the veterans of the Civil war, but he also applied for compensation for his own military services as a Captain of Mounted Volunteers in the Black Hawk war. The recorded application, dated August 21, 1856, is in the General Land Office in Washington. Lincoln's first call for volunteers for the Civil war, stipulated $100 and travel pay for two years' service or "duration." Later in the war bounties as high as $1,500 were paid upon enlistment.

The President refers to the Treasury as "locked against class legislation," ignoring the class legislation which has already been enacted for the war contractors, the railroads, the Federal employees and the Army and Navy. He says:

To add one-sixth of the total sum of our public debt for a distribution among less than five millions out of one hundred and ten millions . . . would undermine the confidence on which our credit is built.

In this, the President again makes an unfair use of figures, for in stating the size of the ex-service population, he failed to count their families. Had the President included the veterans' families in this estimate, he would have found that the veteran population would approximate about one-sixth of our population. And another point on this is that our bill did not provide that these payments should be added to the public debt.

Two years ago President Harding said "would it not be better to await the settlement of our foreign loans?" Within two months after the veto, England had paid $100,000,000 on this account, and during the past year has funded her entire $4,600,000,000 war debt.

But President Harding, in his veto message failed to comment on the foreign loan situation. Instead he said in effect, that the nation owes such a large debt of gratitude to the soldier that it can never pay it, so he opposed paying any part of it, as shown in the "perversion of public funds" statement.

The President spoke sympathetically of pensions for World War veterans. This would make them dependent on the Government, as contrasted to a part payment on the nation's debt to them, which would help make veterans independent and give them a new start in the life which the war interrupted.

XVI. The Country Disapproved the Veto in the Elections Which Followed. Of the 19 Senators up for re-election who voted for Adjusted Compensation last September, 13 were re-elected. Eighteen of the 21 new Senators favor the measure. The list of Senators who voted against our bill has been cut from 35 to 24, as follows: Four were defeated in the election; one defeated in the primary; three were not candidates; two have died, and one resigned.

Nineteen of the 74 opponents in the House of Representatives were defeated in the election, and four were not candidates for re-election. Since the veto, eight states—five by act of legislature and three by referendum vote of the people—have voted in favor of State Adjusted Compensation.
This conclusive victory for the people has been a victory for The American Legion and all ex-service men and women. It shows plainly that a principle so right, and policy so just as Adjusted Compensation will not down. It clearly demonstrates that favorable votes on the Soldiers’ measure have been approved by the electorate, unfavorable votes have been disapproved, and the veto disapproved most of all.

The people know that America can afford to pay this debt without financial injury to the nation. This fact is further emphasized by the report of Director Lord of the Bureau of the Budget on the Government operations for July and August, 1923, the first two months of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924. This report shows an increase in receipts over the same period for the preceding year of $19,500,000, while a reduction had been accomplished in governmental expenditures of $9,000,000. This is a gain in financing at the rate of $170,000,000 a year, a greater sum than the first two years’ payments under our Bill.

The case of the soldier has been laid before the people, and the people have spoken.

ALIENS.

Immigration and Naturalization. The Fourth National Convention of the Legion at New Orleans unanimously adopted the following resolutions relating to immigration:

 Whereas, the National Oriental Committee of The American Legion, Thomas N. Swale, Chairman, has rendered a valuable service in the collection and collation of data on the danger from the influx of the Oriental into the United States, compiled in a formal report.

 Resolved, by The American Legion, in national convention assembled, that said report be transmitted to the National Legislative Committee of The American Legion for use before the Congress of the United States in urging laws consistent with the facts set forth and the recommendations contained in said report.

 Further Resolved, that this convention urge the enactment without delay, of laws, and the negotiation of treaties if required, for the permanent exclusion as immigrants or permanent residents of the United States, of all persons ineligible under the laws thereof to citizenship.

 Whereas, the continued admission of undesirable immigrants into the United States under the operation of our present laws, taken in connection with the vast number of non-naturalized and non-assimilated persons heretofore admitted through lax laws and lax administration of our immigration laws, constitutes a vital and growing menace to American institutions and American ideals; and

 Whereas, if this menace is not checked it will eventually undermine and destroy respect for law, orderly government, every patriotic impulse, and the loyal character of American citizenship, as well as disorganize our industrial and economic structure, and ought, therefore, to be the concern of every true American; be it

 Resolved, by The American Legion, in national convention assembled, that we earnestly and respectfully petition the Congress of the United States to wholly suspend and forbid all immigration for such period of time as will enable the formulation of a definite and constructive plan for the protection of our people and our nation from this dangerous influx; and be it further

 Resolved, that among other salutary regulations should be preference given by law under restricted immigration to the immediate families of those who have served honorably in the armed forces of the United States, and secondly, to the immediate families of persons resident in the United States, its territories and possessions, who are citizens thereof; and be it further
Resolved, that for the purpose of furthering the control of this danger and its source, immigration commissioners should be authorized to be attached to American embassies and legations throughout the world; and be it further

Resolved, that Congress be urged to permanently deny admission hereafter, as immigrants or permanent residents, to all aliens who are ineligible to citizenship under the laws of the United States.

Whereas, it is the belief of a very large proportion of our people that immigration to the United States should be completely discontinued for a period of several years; and

Whereas, Congress enacted a law, known as the Dillingham Bill, providing that not more than three per cent. of the nationals of any country, residing in the United States according to the census of 1910, shall be allowed to enter the United States between the years of 1922 and 1925; and,

Whereas, contrary to the spirit and purpose of the above-mentioned act of Congress there has been permitted to enter the United States during the past year, a number of tens of thousands in excess of the quota legally authorized; now, therefore be it

Resolved, The American Legion, in national convention assembled, hereby denounces the laxity with which our immigration laws are being enforced, and The American Legion hereby calls upon Congress to investigate the matter and take every means necessary to see that our immigration laws are rigidly and properly carried out.

Whereas, the percentage of the farmer population in the United States is decreasing; and

Whereas, there is an influx of skilled dairymen and farmers from the countries of Europe which have for generations been educated in dairying, farming and animal husbandry; and

Whereas, the said skilled immigrants are generally concentrated in the manufacturing districts as unskilled labor, and the country thereby loses the benefit of their agricultural knowledge and experience, and the said immigrants at the same time become dissatisfied citizens and contribute to the spirit of general unrest; be it

Resolved, by The American Legion, in national convention, that it is the sense of this convention that Congress should take further steps toward the proper distribution of immigrants in the United States with a view of remedying this condition.

Whereas, it has come to the attention of the Legion Committee that United States Veterans, who are of foreign birth, but who served the United States honorably in the World War are being debarred from entry into this country because of the three per cent. immigration law;

Whereas, a bill has been introduced in Congress providing for a remedy to prevent this injustice to our comrades of foreign birth; therefore, be it

Resolved, that it is the sense of the Convention that our representatives in Washington, members of the National Legislative Committee, be required to take a special interest in such legislation as will remedy this condition.

The foregoing resolutions were presented by your National Legislative Committee to the Secretary of Labor and to the Committees on Immigration in the Senate and in the House of Representatives, where consideration was given them.

The only immigration legislation enacted since the New Orleans Convention was House Resolution 279, which permitted certain aliens to remain in the United States, who had been temporarily admitted under bonds in excess of the quotas allowed under the existing Three Per Cent. Immigration Law. This has been referred to as the Christmas Present.
The Three Per Cent. Law will remain in force until June 30, 1924. With this leeway, it became apparent shortly after our convention that the fourth session of the 67th Congress would not enact any fundamental immigration legislation. Fifteen bills were introduced in the House and seven in the Senate, but the Senate and House could not agree upon a uniform character of legislation, so all these bills died with the session, although strenuous efforts were made to enact relief legislation for Armenia, the Senate Passing S. 4,082 to provide admission for 25,000 orphaned Armenian children. This bill was amended so basically by the House Committee on Immigration, that it failed enactment.

Sentiment has been developing in both the House and the Senate to change the basis from which the quotas of the present Three Per Cent. Law are drawn. Two bills were introduced to accomplish this, one S. 4,222 by Senator David A. Reed, of Pennsylvania, a Legionnaire, and the other H. R. 14,273, by Albert Johnson of Washington, also a Legionnaire, and Chairman of the House Committee on Immigration. Hearings were held upon the Reed bill, but the Johnson bill was introduced so late in the session that no public hearings were held upon it.

The purpose underlying these two bills is to permit a limited amount of immigration to continue, but to change its fundamental character by greatly restricting the number of immigrants from southern and eastern Europe, who have been such a large factor in the agitation for total exclusion, and to proportionately increase the number of immigrants permitted to enter from northwestern Europe, from where the fundamental American stock has come in the past. The method proposed for accomplishing this is to change the quota basis from the census of 1910 as provided in the present Three Per Cent. Law, to the number of aliens of any nationality who resided in the United States according to the census of 1890. The Johnson bill would limit the annual number to two per cent. of the 1890 census, plus four hundred for each country in addition to the quota. The Reed bill would allow the annual entry of a flat five per cent. of the 1890 census; that is, a flat five per cent. of the 1890 alien population. The figures given below have been supplied your Committee by the Honorable W. W. Husband, Commissioner General of Immigration, and show a comparison between the immigrants allowed annual entry under the present law, and the number which would be admissible under the Johnson and Reed bills:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRIES</th>
<th>I Present quota</th>
<th>II 2% of 1890 population</th>
<th>III 2% of 1890 population plus 400 each nationality</th>
<th>IV 5% of 1890 population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northwest Europe (a)</td>
<td>197,630</td>
<td>140,720</td>
<td>145,120</td>
<td>351,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. and E. Europe (b)</td>
<td>159,490</td>
<td>19,846</td>
<td>31,046</td>
<td>49,618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others (c)</td>
<td>683</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>2,291</td>
<td>727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>367,803</td>
<td>160,857</td>
<td>178,457</td>
<td>402,143</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(a) Includes: Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Luxemborg, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom.

(b) Includes: Albania, Armenia, (Russian) Austria, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, Finland, Flume, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Memel Region, Poland, Eastern Galacia, Pink Region, Portugal, Roumania, Bessarabian Region, Russia, Estonian Region, Latvian Region, Lithuanian Region, Spain, Yugoslavla, Other Europe, Palestine, Syria, Turkey.

(c) Includes: Other Asia, Africa, Atlantic Islands, Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Islands.

It will be noted from the above table that so far as basic quotas are concerned, H. R. 14,273 (Column II) would reduce the present allotment of Northwest Europe by about 57,006 while that of the Southern and Eastern countries would be cut to less than 20,000. Under Senator Reed's bill there would be a large increase in the former case and a large decrease in the latter.
The Johnson bill, however, contained a provision in the non-quota immigration classifications which might well upset the entire restrictive basis intended, and in fact throw down the bars to unrestricted immigration to a vastly greater extent than is allowed under the present Three Per Cent. Law, through its provisions for the admission of relatives of foreign born residents. Mr. Husband points out that if among the seven million foreign born residents of the United States, one in ten should send for one relative, it would mean the admission of seven hundred thousand immigrants in addition to the basic quotas provided under the proposed Johnson bill. For this reason it would be impossible for the Legion to approve the non-quota provisions of the Johnson bill.

The annual quota under the present Three Per Cent. Law, allows 357,803 immigrants to enter this country. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1922, this limit was not reached, due to the failure of the countries in northern Europe, such as the United Kingdom, Germany, Denmark and Sweden to send sufficient immigrants to fill their quotas. The countries of southern and northeastern Europe filled their quotas early, and citizens from these countries clamored in vain for admission long before the end of the year.

But the situation concerning immigrants from northern Europe changed materially during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1923. The lack of employment in these countries, together with the prosperity and high wages in America attracted those from northern Europe, resulting in the quotas from this section being also filled. This condition continues, and it is predicted that the United Kingdom’s quota for the year will have been filled by December.

The following table shows a comparison between the immigration and emigration for the last fiscal year and the fiscal year prior to it:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Admitted</th>
<th>Departed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Immigrant</td>
<td>Non-immigrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 30, 1922</td>
<td>309,556</td>
<td>122,949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 30, 1923</td>
<td>522,011</td>
<td>60,487</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase of '23 over '22</td>
<td>213,455</td>
<td>27,538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>385,699</td>
<td>385,699</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The asterisk indicates a decrease, instead of an increase.

It will be noted that 165,000 immigrants officially entered the country last year in excess of the quota allowance. This is chiefly due to bona fide immigration from Canada and Mexico, 117,000 from the former and 63,000 from the latter, which is still unrestricted and not counted under the quota law. The most striking comparison between 1923 and 1922 is on the increase of immigrants remaining in this country. This shows 472,000 for 1923 as compared to only 87,000 the previous year.

The total legitimate immigration was 544,776. To this number must be added 20,000 foreign sailors who deserted their ships here. In addition, a large number of aliens who would not be admissible under quota restrictions are “bootlegged” into this country through Canada and Mexico. There is no record of these illegal entries, but their number is estimated by Immigration authorities at from 50,000 to 300,000 a year.

Taking these three totals, there came to America last year, a minimum of 600,000 immigrants, and a maximum of 800,000, the latter almost the equal of the pre-war average, which caused the agitation for restrictive legislation. This does not look much like restrictive immigration, and it is not restrictive immigration, although the Immigration department is doing its best to enforce the Three Per Cent. Act with the limited number of employees in its
service. The time has undoubtedly arrived for drastic action on the immigration question. The troubles in Europe and in the Near East have lead the inhabitants of these countries to regard America as a haven of refuge to be attained at any cost, with its freedom from wars and crushing tax burdens, and its accompanying prosperity and high wages. But unfortunately, a large proportion of these people who are clamoring for admission at our gates are un-American in thought, tradition and race, and are difficult to assimilate into our national life. They bring with their vast numbers their ancient racial customs and hatreds, and they desire to recreate America along alien lines, and overturn the work of our forefathers who made America what it is today.

Until the World War, America had held open her doors to the oppressed of the world, and had said: We are a haven of refuge, come in what numbers you please. But today, for the first time in our history, we are no longer a haven of refuge. We have decided that we will select the character of immigration we desire, we will select it with the future America in mind, and we will prevent the entrance of those we do not wish to become citizens of this country. The immigration question should be viewed from the American viewpoint alone, from now on, and not from the viewpoint of those who desire to become our citizens.

Secretary James J. Davis of the Department of Labor, a foreign-born American, has given careful study to the manner in which selective immigration may be accomplished.

He approves former Legion recommendations in advocating selection of immigrants by American Consular officials abroad, and a system of registration and surveillance after temporary admission to this country, whereby the desirability of those admitted may be studied for five years so that their qualifications for citizenship may be determined with a reasonable degree of accuracy.

It is well known that some European countries consider America a mere dumping ground for their old and physically and morally unfit, and it is believed that this selective method of handling immigration would reduce the number of undesirable immigrants to a minimum.

Since the New Orleans Convention, the Supreme Court of the United States has handed down a decision that the Japanese are not eligible for naturalization in the United States. This in part carries out the New Orleans Convention resolution on Oriental immigration preference.

The present Three Per Cent. Law allows the following preference:

That in the enforcement of this act preference shall be given so far as possible to the wives, parents, brothers, sisters, children under eighteen years of age, and fiancées, (1) of citizens of the United States, (2) of aliens now in the United States who have applied for citizenship in the manner provided by law, or (3) of persons eligible to United States citizenship who served in the military or naval forces of the United States at any time between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918, both dates inclusive, and have been separated from such forces under honorable conditions.

The literacy requirements act of February 5, 1917, was amended on June 5, 1920, as follows:

That an alien who cannot read, may, if otherwise admissible, be admitted if, within five years after this act becomes law, a citizen of the United States who has served in the military or naval forces of the United States during the war with the Imperial German Government, requests that such alien be admitted, and with the approval of the Secretary of Labor, marries such alien at a United States immigration station.

On July 19, 1919, Congress enacted a law providing that any person of foreign birth who served in the military or naval forces during the war, and who received an honorable discharge, should have the right of naturalization on presentation of his discharge to a United States court, and upon identification by two citizen witnesses, without payment of fee. It was provided
that this law should remain in effect for one year following the return of all American troops to the United States. For the purposes of this law, March 3, 1923, was the day upon which the last of the troops returned to this country, so the provisions of this act will expire on March 3, 1924. All service men who have not yet become citizens under the provisions of this act are urged to do so immediately, as after March 3, 1924, they will have to undergo the customary delay and expense incumbent upon all other aliens seeking citizenship.

**AMERICANIZATION.**

Public Law No. 457 of the 67th Congress (H. R. 13,660) appropriated $8,980 for Americanization work in the District of Columbia. The section of the law providing this appropriation is as follows:

For Americanization work and instruction of foreigners of all ages in both day and night classes, including a principal, who, for ten months, shall give his full time to this work, at $1,800 per annum, and teachers and janitors of Americanization schools, who may also be teachers and janitors of the day school, $6,480.

For contingent and other necessary expenses including books, equipment, and supplies, $2,500.

**ARCHIVES BUILDING.**

The New Orleans Convention adopted a resolution urging Congress to make an appropriation for an Archives building, to protect the records of the World War from injury and possible destruction.

At this time there was pending in the House, H. R. 6,611, which had been introduced at our request to provide an appropriation of two million dollars for the construction of this building. As the fourth session of the 67th Congress neared its close, it became increasingly apparent that our Archives bill had slim chances for passage, due to the desire of the Congress for the enactment of a general public building bill which would carry appropriations for local post offices and other Federal buildings.

As a final measure, your National Legislative Committee secured an amendment to H. R. 13,696, the Independent Offices Appropriation Bill for the year ending June 30, 1924, which would provide an immediate appropriation of five hundred thousand dollars on a proposed two million, five hundred thousand dollar Archives building. This amendment passed the Senate but was stricken from the bill during the conference between the two Houses, in spite of our protests. Senator Smoot of Utah charged on the floor of the Senate that the elimination of this appropriation was due to Congressional chagrin at Executive objection to the enactment of a general public building bill which would have contained “Pork” for the various Congressional Districts in the way of public buildings. This caused Congress to defeat our measure.

The necessity for an Archives building is constantly increasing. During the past year many Government records have been destroyed by fire, due to the character of buildings in which they are stored. Should the fire-trap buildings housing the records of veterans of the World War be destroyed, the loss to the veterans would be irreparable—for it is upon these records that claims for rehabilitation and hospitalization depend, as well as future claims for adjusted compensation.

Shortly after assuming office, President Coolidge indicated his approval of the construction of an Archives building, but let it be known at the same time that he opposed a general omnibus building bill which would carry with it a one hundred million dollar appropriation or more, such as is desired by individual Congressmen for the construction of public buildings in their Districts.

**AVIATION.**

The appropriations for aviation for the fiscal year ending 1924, total $28,456,374, and are divided between three bills, the Independent Offices Bill, the Army Appropriation Bill, and the Navy Appropriation Bill. The first-of
these was Public Law No. 409, of the 67th Congress (H. R. 13,696), which appropriated $283,000 to the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics for scientific research and technical investigations in the field of aeronautics. The provisions of this law are as follows:

For scientific research, technical investigations, and special reports in the field of aeronautics, including the necessary laboratory and technical assistants; traveling expenses of members and employees; office supplies and other miscellaneous expenses, including technical periodicals and books of reference; equipment, maintenance, and operation of a research laboratory, known as the Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory; maintenance and operation of one motor-propelled passenger-carrying vehicle; personal services in the field and in the District of Columbia; in all $270,000; Provided, That the sum to be paid out of this appropriation for clerical, drafting, and messenger service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924, shall not exceed $42,000.

For all printing and binding for the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, including all of its offices, laboratories, and services located in Washington, District of Columbia, and elsewhere, $18,000.

The Army Appropriation Bill, Public Law No. 465, of the 67th Congress (H. R. 13,793), making appropriations for the War Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924, appropriated $13,526,200 for the Army air service. The section of this law providing these funds is as follows:

Air Service, Army. For creating, maintaining and operating at established flying schools and balloon schools courses of instruction for officers, students and enlisted men, including cost of equipment and supplies necessary for instruction, purchase of tools, equipment, materials, machines, textbooks, books of references, scientific and professional papers, instruments and materials for theoretical and practical instruction; for maintenance, repair, storage, and operation of airships, war balloons, and other aerial machines, including instruments, materials, gas plants, hangars, and repair shops, and appliances of every sort and description necessary for the operation, construction, or equipment of all types of aircraft, and all necessary spare parts and equipment connected therewith and the establishment of landing and take-off runways; for purchase of supplies for securing, developing, printing, and reproducing photographs in connection with aerial photography; improvement, equipment, maintenance, and operation of plants for testing and experimental work, and procuring and introducing water, electric light and power, gas and sewerage, including maintenance, operation, and repair of such utilities at such plants; for the acquisition of land or interest in land by purchase, lease, or condemnation where necessary to explore for, procure, or reserve helium gas, and also for the purchase, manufacture, construction, maintenance, and operation of plants for the production thereof and experimentation therewith; salaries and wages of civilian employees as may be necessary, and payment of their traveling and other necessary expenses as authorized by existing law; transportation of materials in connection with consolidation of Air Service activities; experimental investigation and purchase and development of new types of aircraft, accessories thereto, and aviation engines, including patents and other rights thereto, and plans, drawings, and specifications thereof; for the purchase, manufacture and construction of airships, balloons, and other aerial machines, including instruments, gas plants, hangars, and repair shops, and appliances of every sort and description necessary for the operation, construction, or equipment of all types of aircraft, and all necessary spare parts and equipment connected therewith; for the marking of military airways, where the purchase of land is not involved; for the purchase, manufacture, and issue of special clothing, wearing apparel, and similar equipment for aviation purposes; for all necessary expenses connected with the sale or disposal of surplus or obsolete aeronautical equipment, and the rental of buildings, and other facilities for the handling or storage of such equip-
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Div. III

For the services of such consulting engineers at experimental stations of the Air Service as the Secretary of War may deem necessary, including necessary traveling expenses; purchase of special apparatus and appliances, repairs and replacements of same used in connection with special scientific medical research in the Air Service; for maintenance and operation of such Air Service printing plants outside of the District of Columbia as may be authorized in accordance with law; for publications, station libraries, special furniture, supplies and equipment for offices, shops, and laboratories; for special services, including the salvaging of wrecked aircraft, $12,428,000; Provided, That not to exceed $2,500,000 from this appropriation may be expended for pay and expenses of civilian employees other than those employed in experimental and research work; not exceeding $500,000 may be expended for experimentation, conservation, and production of helium; not exceeding $3,000,000 may be expended for experimental and research work with airplanes or lighter-than-air craft and their equipment, including the pay of necessary civilian employees; Provided, That not less than $50,000 of this amount shall be used for continuation of airplane bombing tests against obsolete naval craft; not exceeding $500,000 may be expended for the production of lighter-than-air equipment; and not exceeding $300,000 may be expended for improvement of stations, hangars, and gas plants for the Regular Army and for such other markings and fuel supply stations and temporary shelter as may be necessary; Provided further, That not less than $2,646,000 shall be expended for the production and purchase of new airplanes and their equipment, spare parts, and accessories; Provided further, That claims not exceeding $250 in amount for damages to persons and private property resulting from the operation of aircraft at home and abroad may be settled out of the funds appropriated hereunder when each claim is substantiated by a survey report of a board of officers appointed by the commanding officer of the nearest aviation post and approved by the Chief of Air Service and the Secretary of War; Provided further, That claims so settled and paid from the sum hereby appropriated shall not exceed in the aggregate the sum of $4,000; Provided further, That Section 3648, Revised Statutes, shall not apply to subscriptions for foreign and professional newspapers and periodicals to be paid for from this appropriation; Provided further, That none of the funds appropriated under this title shall be used for the purpose of giving exhibition flights to the public other than those under the control and direction of the War Department and if such flights are given by Army personnel upon other than Government fields, a bond of indemnity, in such sum as the Secretary of War may require for damages to person or property, shall be furnished the Government by the parties desiring the exhibition.

The sum of $400,000 of the appropriation for the Air Service for the fiscal year 1921 contained in the "Act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921, and for other purposes," approved June 5, 1920, shall remain available until June 30, 1924, for the payment of obligations incurred under contracts executed prior to June 30, 1921.

Seacoast Defenses, Insular Possessions. For completion of a machine shop in the Hawaiian Islands, $10,000.

Office of the Chief of Air Service. Salaries: Chief Clerk, $2,400; principal clerks—six of class four, ten of class three, thirty-eight of class two, seventy-six of class one; addressograph operators, $900; messengers—two at $840 each, one $720; two messenger boys, at $480 each; two laborers, at $720 each; in all, $190,200.

The services of aeronautical engineers, skilled draftsmen, and such technical and other services as the Secretary of War may deem necessary may be employed only in the office of the Chief of Air Service to carry into effect the various appropriations for aeronautical purposes, to be paid from such appropriations, in addition to the foregoing employees appro-
priated for in the office of the Chief of Air Service; Provided, That the entire expenditure for this purpose for the fiscal year 1924 shall not exceed $900,000, and the Secretary of War shall each year, in the Budget report to Congress the number of persons so employed, their duties, and the amount paid to each.

The third appropriation for aviation was in the Navy Appropriation Bill for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924, now Public Law No. 384 of the 67th Congress (H. R. 13,374) which provided $14,647,174 for Navy aviation, and in addition called upon the President to enter into negotiations with foreign governments to reach an understanding relative to limiting aircraft, as well as seacraft not affected by the Washington Arms Conference. These two sections of the Navy Appropriation Bill follow:

Aviation, Navy. For aviation, as follows: For navigational, photographic, aerological, radio, and miscellaneous equipment, including repairs thereto, for use with aircraft built or building on June 30, 1923, $275,000; for maintenance, repair, and operation of aircraft factory, helium plant, air stations, fleet activities, testing laboratories, and for overhauling of planes, $6,290,000, including $360,000 for the equipment of vessels with catapults; for continuing experiments and development work on all types of aircraft, $1,573,224; for drafting, clerical, inspection and messenger service, $710,000; for new construction and procurement of aircraft and equipment, $6,738,650; in all $14,647,174, and the money herein specifically appropriated for "Aviation" shall be disbursed and accounted for in accordance with existing laws as "Aviation" and for that purpose shall constitute one fund: Provided, That the Secretary of the Navy is hereby authorized to consider, ascertain, adjust, determine, and pay out of this appropriation the amounts due on claims for damages which have occurred or may occur to private property growing out of the operations of naval aircraft, where such claim does not exceed the sum of $250; Provided further, That all claims adjusted under this authority during any fiscal year shall be reported in detail to the Congress by the Secretary of the Navy; Provided further, That no part of this appropriation shall be expended for maintenance of more than six heavier-than-air stations on the coasts of the continental United States; Provided further, That no part of this appropriation shall be used for the construction of a factory for the manufacture of airplanes.

The President is requested to enter into negotiations with the Governments of Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan with the view of reaching an understanding or agreement relative to limiting the construction of all types and sizes of subsurface and surface craft of 10,000 tons standard displacement or less, and of aircraft.

CIVIL SERVICE.

Public Law No. 516, 67th Congress (H. R. 8,928), the Reclassification bill, reclassified the Civil Service employees of the Federal Government, and, according to Commissioner Wales of the Civil Service Commission, increased the salaries of Civil Service employees from $15,000,000 to $20,000,000 annually. In theory this law has standardized the work and pay in various positions, and gives practical effect to the Act of 1912. It is the plan of the Civil Service Commission under this Act to have the rating of "good" standardized among the various departments of the Government, as under existing Executive orders, while an ex-service man maintains the standing of "good" he shall not be reduced in salary or rank, or discharged, while other employees are retained in the same grade in his department.

Public Law No. 409 of the 67th Congress (H. R. 13,968) appropriated $876,395 to the Civil Service Commission for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924. The Section of this law covering the Civil Service appropriation reads as follows:
Three commissioners, at $5,000 each; chief examiner, $3,500; secretary, $2,500; assistant chief examiner, $2,400; chiefs of divisions—one (who shall not act as assistant secretary), $2,400; two at $2,000 each; certification clerk, $2,000; examiners—seven at $2,400 each, three at $2,000 each, six at $1,800 each; clerks—six of class four, twenty-eight of class three, thirty-nine of class two, fifty-two of class one, thirty-four, at $1,000 each, twenty-two at $900 each; messenger, $840; assistant messenger, $720; skilled laborer, $720; four messenger boys at $420 each; telephone switchboard operator, $720; in all, $296,480.

For additional employees for the Civil Service Commission, $107,400; Provided, That no person shall be employed hereunder at a rate of compensation exceeding $1,800 per annum, except six at $3,500 each; five at $3,000 each, two at $2,200 each, and two at $2,000 each; Provided further, That $40,000 of this amount may be expended only in connection with all expenses incident to investigations and research as to the character and training and experience of applicants for examination.

Field force: For salaries of the field force of the Civil Service Commission, including employees heretofore detailed to the commission from other departments and offices, $272,000; Provided, That no person shall be employed hereunder at a rate of compensation exceeding $1,800 per annum, except two at $3,300 each, three at $3,000 each, seven at $2,500 each, one at $2,400, two at $2,200 each, and six at $2,000 each.

Except for one person detailed for part-time duty in the district office at New York City no details from any executive department or independent establishment in the District of Columbia or elsewhere to the commission's central office in Washington or to any of its district offices shall be made during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924; but this shall not affect the making of details for service as members of the boards of examiners outside the immediate offices of the district secretaries. The Civil Service Commission shall have power in case of emergency to transfer or detail any of its employees herein provided for to or from its office force or field force.

For employment of expert examiners not in the Federal service to prepare questions and rate papers in examinations on special subjects for which examiners within the service are not available, $2,000.

To carry out the provisions of section 13 of the Act entitled "An Act for the retirement of employees in the classified civil service, and for other purposes," approved May 22, 1920, including personal services in the District of Columbia, stationery, purchase of books, office equipment, and other supplies, $30,000; Provided, That no person shall be employed hereunder at a rate of compensation exceeding $1,740 per annum except one at $2,000 and four at $1,800 each.

For examination of presidential postmasters, including travel, stationery, contingent expenses, additional examiners and investigators, and other necessary expenses of examinations, $32,500.

For necessary traveling expenses, including those of examiners acting under the direction of the commission, and for expenses of examinations and investigations held elsewhere than at Washington, and including not exceeding $1,000 for expenses of attendance at meetings of public officials when specifically directed by the commission, $20,000.

For contingent and miscellaneous expenses of the Civil Service Commission, including furniture and other equipment and repairs thereto; supplies; advertising; telegraph and telephone service; freight and express charges; street car fares not to exceed $200; stationery; purchase and exchange of law books, books of reference, directories, newspapers, and periodicals, not to exceed $500; charts, purchase, exchange, maintenance and repair of motor trucks, motorcycles, and bicycles; maintenance and repair of motor-propelled passenger-carrying vehicle to be used only for official purposes; garage rent; postage stamps to prepay postage on matter addressed to Postal Union countries; special-delivery
stamps; and other like miscellaneous expenses not hereinafter provided for; in all, $39,540.

For rent of building for the Civil Service Commission, $16,875, if space cannot be assigned by the Public Buildings Commission in other buildings under the control of that commission.

For printing and binding, $60,060.

DISABLED MEN.

The New Orleans Convention of the Legion adopted twelve specific resolutions affecting disabled men, which required action on the part of your National Legislative Committee. Some of these resolutions called for entirely new legislation, while others urged Congress to act upon bills which we had previously introduced as the result of convention resolutions, but which had not been acted upon by the Congress.

Immediately upon the convening of Congress, following our Convention, November 20th, 1922, copies of all the New Orleans Convention resolutions affecting the disabled were presented to the Congressional Committees handling this legislation and bills were drawn by your National Legislative Committee and introduced in the House and the Senate covering all of the new legislation advocated.

On December 10th Commander Owsley called a legislative conference at Washington, attended by past National Commanders and other prominent Legionnaires, at which time the legislative program for the short session of Congress ending March 4th, 1923, was discussed in all its details. The New Orleans Convention resolutions, and unfulfilled resolutions of the Kansas City Convention affecting the disabled were examined in detail, with a view to determining their relative importance, together with their probability of enactment. As the result of this conference a legislative program was agreed upon, and your Committee was instructed by the National Commander to press for the enactment of laws for the relief of the disabled before all other legislation, and special emphasis was placed upon obtaining the enactment of the Third Sweet Bill, then known as H. R. 11,195, which had been introduced the year previous by your Committee as a result of resolutions adopted at the Kansas City Convention.

At the time of the Commander's Legislative Conference, there were 52 bills before the Congress affecting the disabled, practically all of which were in the form of proposed amendments to the War Risk Insurance Act, the law which governs the operation of the United States Veterans' Bureau, which was created upon recommendation of the Legion to care for the disabled veterans of the World War. The great majority of these 52 bills were slumbering in the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee of the House, which had not held a public hearing upon general disabled veterans' legislation during the calendar year 1922. Your Committee began pressing for hearings before this Committee but without apparent effect. Our campaign was carried on through personal visits, through letters to the Committee, and through letters to each member of the House, pointing out the brief time for the passage of this legislation and the imperative necessity for its enactment.

When no action had been obtained following the Christmas and the New Year's recesses, your Committee determined to press vigorously for the enactment of a Special Veterans' Committee in the House, whose sole function would be the consideration of legislation affecting disabled veterans of the World War. Your Committee did not hope to obtain the creation of this committee at that session of Congress, but it planned through pressing for this Committee, to obtain immediate action from the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committees of the House, in which bills were slumbering designed to bring greatly needed relief to thousands of disabled service men, many of whom were destitute and others dying because the restrictive laws had failed to reach them.

The first strategic move of your Vice-Chairman was to urge the 25 Legionnaires in the House to consider the situation. At a conference with these men it was decided to call a caucus of the Republicans of the House, and at-
tempt to get them as representing the majority party to obligate the House to enact legislation for the disabled at the present session of Congress. The caucus of the Republicans of the House was called January 22nd in the Hall of the House of Representatives and the Legion presented three major questions for its consideration:

1. The formation of a Special Veterans' Committee in the House, whose sole function would be to consider legislation affecting the disabled;
2. How to get immediate hearings on amendments to the War Risk Insurance Act by the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee;
3. What action would best obtain an immediate report on the Bursum bill by the House Military Affairs Committee.

The effect of this movement was electric. Leaders of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, fearing that the caucus action would reflect upon their legislative records, argued against the adoption of the three measures. When they saw the sentiment of the meeting was against them, they changed the attack to the flank. Parliamentary procedure was invoked, one of the leaders of the Interstate Committee making a point of no quorum. A count showed that the quorum was lacking, so the point of order was sustained. However, the meeting partly accomplished its purpose. Two days later the Interstate Committee hurriedly introduced a new bill, (H. R. 14,063) which in substance was our old Bill H. R. 11,195, which had been before this Committee for a year without hearings, to which was added one amendment proposed by the New Orleans Convention. With the introduction of this bill the Interstate Committee announced that hearings would be held on it within two days, but your National Legislative Committee was fully prepared, and at these hearings on January 26th, 1923, presented the Legion's resolutions from the New Orleans and Kansas City Conventions which had not been converted into laws—sixteen in all—and argued for the inclusion in the Committee bill of the amendments which these resolutions covered. These had previously been introduced in the House in the form of legislation. John Thomas Taylor, Vice-Chairman of your Committee, read all of these resolutions and proposed amendments into the record of the hearing, explained them in detail, and urged the Committee to enact them into law. These resolutions are too voluminous to include in this report, but their substance is given below, together with information showing what action was taken upon them by the Congress.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE WAR RISK INSURANCE ACT WHICH YOUR NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REQUESTED CONGRESS TO ENACT.**

**New Orleans Convention Resolutions Enacted Into Law.**

1. To require the Director of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau to reinstate the insurance of mental patients in Government hospitals who lack guardians.  
   (Included in the Third Sweet Bill, now Public Law No. 542.)
2. To eliminate the word "pulmonary" from the law to allow ex-service men suffering from all forms of tuberculosis to become compensable under the law.  
   (Included in the Third Sweet bill, now Public Law No. 542.)
3. To extend the period of automatic service connection for mental troubles to three years following discharge. This had been limited to two years.  
   (Extended to three years in the Third Sweet bill, now Public Law No. 542.)
4. To provide $200 for transportation and burial of beneficiaries of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau who died under its care, but who have not been declared compensable.  
   (Transportation plus $105 for burial and flag included in Third Sweet bill now Public Law No. 542. Under certain circumstances this will provide a greater amount than we requested.)
5. To provide that certificates of disability shall be irrevocable.  
   (Included in the Third Sweet bill, now Public Law No. 542.)
6. To make permanent total disability payable to veterans whose in-
surance lapsed, but who had compensation in excess of the premiums due them.
(Included in the Third Sweet bill, now Public Law No. 542.)

Kansas City Convention Resolutions Enacted Into Law.

(7) To insure that a veteran's disability is rated of service origin if this disability was not noted at the time of his enrollment for service.
(Included in the Third Sweet bill, now Public Law No. 542.)

New Orleans Convention Resolutions Partly Enacted Into Law.

(8) To extend the period of automatic service connection for tuberculosis to five years following discharge.
(The law limited this period to two years, which the Third Sweet Bill extended to three years. The New Orleans Convention adopted two resolutions on this subject, one calling for an extension to three years, and the other to five years. The Commanders' Legislative Conference decided upon five years, so your National Legislative Committee argued for the five-year period, and had the resolution providing for this read into the record.

On January 5th, 1923, two and one-half months after the New Orleans Convention, the U. S. Veterans' Bureau issued an order of far-reaching importance on this subject, known as Regulation No. 20-B. This regulation extended the period of automatic service connection for tuberculosis to 30, 33 and 36 months after discharge, according to the state of the disease as shown by medical diagnosis. This was a radical departure from former Bureau regulations, and in advanced cases of tuberculosis had the effect of extending the time limit to three years, as called for in one of the New Orleans resolutions. The Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce changed the wording of the law from two years to three years, but in so doing, created a condition which the U. S. Veterans' Bureau held precluded an extension of the time limit by regulation, such as had been recently effected by the Regulation No. 20-B, under the old law. Under these circumstances, the automatic service connection time provisions of Regulation No. 20-B were in effect only two months, as the Third Sweet bill, approved March 4th, 1923, superceded them on that date.)

(9) That the period for obtaining certificates of disability be extended from August 9th, 1922 to August 9th, 1926.
(The Third Sweet bill, now Public Law No. 542, extends this time to March 1st, 1924. When this amendment was obtained, the time limit for obtaining these certificates had expired nine months prior.)

(10) To provide permanent total disability ratings where a veteran has been in a hospital or an asylum continually for one year, or has been rated as totally disabled, or totally and temporarily disabled for a continual period of one year.

(No legislative action on this, as the Director of the Veterans' Bureau has ruled this can be done by regulation under existing law. This already accomplished in tuberculosis cases by Regulation No. 20-B, January 5, 1923, and by additional administrative actions.)

(11) To pay insurance to beneficiaries, where permanently and totally disabled veterans were denied reinstatement of their insurance because of their condition, and have since died.

(Partly accomplished in the Third Sweet bill, now Public Law No. 542, which provides this payment where the veteran at the time he applied for reinstatement was not permanently and totally disabled, although he may have subsequently become so.)

Kansas City Convention Resolution Partly Accomplished.

(12) To provide that compensation shall not be reduced without a physical examination, nor without three months' notice of the Bureau's intention to make a reduction.
(The U. S. Veterans' Bureau by regulation, has accomplished a portion of this resolution by requiring that the physical examination upon which a reduction in compensation is based must have occurred within three months.
The Director of the Bureau, if he desires, may accomplish the full purpose of this resolution by regulation, so no legislation is necessary on this subject.)

**New Orleans Convention Resolutions Which Failed Enactment.**

(13) To extend the period of converting term insurance from 1926 to 1931.
(No action taken by Congress.)

(14) To provide that an applicant for insurance reinstatement who suffers from a disability of service origin, and who is indigent, may have lapsed premiums charged against the face of his reinstated policy.
(No action taken by Congress.)

**Kansas City Convention Resolutions Which Failed Enactment.**

(15) To provide that the loss of hearing of both ears be rated as permanent and total disability.
(No action taken by Congress.)

(16) To require the United States Veterans' Bureau to furnish all patients on discharge from hospital, a statement of the mental findings in the case.
(No action taken by Congress, as the U. S. Veterans' Bureau opposed this legislation on the theory that to give this information to a disabled veteran might be harmful to him under certain conditions.)

From the foregoing it will be seen that of the twelve New Orleans Convention resolutions, six were enacted into law, while four were accomplished in part. No action by the Congress was taken on two. Four resolutions of the Kansas City Convention were presented by your Committee. One of these was enacted into law; another was partly accomplished by regulation; no action was taken on one, and the remaining one was disapproved by the U. S. Veterans' Bureau.

These hearings lasted for a week, concluding on February 2. Your Committee was assisted in the presentation of the case of the disabled men by Joseph Sparks, Chairman of the Legion's National Rehabilitation Committee and by Watson B. Miller, National Vice-Commander of the Legion.

The Interstate Committee is one of the busiest and most important committees in the House, and legislation affecting the disabled is only a minor function among its many and varied activities. For this reason it delayed a report on our legislation until February 24th, leaving only six legislative days remaining to get the bill out of the Committee on Rules of the House, voted upon on the floor of the House, sent to the Senate, referred to the Senate Finance Committee, reported out of the Senate Finance Committee and off the Senate calendar for action on the floor of the Senior Body — legislative proceedings which ordinarily require several months under the most favorable conditions.

The bill which the Interstate Committee reported on February 24th was known as H. R. 14,401. While it did not contain all of the 16 specific major recommendations of the Legion, it contained a substantial number of them, and your Committee determined, after conferences with our friends in the House and the Senate, that no effort should be made to amend the bill upon the floor of the House, because to do so might result in its failure to be enacted because of the many legislative steps necessary in the unprecedentedly short time of six remaining days of the legislative session.

At this critical time Commander Owsley canceled all speaking engagements and came to Washington, where he was tendered a reception by the National Press Club Post of the Legion on the evening of March 1st. The Post, which is composed of Washington correspondents, had invited the National Commander to address its members and others of the corps of Washington correspondents on national legislation of interest to the ex-service men. Commander Owsley delivered a forceful address urging the crying necessity for the enactment of legislation affecting the disabled during the few remaining days of Congress, and laid particular stress upon the necessity for the passage of the Third Sweet bill. This address by the National Commander received wide publicity throughout the United States, and had a marked effect upon the House of Representatives and the Senate.
Aided by your National Legislative Committee and Legionnaires in the House, Representative Sweet of Iowa, Chairman of the Sub-Committee of the Interstate Committee which drew the bill, got it up for consideration, and with only one day remaining in the session it passed the House unanimously under a suspension of the rules at 4:30 p.m., Friday, March 3rd. John Thomas Taylor, Vice-Chairman of your Committee, spent that evening with Senator Porter J. McCumber, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. He explained the bill section by section, and gave the Senator a descriptive chart to enable him to analyze it carefully upon the Senate floor. The following morning another conference was had, and it was agreed that the legislative jam which the Ship Subsidy filibuster had caused in the Senate demanded the attempt of a legislative expedient which had not been successful in 15 years. This was to bring the bill before the Senate without referring it to the powerful Senate Finance Committee, and obtain its passage without debate, under a unanimous consent agreement. The plan was daring in the extreme, as the objection of one Senator would kill the bill, and it was asking almost too much of human nature to request anti-Adjusted Compensation Senators to refrain from voicing their soul stirring interest in the disabled soldier when such an opportunity was presented. But your Committee was faced with an emergency, and the attempt was made. At 11 o'clock, when the Senate convened for its last day's work, Senator McCumber was on his feet and obtained recognition from Vice-President Coolidge. He explained the bill briefly, and for a moment it looked as if the bill would pass. But the talking habit was too strongly ingrained in a few Senators, and in spite of McCumber's pleas, it was passed over. Taylor and others of the Legislative Committee who were present in the Senate Anti-Chamber began calling Senator after Senator from the Chamber and interviewing them until all seemed satisfied. McCumber meanwhile remained on his feet, and three hours later again obtained recognition from the Vice-President, only to have the bill objected to again. Senator Cummins of Iowa held the floor at this time for consideration of the Alien Property bill, against which a filibuster had started. Plans were relayed by your Committee. Friends of filibustering Senators were requested to explain the situation to their comrades, and Representative Sweet was summoned before the House to lay the disabled veterans' case before Senator Cummins. And then the miracle happened. Before the crowded galleries were aware of what was on foot, Senators Heflin and Cummins yielded to Senator McCumber, and the Third Sweet bill was passed without a speech or an objection. It all happened within less than a minute. The bill then became Public Law No. 542. Congressman Sweet who drew it estimated that it would cost the Government 40 million dollars in relief and benefits to the disabled.

On September 1st your Committee, in order to ascertain exactly what practical benefits had resulted from the enactment of this legislation, requested Director Hines of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau to make an analysis of the number of men benefited so far by this law, together with the amount of these benefits in actual payments. The data supplied by General Hines, together with a summary of the provisions of this new Bill, are given below:

$35,755,322 PAID OUT UNDER THIRD SWEET BILL SIX MONTHS AFTER PASSAGE.

Facts Given On the Bill. Director Hines' analysis of the benefits of the Third Sweet Bill during the six months of its operation, shows that under the Compensation and Insurance provisions alone 8,410 awards have been made, involving payments of $35,755,322 to disabled men and their families. In addition, term and converted insurance policies of 6,460 disabled men have been reinstated under the section which extended reinstatement privileges for disabilities incurred in the service. This makes possible the additional payment of tens of millions of dollars. An analysis of the bill, now Public Law No. 542 of the 67th Congress, follows:

Section 29. This section is broadened so that discharge on the grounds of mutiny, treason, spying or any offense involving moral turpitude or willful
and persistent misconduct, must have been the result of court martial proceedings, in order to bar the veteran from insurance or compensation benefits, and is made retroactive to April 6, 1917.

The important feature in this is that relating to "moral turpitude" or "willful and persistent misconduct," as there were few cases of mutiny, treason and spying. The "moral turpitude" clause relates chiefly to men who committed offenses against the civil laws, and while under civilian control, such as in jail or penitentiary, were discharged without honor without court martial proceedings.

This amendment however does not change the status of conscientious objectors or enemy aliens, in spite of the fact that great pressure has been brought to include them in the amendment.

Section 300. The insertion of the word "conclusively," should completely settle the question of the presumption of sound physical condition at the time of enrollment, where no notation was made to the contrary then. The word "conclusively" means that the burden of proof will now be placed upon the Veterans' Bureau and not upon the claimant, as to the service origin of disability of this nature.

This section also strikes the word "pulmonary" from the law in connection with "tuberculosis disease." The change makes it mandatory upon the U. S. Veterans' Bureau to grant service connection for tuberculosis disability of the lungs, bones or glands—in fact, all classes of tuberculosis. The law previously restricted this to "pulmonary" tuberculosis.

Section 300 also increases the period of automatic service connection for tuberculosis and neuro-psychiatric diseases from two years to three years. This compels the Bureau to grant service connection for neuro-psychiatric or tubercular disability, where either was shown to exist within three years after date of discharge upon examination by a recognized physician or one connected with the U. S. Veterans' Bureau in his private practice which shows the diagnosis and the findings within the three-year period. Director Hines' statement on the benefits already realized through this amendment follow:

Section 300 amended to provide for automatic service connection for ex-service men who are shown to have a neuro-psychiatric disease or an active tuberculosis disease developing a ten per centum degree of disability or more, etc., has produced a total of approximately 9,618 applications for compensation, involving either an original or amended award. Of this number, approximately 2,357 were granted original awards, 2,240 were granted amended awards, and 5,021 cases were disallowed as coming under the provisions of this Section. The amount of money involved in these awards is estimated in total as approximately $2,512,800.00.

Section 300 was also amended to provide compensation and hospital care for disabilities incurred prior to April 6, 1917, if the veteran was discharged subsequent to this date. The chief beneficiaries of this will be soldiers of the Regular Army.

Section 301, Subdivision G. The new section extending the burial provisions of the Act, reads as follows:

Where a veteran of any war dies after discharge or resignation from the service and does not leave sufficient assets to meet the expense of his burial and the transportation of his body, and such expenses are not otherwise provided for, the United States Veterans' Bureau shall pay the following sums—For a flag to drape the casket, and after burial to be given to the next of kin of the deceased, a sum not exceeding $5; also for burial expenses, a sum not exceeding $100 to such person or persons as may be fixed by regulations; provided, that subject to regulations, where death occurs while such person is receiving governmental medical, surgical or hospital treatment or vocational training, the United States Veterans' Bureau shall pay, in addition to burial expenses, the actual and necessary cost of the transportation of the body of such person (in-
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cluding preparation of the body) to the place of burial within the continental limits of the United States.

This burial act is not retroactive. The law heretofore provided $100 for burial for those who died before discharge or resignation from the service. In addition, the Bureau by regulation has paid $100, plus transportation, for those who died in government hospitals, whose claims had not been ruled upon adversely. The present act provides $100 (plus $5 for flag) for burial for indigent veterans of all wars; in addition it provides $100, plus transportation, for those who die while under government care.

This act, not being retroactive, will not require the payment of past claims, but will eventually probably entail a large expense on the government. Its enactment will prevent the bodies of poverty stricken veterans being sent to potters fields, as the present National Cemetery law provides that any honorably discharged veteran can be buried in a national cemetery. The new law allows a modest funeral and if the veteran had been undergoing government treatment, free transportation to the cemetery itself. Director Hines has not stated what the cost of this amendment has been to date, but it will ultimately run into millions of dollars.

Section 302. This section was amended to read as follows: "That all hospital facilities under the control and jurisdiction of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau, shall be available for veterans of the Spanish American War, the Philippine Insurrection, and the Boxer Rebellion, suffering from neuro-psychiatric and tuberculous ailments and diseases, including transportation as granted to those receiving compensation and hospitalization under the War Risk Insurance Act."

Under the appropriation act for the year ending 1923, veterans of the Spanish American War, etc., were allowed the facilities of the Veterans' Bureau Hospitals without transportation. The amendment in the Sweet Bill now provides for the payment of their transportation. Director Hines' statement on this amendment follows:

Sub-Division 6, of Section 302, as amended, provides for the transportation of veterans of the Spanish-American War, the Philippine Insurrection, and the Boxer Rebellion, suffering from neuro-psychiatric and tuberculosis ailments and diseases, to hospitals under the control and jurisdiction of the Veterans' Bureau. As of June 30, 1923, there was being hospitalized a total of 72 veterans of the Spanish-American War, the Boxer Rebellion, and the Philippine Insurrection, and during the months of April, May and June, 61 admissions of this character were reported to hospitals.

Section 306. The amendments obtained in this section are of great importance. It is now provided that a Certificate of Disability may be obtained up to March 1, 1924, whereas under the old law this privilege ceased August 9, 1922. The certificate is also made incontestable evidence of the service origin of the injury, excepting in the case of fraud.

Veterans who believe they have disabilities incurred in the service, are advised to make immediate application to the U. S. Veterans' Bureau, so that the requests may not pile up at the last moment in the Bureau.

Should the holder of a certificate die of the disability noted, his beneficiaries will be entitled to death compensation. In addition to this, should the disability become sufficiently aggravated, the veteran will become entitled to compensation and government hospital care. Director Hines makes the following statement on this amendment:

Section 306, as amended, provides that a certificate of disability might be obtained to March 1, 1924. Since the passage of this amendment, approximately 1,500 applications for certificate of disability have been received.

Section 308. Heretofore the provisions of this restriction disbarred veterans from compensation rights when receiving dishonorable or bad conduct
discharges. Such discharges do not bar compensation now unless as a result of trial by court martial. The section is further amended to limit disbarment to the particular enlistment in which the court martial occurred for which he was discharged. In other words, had he been injured in a previous or subsequent enlistment, he would, under this Act, be entitled to compensation for that injury.

Section 408. This section is one of the most sweeping provisions of the new bill. It previously limited payment of insurance for disability and death only upon the death of the veteran, so that his beneficiaries or estate had been the only ones to benefit by the uncollected compensation which automatically revived the veteran's insurance.

Under the amendments to this section, the veteran himself will now be entitled to permanent total disability payments under his revived insurance while still living, provided that his uncollected compensation at the time of the inception of his permanent and total disability, was sufficient to meet the back insurance premiums at the time the policy lapsed, and up to the time of the inception of his permanent total disability. Director Hines states that this amendment has brought the following results:

Under the other provisions of Section 408, as amended, providing for the payment of insurance where any soldier has heretofore allowed his insurance to lapse, while suffering from wounds or disease suffered or contracted in line of service, and was at the time he allowed his insurance to lapse entitled to compensation on account thereof in a sum equal to or in excess of the amount due from him in premiums on his said insurance, and dies or has died from said wounds or disease, or becomes or has become permanently and totally disabled by reason thereof, without collecting said compensation, and at the time of such death or permanent total disability had or has sufficient uncollected compensation to pay all unpaid premiums, then and in that event said policy shall not be considered as lapsed. . . . there has resulted the payment of 3,816 claims because of death or permanent and total disability involving insurance to the amount of $33,242,522.

In addition, this section now allows validation of previously rejected applications for reinstatement of insurance where the man was suffering from a service disability only, and was not permanently and totally disabled at the time. Director Hines' statement on this follows:

The results of amending Section 408 of the War Risk Insurance Act, concerning the matter of reinstatement of insurance were that 9,500 applications for reinstatement of insurance were received, 6,722 of which were for reinstatement of term insurance, and 2,781 were for reinstatement in converted insurance; 4,189 reinstatements in term insurance were approved and 2,271 applications for reinstatement in converted insurance were approved. The balance of claims were rejected.

Section 409. The important amendment to this section now provides that those veterans who were mentally incompetent, and when without guardians allowed their insurance to lapse while so rated mentally incompetent, shall be considered not to have allowed their insurance to lapse. No statement has been made on the number of mental patients affected by this amendment.

Viewed in its broader aspects, the bill is a decided step forward, as illustrated by the $35,755,322, payments made under its provisions during the first six months it has been in effect. To this sum should be added the advantages of insurance reinstatement for disabled, increased burial provisions, and the extended scope of hospitalization, expenses of which are not estimated.

THE FISH BILL.

The New Orleans Convention unanimously endorsed the passage of the Fish bill, H. R. 8062, designed to increase the allowance provided for the
attendants of disabled veterans who were so helpless as to be in constant need of a nurse. The bill provided an increase from $20 a month to $50 a month for this attendant, and passed the lower House in this form. When the bill came to the Senate, it was amended to include only helpless veterans who are blind, legless or armless, and cut out all other helpless veterans not so afflicted. At the conference between the House and the Senate on this bill, the conferees of the Senate declined to yield their point, so your National Legislative Committee accepted the enactment of the law in its present form. Immediately after the passage of this Act, your committee interviewed the Director of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau, and secured from him a promise to allow the maximum of $50 per month in all cases where the law could be construed to apply properly. The text of the law, now Public Law No. 370 of the 67th Congress is as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That subdivision (5) of section 302 of the War Risk Insurance Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(5) If the disabled person is so helpless as to be in constant need of a nurse or attendant, such additional sum shall be paid, but not exceeding $20 a month, as the director may deem reasonable, and if the disabled person is blind, legless or armless and is in constant need of a nurse or attendant, such additional sum shall be paid, but not exceeding $50 per month, as the director may deem reasonable."

VETERANS' BUREAU PAYMENTS TO MINORS AND MENTAL CASES.

The New Orleans Convention of the Legion endorsed the passage of H. R. 10,003, pending in Congress at that time. This bill, which became Public Law No. 460, of the 67th Congress, amended the War Risk Insurance Act by providing that Veterans' Bureau payments to minors and mental cases be made through their legal guardians, and that where no guardian has been appointed, the director shall determine upon the manner in which the funds shall be dispersed. The text of this amendment to the War Risk Insurance Act follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled, That sec. 23 of the War Risk Insurance Act, as amended, is hereby further amended so that said section, as amended, shall read as follows:

"Sec. 23. (1) That, except as provided in subdivision (2) of this section, when by the terms of the War Risk Insurance Act and any amendments thereto, any payment is to be made to a minor, other than a person in the military or naval forces of the United States, or to a person mentally incompetent, or under other legal disability adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction, such payment shall be made to the person who is constituted guardian, curator or conservator by the laws of the State or residence of claimant, or is otherwise legally vested with responsibility or care of the claimant or his estate: Provided, That prior to receipt of notice by the United States Veterans' Bureau that any such person is under such other legal disability adjudged by some court of competent jurisdiction, payment may be made to such person direct: Provided Further, That for the purpose of payments of benefits under Article III of the War Risk Insurance Act, as amended, where no guardian, curator or conservator of the person under a legal disability has been appointed under the laws of the State or residence of the claimant, or is otherwise legally vested with responsibility or care of the claimant or his estate, the director shall determine the person who is otherwise legally vested with responsibility or care of the claimant or his estate.

(2) If any person entitled to receive payments under this Act shall be an inmate of any asylum or hospital for the insane maintained by the United States, or by any of the several States or Territories of the United States, or any political subdivision thereof, and no guardian, curator, or conservator of the property of such person shall have
been appointed by competent legal authority, the director, if satisfied after due investigation that any such person is mentally incompetent, may order that all money payable to him or her under this Act shall be held in the Treasury of the United States to the credit of such person. All funds so held shall be disbursed under the order of the director and subject to his discretion either to the chief executive officer of the asylum or hospital in which such person is an inmate, to be used by such officer for the maintenance and comfort of such inmate, subject to the duty to account to the United States Veterans' Bureau and to repay any surplus at any time remaining in his hands in accordance with regulations to be prescribed by the director; or to the wife (or dependent husband if the inmate is a woman), minor children, and dependent parents of such inmate, in such amounts as the director shall find necessary for their support and maintenance in the order named; or, if at any time such inmate shall be found to be mentally competent, or shall die, or a guardian, curator, or conservator of his or her estate be appointed, any balance remaining to the credit of such inmate shall be paid to such inmate, if mentally competent, and otherwise to his or her guardian, curator, conservator, or personal representatives."

NURSES BILL.

A few weeks before the end of the last session of Congress, the Comptroller General handed down a decision ruling that nurses who had contracted sickness or disease in line of duty would no longer be considered compensable under the Compensation Act of September 1, 1916. This surprising ruling of the Comptroller General would have withdrawn Government care and compensation from many nurses who had contracted disease while nursing disabled veterans of the World War.

It was therefore necessary for your National Legislative Committee to act promptly to prevent these friends of the disabled from being thrown out on the street. It was up to the Legion to protect these girls who had striven so earnestly and unselfishly to relieve the condition of our disabled. A bill was therefore introduced providing that the Compensation Act should be construed to include diseases contracted in line of duty, such as the Comptroller General had just ruled against. The time was too short, however, for Congress to make up its mind to embark upon this new policy, so the bill was amended in the Senate to protect nurses who are now receiving hospital treatment. The amendment provides that they shall continue to receive this until March 1, 1924, by which time it is hoped that an amendment to the law will be obtained which will adequately protect these heroines of peace in the future.

This bill was H. R. 14,226, now Public Law No. 537 of the 67th Congress. The text is as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in the administration of the Act approved September 1, 1916, entitled, "An Act to provide compensation for employees of the United States suffering injuries while in the performance of their duties, and for other purposes," persons now receiving compensation upon an award made by the Compensation Commission shall, until March 1, 1924, be entitled to receive the amount awarded, unless the award so made shall by the commission be set aside.

VETERANS' BUREAU APPROPRIATION FOR 1924.

H. R. 13,696, the bill to appropriate funds for the executive office and sundry independent executive bureaux, boards, commissions and offices, for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1924, contained an appropriation of $428,160,773 for the U. S. Veterans' Bureau. This bill is now Public Law No. 409, of the 67th Congress. It contains a provision appropriating $5,781,000 to alter, improve or provide facilities in the hospitals under jurisdiction of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau, so as to furnish adequate accommodations for its
beneficiaries, of which $1,673,000 shall be immediately available. As will be noted, the appropriation does not provide for the construction of new hospitals, but merely for providing additional facilities for hospitals already existing. The allocation of these funds has been left to the judgment of the Director of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau.

The estimates which he submitted the Congress when making the request for these funds, were as follows:

Estimates for appropriation, medical and hospital services, major repairs, alterations, and new construction, fiscal year 1924.

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TOTAL $1,104,500 $443,000 $1,657,175 $2,656,395 $5,781,070

The Veterans' Bureau states that it still intends to allocate this appropriation in the foregoing manner.
The Section of Public Law No. 409, providing the annual appropriation for the U. S. Veterans' Bureau is as follows:

For carrying out the provisions of an Act entitled “An Act to establish a Veterans' Bureau and to improve the facilities and service of such bureau and to further amend and modify the War Risk Insurance Act approved August 9, 1921,” including salaries and expenses of the central office at Washington, District of Columbia, and regional offices and sub-offices, and including salaries, stationery and minor office supplies, furniture, equipment and supplies, rentals and alterations, heat, light, and water, miscellaneous expenses, including telephones, telegrams, freight, express, law books, books of reference, periodicals, ambulance service, towel service, laundry service, repairs to equipment, storage, ice, taxi service, car fare, stamps and box rent, traveling and subsistence, salaries and expenses of employees engaged in field investigation, passenger-carrying and other motor vehicles, including purchase, maintenance, repairs, and operation of same, salaries and operating expenses of the Arlington building and annex, including repairs and mechanical equipment, fuel, electric current, ice, ash removal, and miscellaneous items; and including the salaries and allowances, where applicable, wages, travel and subsistence of civil employees at the United States veterans' hospitals, supply depots, dispensaries, clinics, and vocational schools, $49,984,063: Provided, That on or before the fifteenth day of each month when Congress is in session, the Director of the Veterans' Bureau shall transmit to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a statement giving in detail (a) the total number of positions at a rate of $2,000 or more per annum, (b) the rate of salary attached to each position, (c) the number of positions at each rate in the central office and in each district office or suboffice, and (d) a brief statement of the duties of each position.

Such portion of this appropriation as may be necessary shall be allotted from time to time by the United States Veterans' Bureau to the Public Health Service and shall be available for expenditure by the Public Health Service for necessary personnel, the pay and allowances, and travel of commissioned officers of the Public Health Service detailed to the United States Veterans' Bureau for duty.

For printing and binding for the United State Veterans' Bureau, including all of its bureaus, offices, institutions, and services located in Washington, D. C., and elsewhere, $300,000.

Compensation: For military and naval compensation for death or disability, $118,450,000.

Medical and Hospital Services: For medical, surgical, dental, dispensary, and hospital services and facilities, convalescent care, necessary and reasonable after care, welfare of, nursing, prosthetic appliances, medical examinations, funeral and other incidental expenses (including transportation of remains), traveling expenses, and supplies, and not exceeding $100,000 for library books, magazines, and papers for beneficiaries of the United State Veterans' Bureau, including court costs and other expense incident to proceedings heretofore or hereafter taken for commitment of mentally incompetent persons to hospitals for the care and treatment of the insane, $48,683,710.

This appropriation shall be disbursed by the United States Veterans' Bureau, and such portion thereof as may be necessary shall be allotted from time to time to the Public Health Service, the Board of Managers of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, and the War, Navy, and Interior Departments, and transferred to their credit for disbursement by them for the purposes set forth in the foregoing paragraph.

No part of this appropriation shall be expended for the purchase of any site for a new hospital, for or toward the construction of any new hospital, or for the purchase of any hospital; and not more than $5,781,000 of this appropriation may be expended to alter, improve, or provide facilities in the several hospitals under the jurisdiction of the United States Veterans' Bureau so as to furnish adequate accommodations for its beneficiaries, of which $1,673,000 shall be immediately available.
The allotments made to the Public Health Service, War, Navy, Board of Managers of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, and Interior Department and other governmental agencies shall be available for expenditure for care and treatment of beneficiaries of the United States War Veterans' Bureau, and for necessary minor repairs and improvements of existing facilities, under the various headings of appropriations made to said departments as may be necessary.

**Vocational Rehabilitation:** For carrying out the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the vocational rehabilitation and return to civil employment of disabled persons discharged from the military or naval forces of the United States, and for other purposes," approved June 27, 1918, as amended, $120,743,000; Provided, That no part of the foregoing sum shall be used for the establishment, maintenance, or operation of training schools at any Army camp or cantonment acquired for use as a training center, except Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, Ohio; Provided further, That no part of the foregoing appropriation shall be expended for construction work except necessary extensions, additions, and repairs; Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available for the purchase and distribution of embossed literature in Revised Braille for the use of blinded ex-service men and for procurement of equipment and supplies for the production of such literature.

For Military and Naval Insurance, $90,000,000.

All moneys hereafter refunded or received in connection with the proper conduct of the work of the United States Veterans' Bureau shall be covered into the appropriation for the work from or on account of which the collection is made and be available for the purpose of such appropriation; Provided, That on the first day of each regular session of Congress the Director of the Veterans' Bureau shall transmit to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a statement giving in detail the amount of moneys so refunded or received and the appropriations into which the same are covered.

Hereafter section 3709 of the Revised Statutes of the United States shall not be construed to apply to any purchase or service rendered in the United States Veterans Bureau when the aggregate amount involved does not exceed the sum of $50.

**NATIONAL HOME FOR DISABLED VOLUNTEER SOLDIERS.**

Appropriations for $4,354,500 for the support of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1924, were included in the Army Appropriation Bill, H. R. 13,793, now Public Law No. 465 of the 67th Congress. The text of the law covering these homes is as follows:

"For support of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, as follows:

"Central Branch, Dayton, Ohio: Current expenses: For pay of officers and non-commissioned officers of the home, with such exceptions as are hereinafter noted, and their clerks, weighmasters, and orderlies; chaplains, religious instruction, and entertainment for the members of the home, printers, bookbinders, librarians, musicians, telegraph and telephone operators, guards, janitors, watchmen, fire company, and property and materials purchased for their use, including repairs not done by home; articles of amusement, library books, magazines, papers, pictures, and musical instruments, and repairs not done by the home; stationery, advertising, legal advice, payments due heirs of deceased members: Provided, that all receipts on account of the effects of deceased members during the fiscal year shall also be available for such payments; and for such other expenditures, as can not properly be included under other heads of expenditure, $62,000.

"Subsistence: For pay of commissary sergeants, commissary clerks, porters, laborers, bakers, cooks, dishwasher, waiters, and others employed in
the subsistence department; food supplies purchased for the subsistence of the members of the home and civilian employees regularly employed and residing at the branch, their freight, preparation, and serving; aprons, caps and jackets for kitchen and dining-room employees; tobacco; dining-room and kitchen furniture and utensils, bakers' and butchers' tools and appliances, and their repair not done by the home, $220,000.

"Household: For furniture for officers' quarters; bedsteads, bedding, bedding material, and all other articles required in the quarters of the members and of civilian employees permanently employed and residing at the branch, and their repair, if not repaired by the home; fuel, including fuel for cooking, heat, and light; water; engineers and firemen, bathhouse keepers, janitors, laundry employees, and for all labor, materials, and appliances required for household use, and repairs, if not repaired by the home, $120,000.

"Hospital: For pay of medical officers and assistant surgeons, matrons, druggists, hospital clerks and stewards, ward masters, nurses, cooks, waiters, readers, drivers, funeral escort, janitors, and for such other services as may be necessary for the care of the sick; burial of the dead; surgical instruments and appliances, medical books, medicine, liquors, fruits, and other necessaries for the sick not purchased under subsistence; bedsteads, bedding, and bedding materials, and all other special articles necessary for the wards; hospital furniture, including special articles and appliances for hospital kitchen and dining room; carriage, hearse, stretchers, coffins; and for all repair to hospital furniture and appliance not done by the home, $180,000.

"Transportation. For transportation of members of the home, $1,000.

"Repairs: For pay of chief engineer, builders, blacksmiths, carpenters, painters, gas fitters, electrical workers, plumbers, tinsmiths, steam fitters, stone and brick masons, and laborers, and for all appliances and materials used under this head; and repairs of roads and other improvements of a permanent character, $58,000: Provided, That no part of the appropriation for repairs for any of the branch homes shall be used for the construction of any new building.

"Farm: For pay of farmer, chief gardener, harness makers, farm hands, gardeners, horse shoers, stablemen, teamsters, dairymen, herdsmen, and laborers; tools, appliances, and materials required for farm, garden, and dairy work; grain, and grain products, hay, straw, fertilizers, seed, carriages, wagons, carts, and other conveyances; animals purchased for stock or work (including animals in the park); gasoline; materials, tools, and labor for flower garden, lawn, park, and cemetery; and construction of roads and walks, and repairs not done by the home, $15,000; 

In all, Central Branch, $646,000.

"For 'Current Expenses,' 'Subsistence,' 'Household,' 'Hospital,' 'Transportation,' 'Repairs,' and 'Farm,' at the following branches, including the same objects respectively specified herein under each of such heads for the Central Branch, namely:

"Northwestern Branch, Milwaukee, Wisconsin: Current expenses, $25,500; subsistence, $118,000; household, $58,500; hospital, $106,000; transportation, $500; repairs, $28,000; farm, $5,000; in all, Northwestern Branch, $339,500.

"Eastern Branch, Togus, Maine: Current expenses, $48,000; subsistence, $95,000; household, $110,000; hospital, $55,000; transportation, $500; repairs, $35,000; farms, $20,000; in all, Eastern Branch, $393,500.

"Southern Branch, Hampton, Virginia: Current expenses, $53,500; subsistence, $220,000; household, $133,000; for hospital, $106,000; transportation, $1,000; repairs, $60,000; farm, $12,000; in all, Southern Branch, $587,500.

"Western Branch, Leavenworth, Kansas: Current expenses, $58,000; subsistence, $205,000; household, $135,000; hospital, $95,000; transportation, $500; repairs, $47,000; farm, $20,000; in all, Western Branch, $580,500.

"Pacific Branch, Santa Monica, California: Current expenses, $60,000; subsistence, $395,000; household, $114,000; hospital, $190,000; transportation, $2,500; repairs, $47,500; farm, $18,000; in all, Pacific Branch, $718,500.
"Marion Branch, Marion, Indiana: Current expenses, $5,000; subsistence, $24,000; household, $11,500; hospital, $28,000; transportation, $300; repairs, $4,500; farm, $1,700; in all, Marion Branch, $75,000.

"Danville Branch, Danville, Illinois: Current expenses, $35,000; subsistence, $210,000; household, $115,000; hospital, $85,000; transportation, $500; repairs, $50,000; farm, $12,000; in all, Danville Branch, $327,500.

"Mountain Branch, Johnson City, Tennessee: Current expenses, $4,500; subsistence, $28,000; household, $8,500; hospital, $26,000; transportation, $1,500; repairs, $3,500; farm, $3,000; in all, Mountain Branch, $75,000.

"Battle Mountain Sanitarium, Hot Springs, South Dakota: Current expenses, $24,000; subsistence, $57,000; household, $52,000; hospital, $45,000; transportation, $2,000; repairs, $15,000; farm, $5,000; in all, Battle Mountain Sanitarium, $200,000.

"Provided, That moneys allotted to the Board of Managers of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers by the United States Veterans' Bureau for support, maintenance, and care of World War veterans shall not be used to augment the appropriations made herein under the heads of 'Current Expenses,' 'Repairs,' and 'Farm' in an amount which will make the total expenditures for these respective purposes at the several branches exceed the amounts expended for such purposes during the fiscal year 1922. And the limitation in the War Department Appropriation Act for the fiscal year 1923, which reads: 'For the fiscal year 1924, and annually thereafter moneys allotted to the Board of Managers of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers by the Veterans' Bureau for support, maintenance, and care of World War veterans shall not be used to augment the appropriations made for the support of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers' shall not be applicable for the fiscal year 1924, other than as specifically provided in this paragraph.

"For the fiscal year 1925, and annually thereafter moneys allotted to the Board of Managers of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers by the Veterans' Bureau for support, maintenance, and care of World War veterans shall not be used to augment or reimburse the appropriations made for the support of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, but shall be covered into the surplus fund of the Treasury, and the Budget for the fiscal year 1925, and thereafter shall contain itemized estimates covering the entire cost of the operation and maintenance of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, including the cost of the maintenance, support, and care of beneficiaries of the United States Veterans' Bureau in such homes.

"Clothing for all Branches: For clothing, underclothing, hats, caps, boots, shoes, socks, and overalls; labor, materials, machines, tools, and appliances employed and for use in the tailor shops and shoe shops, or other home shops in which any kind of clothing is made or repaired, $200,000.

"Board of Managers: President, $4,000; secretary, $500; general treasurer, who shall not be a member of the board of managers, $5,000; chief surgeon, $4,500; assistant general treasurer, $5,000; inspector general, $3,500; assistant chief surgeon, $3,500; clerical services for the offices of the president, general treasurer, chief surgeon, and inspector general, $19,000; clerical services for managers, $2,700; traveling expenses of the board of managers, their officers and employees, including officers of branch homes when detailed on inspection work, $14,300; outside relief, $100; legal services, medical examinations, stationery, telegrams, and other incidental expenses, $1,700; in all, $62,000.

"Total, National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, $4,354,500.

"State and Territorial homes for disabled soldiers and sailors: For continuing aid to State or Territorial homes for the support of disabled volunteer soldiers, in conformity with the Act approved August 27, 1888, as amended, including all classes of soldiers admissible to the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, $800,000. Provided, That for any sum or sums collected in any manner from inmates of such State or Territorial homes to be used for the support of said homes a like amount shall be deducted from the aid herein..."
provided for, but this proviso shall not apply to any State or Territorial home into which the wives or widows of soldiers are admitted and maintained."

An additional appropriation of $382,000 for the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers was made in H. R. 14,408, now Public Law No. 543 of the 67th Congress, which appropriated money to supply deficiencies for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1923, and prior fiscal years, and to provide supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1924.

The provisions in this law allocating these funds, are as follows:

“For the support of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers: For ‘Current expenses,’ ‘Subsistence,’ ‘Household,’ ‘Hospital,’ and ‘Repairs,’ at the following branches, including the same objects respectively specified in the War Department Appropriation Act for the fiscal year 1923, under each of such heads for the Central Branch, namely:

“Northwestern Branch, Milwaukee, Wisconsin: Current expenses, $6,000; household, $37,000; hospital, $32,000; in all, $75,000.

“Eastern Branch, Togus, Maine: Household, $22,000.

“Southern Branch, Hampton, Virginia: Subsistence, $15,000; household, $40,000; hospital, $20,000; in all, $75,000.

“Western Branch, Leavenworth, Kansas: Current expenses, $13,500; household, $34,500; hospital, $16,000; repairs, $1,000; in all, $65,000.

“Pacific Branch, Santa Monica, California: Subsistence, $65,000; hospital, $80,000; in all, $145,000.”

SAINT ELIZABETH’S HOSPITAL.

Appropriations for the annual maintenance of Saint Elizabeth’s Hospital for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924, were made in H. R. 13,559, now Public Law No. 395 of the 67th Congress, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior. Saint Elizabeth’s Hospital now contains approximately 800 World War veterans suffering from mental troubles. The text of the section appropriating the funds for this hospital is as follows:

For support, clothing, and the treatment in Saint Elizabeth’s Hospital for the insane from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, inmates of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, persons charged with or convicted of crimes against the United States who are insane, persons who have become insane since their entry into the military or naval service of the United States, civilians in the Quartermaster’s Service of the Army, persons transferred from the Canal Zone who have been admitted to the hospital and who are indigent, and beneficiaries of the U. S. Veterans’ Bureau, including not exceeding $27,000 for the purchase, exchange, maintenance, repair, and the operation of motor-propelled, passenger-carrying vehicles for the use of the Superintendent, Purchasing Agent and general hospital business, $1,000,000 and not exceeding $1,500 of this sum may be expended in the removal of patients to their friends and not exceeding $1,500 in the purchase of such books, periodicals, and papers as may be required for the purposes of the hospital and for the medical library, and not exceeding $1,500 for the actual and necessary expenses incurred in the apprehension and return to the hospital of escaped patients;

For general repairs and improvements to buildings and grounds, $100,000.

For 7 brick bungalows with 4 rooms, kitchen and bath, $46,500.

SPECIAL VETERANS COMMITTEE IN THE HOUSE.

The Fourth National Convention at New Orleans adopted two resolutions urging the establishment by Congress of a new and special committee in the House of Representatives, whose sole function would be to consider all matters of legislation dealing with compensation, hospitalization, and rehabilitation of veterans of the World War. These resolutions were presented to the Congress by your National Legislative Committee immediately upon its convening in extraordinary session November 20th, 1922. At the legislative
conference called by Commander Owsley in Washington during December, it was determined to exert a strong effort to obtain the creation of this new committee, although the impossibility of securing it at the short session of Congress was recognized, because of the brief time which the Congress had to pass upon the many legislative matters which had accumulated, together with the recognized difficulty in overcoming known opposition to the measure.

On January 12, 1923, at the request of your National Legislative Committee, Representative Royal C. Johnson of South Dakota, a Legionnaire, and a member of the Committee on Rules, introduced H. Res. 480 to create this committee. This resolution, in full, is as follows:

Resolved, That Rules X and XI of the House be, and are hereby, amended as follows:

Add the following paragraph to Rule X:

"On Veterans Legislation, to consist of 17 members."

Add the following paragraph to Rule XI:

"54C. To war risk insurance of soldiers, sailors, and marines, and other persons in the military and naval service of the United States during the war with Germany and Austria-Hungary, their compensations and allowances and claims of such persons and their beneficiaries, and all legislation affecting such ex-service men, except pension legislation, to the Committee on Veterans' Legislation."

Following the introduction of this resolution, a conference was held by your committee with the twenty-five Legionnaires in the Lower House, to consider the general situation on legislation for disabled, as it was recognized that unless extraordinary measures were taken, that the chances of obtaining the much-needed relief for our disabled buddies were very slim. The conference concluded to call upon the Republican party in the House to caucus, from which it was hoped to obtain commitments for the enactment of the various bills recommended by the Legion for the relief of the disabled, the Bursum bill and if possible, the creation of the new Veterans Committee.

Two conferences of the major party of the House failed to take action on these questions, due to the lack of quorums. Accordingly, John Thomas Taylor, Vice-Chairman of your National Legislative Committee, immediately issued the following statement, calling the attention of the entire House and the Senate, as well as the ex-service population of the country, to the situation existing in the Congress. Taylor's statement, which was issued January 24, 1923, is as follows:

The failure of the Republican conference in the House to recommend the creation of special committees to handle legislation affecting the Veterans of the World War is extremely deplorable and cannot help but create a feeling in the minds of the Nation's war-wrecked soldiers and their families that certain influential members of Congress are more interested in retaining their brief authority, than they are in the welfare of those who have lost their health in the defense of their country.

With 52 bills affecting the veterans now awaiting hearings in committees of the House and the Senate, and only six weeks remaining until Congress adjourns for nine months, the chances of legislative aid for the disabled are very slim unless the special veterans committees are provided.

The majority of these bills are slumbering in the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee of the House, which has not had a public hearing on veteran legislation since 1921, although The American Legion has repeatedly requested hearings from Chairman Samuel E. Winslow of Massachusetts.

Under these circumstances, it is doubly unfortunate that the chief opponents of the Veterans' committees at the conference proved to be members of the same Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee.

In a speech opposing the Committee, Chairman Winslow is reported to have advised the conference:
"If this resolution passes, we'll have a Committee full of prunes and enthusiasm, grinding out legislation for ex-service men, like a sausage mill turning out sausage."

Mr. Winslow's attitude in his statement, may go far to explain why his committee has not held a public hearing since 1921 on legislation in behalf of relief for the disabled soldier.

The motion was finally killed when another member of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, Edward E. Denison of Illinois, raised the point of order of no quorum, which was sustained.

Another effort will be made by friends of the disabled in the House to obtain the recommendation of the Republican conference, when it is hoped that a sufficient number of Republican members of Congress will attend to constitute a quorum.

It has long been the policy of the Congress to create standing committees, where special legislation of a continuing character has needed annual consideration. This has been recognized in creating committees on pensions for Civil War veterans, and other committees on pensions for Veterans of the War with Spain, although the annual appropriations in each case have been much less, and the character of legislation considered has been simpler and less diversified than that affecting the Veterans of the World War.

Since the Veterans' Bureau was created in August, 1921, to consolidate activities affecting the disabled under one administrative head, the crying necessity for special committees in Congress to consider veteran legislation, has been recognized by all thoughtful persons who have had the interest of the service men at heart. Specific resolutions of conventions of The Legion have recommended it, and it has been urged by the Legion's National Legislative Committee. Other veterans' organizations have now joined the Legion in this request.

Compare the sum spent by the Veterans' Bureau with the expenditures of other Government Departments for which special standing committees have been created:

"The Veterans' Bureau now expends a greater sum annually than the combined expenditures of the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Labor and the Department of State. In addition it spends more than the Army, the Navy, the Treasury or the Interior Department—more than any other department of the Government."

Through the efforts of the Legion a shocking situation was recently brought to the attention of the Congress on the floor of the House.

"It was shown that the House Inter-State and Foreign Commerce Committee, which considers legislation affecting the disabled, had not held a public hearing on disabled legislation during the calendar year 1922, although fifty-two bills of this character are now slumbering in this Committee and other Committees:

"That the Appropriations Committee of the House had given only two days consideration to the $428,000,000 appropriated for the Veterans' Bureau for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924.

"The final responsibility for the enactment of legislation rests with the Congress itself, and not with Committee chairmen anxious to retain their brief power. The American Legion hopes that the Congress will take the action necessary to correct this unfortunate situation affecting legislation for the disabled."

The Johnson resolution to create the Special Committee had been referred to the Committee on Rules of the House, from which Committee it was necessary to obtain a special rule for the consideration of the resolution before it could be brought before the House for action.

Your National Legislative Committee exerted extreme pressure upon the Rules Committee to obtain this special rule. The result of this cumulative action caused the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee of the House to immediately announce hearings on Veteran Legislation,
which ultimately resulted in the enactment of the Third Sweet bill referred to elsewhere. H. J. Res. 480, however, never came to a vote in the house as the Rules Committee declined to vote the special rule for its consideration.

The importance of this Special Committee on Veterans Legislation cannot be over-emphasized, as it is the key to all thoughtful and constructive future legislation affecting disabled veterans. It is the sincere belief of your Committee that had such a Committee been appointed when the Legion first requested it two years ago, that the present investigation of the United States Veterans' Bureau would not be necessary.

Eight committees of the House now handle various phases of this legislation as a side issue—none of them as its main business. Consequently legislation affecting the disabled does not receive the intelligent and sympathetic committee handling to which it is entitled. This results in long delays, and imperfect laws.

Approximately 200 Congressmen now have a hand in framing various phases of Veterans' Legislation, through the eight committees handling it. If all this work is centered in one committee, only 17 men will do what 200 now do, and consequently only 17 will receive credit for what 200 now claim credit.

This is the secret—self interest, and not interest in the disabled veteran, nor governmental expenditures—of Congressional opposition to this vitally important measure.

The Civil War veterans have their special Pension Committees in both House and Senate, and the Spanish-American War Veterans have their special committees also. The World War veterans are entitled to a Special Committee also, and every effort should be put forth by the Legion to obtain it.

The question of this Committee's creation will be decided within the first few days after Congress convenes in December, as the House of Representatives will be organized as soon as it meets, and the personnel of its committees then decided upon. If we fail to obtain this Committee at that time, the House machinery can be so arranged that it may be impossible to obtain consideration for it later in the session.

Every Legionnaire should urge his Congressmen to work for the creation of this Committee during the opening days of the coming session.

THE SENATE INVESTIGATION OF THE U. S. VETERANS' BUREAU.

During the early months last winter, an increasing dissatisfaction existed throughout the country with the conduct of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau by the officials then in charge. Morale was at low ebb among employees of the Bureau, as well as among the disabled who were its beneficiaries. Numerous charges were made in public and private of mismanagement in the sale of supplies, in the selection of hospital sites and the allocation of funds for hospital construction, and in duplication and inefficiency in the conduct of the countless activities of the Bureau, which is charged with care of the disabled of the World War.

At this time there was in existence the special Senatorial Sutherland Committee, which had investigated the Veterans' Bureau during the first session of the 67th Congress. As the situation grew worse, Senator Walsh of Massachusetts on February 12th, 1923, introduced in the Senate S. Res. No. 439, reciting the situation he believed to exist, and calling upon the Sutherland Committee to ascertain whether it was desirable to institute an investigation of the affairs of the Bureau. The Walsh resolution recited that the Congress was about to expire, and that as the terms of a majority of the Sutherland Committee would end at that time, it would seem wise to provide another committee to conduct the investigation in the event the Sutherland Committee concluded this advisable.

The following day, February 13th, Congressman Fish, a Legionnaire from New York, introduced H. J. Res. No. 443 in the House, calling for the
creation of a joint committee of the House and the Senate to investigate the Bureau. Several similar resolutions were introduced in the House during the next few days. As the result of the pressure brought by your National Legislative Committee, a meeting was called of the Sutherland Committee, where your representatives presented fully the case of the disabled veteran from the viewpoint of The American Legion. We urged the necessity of an immediate investigation of the Bureau. As an immediate change in the administration of the Bureau impended, your Committee believed that such an investigation would be an aid to the incoming Director, as with the faults and deficiencies pointed out to him by a full and impartial investigation, he could immediately proceed to remedy conditions, and thus bring relief more quickly to the disabled.

Your Committee further believed that if dishonesty had existed in the huge financial transactions of the Bureau, that the facts regarding this should be unearthed, and given the widest publicity, as the veterans and the taxpayers are entitled to the truth. On the other hand, if these charges were found to be without foundation, it would only be justice to the persons concerned, and to the disabled, that this situation be told to the nation. Your Committee believed it imperative that these charges be officially investigated.

These points were stressed by your Committee before the Sutherland Committee, which we urged that a Special Committee be immediately created to conduct a thorough investigation of the Bureau. Other veteran organizations were summoned before the Sutherland Committee, but The American Legion was the only one to take a definite stand on this important matter, so vital to the welfare of the disabled. After considerable deliberation the Sutherland Committee came to its conclusions, and as a result on March 2nd, Senator David A. Reed of Pennsylvania, a Legionnaire, who had been in constant attendance at the hearings, introduced in the Senate S. Res. No. 446, calling for the appointment of a Special Committee of three Senators to proceed with the investigation of the Bureau as advocated by The Legion. The resolution, which was adopted unanimously by the Senate immediately follows in full:

Whereas, complaints are being made against alleged delay by the Veterans' Bureau in the adjustment of claims for relief of invalid and disabled veterans of the World War under the various Acts of Congress; and

Whereas, it is claimed that there has been great and needless delay in the construction of hospitals and in providing proper hospitalization for the relief of disabled veterans, as a result of which much unnecessary suffering exists; and

Whereas, it is claimed that an unnecessarily large proportion of the appropriations made by Congress for the relief of the veterans is being improperly consumed in overhead expense, duplication of duties, excessive rent of properties and quarters and in the employment of an unnecessarily large number of agents, doctors, inspectors, instructors, and other pensions; and

Whereas, it has been charged that certain sales of surplus property belonging to the Government and under the supervision of the United States Veterans' Bureau were made improperly; therefore be it

Resolved, That a committee consisting of three Senators, members of the Sixty-eighth Congress, to be appointed by the President of the Senate, is authorized and directed to investigate the leases and contracts executed by the United States Veterans' Bureau or the Treasury Department for vocational schools and hospitals and for the purchase, rentals, and sales of real estate and supplies used or to be used directly or indirectly by the Veterans' Bureau for the benefit of the veterans of the World War and the matters and conditions in the premises set forth and to report their findings, together with recommendations for the improvement of such conditions, to the next regular session of Congress. Such committee is authorized to sit during any recess of Congress and send for persons and papers, to administer oaths to witnesses, and to incur
necessary expenses for clerical and other services not exceeding $20,000, which shall be paid out of the contingent fund of the Senate.

The Vice-President appointed Senator Reed of Pennsylvania Chairman of this Committee, and the other two members, Senator Tasker L. Oddie of Nevada and Senator David I. Walsh of Massachusetts. The Committee immediately met and appointed as its Counsel, Major General John F. O'Ryan of New York City, a Legionnaire, who had command of the 27th Division during the World War. The Senate Committee met and organized, and later met again to consider and act upon recommendations made by General O'Ryan as to the manner of proceeding with the investigations. No other meetings have since been held by the Committee, which, however, gave General O'Ryan full authority to proceed with the work.

Last May the National Commander delegated John Thomas Taylor, the Vice-Chairman of your Committee, to act as liaison officer between the investigating committee and the Legion. He conferred with General O'Ryan in New York and obtained a preliminary statement regarding the progress of the investigation, and reported this to the meeting of the National Executive Committee held at National Headquarters on May 19th and 20th last. At this time, the Counsel for the Committee was offered the co-operation of the entire American Legion in aiding him to establish the facts concerning the operation of the Veterans' Bureau. Conferences were again held on September 11th regarding the status of the investigation and the results of these are outlined as follows:

The appropriation of $20,000 was found to be so inadequate for a task of this magnitude that it was necessary to call upon volunteer aid from lawyers, doctors and others throughout the United States. This was accomplished largely through requests to State bar associations and State medical associations. At the date of the last conference, General O'Ryan was using the services of 350 lawyers throughout the country, of which about eighty per cent. are veterans of the World War, and of approximately 250 doctors. In addition to this approximately 100 other volunteers were assisting in the work, selected for their special knowledge or training. General O'Ryan stated that these volunteer assistants are men of the highest caliber and that the service they are rendering voluntarily is of the most important nature.

General O'Ryan stated that the investigation will not have advanced sufficiently for hearings before the Senatorial Committee until late in the Fall. He anticipates that the entire investigation will be completed by the first of next year and that at that time the Senatorial Committee will make its report with recommendations. He stated that the investigation is not now complete enough to make a definite statement upon the final results to be obtained, but that which has been ascertained so far has led him to arrive at a number of preliminary conclusions which are as follows:

1. That the Insurance Division of the Bureau is functioning reasonably well and that his investigations have brought forward very few complaints, and that few abuses have been discovered.

2. That in the Compensation Section many cases of injustice and delay on the part of the bureau have been brought to light. These indicate that the Bureau in a number of cases has rendered technical and unreasonable decisions against disabled veterans and that although apparent injustice had been done, in some of these cases the Bureau has declined to amend its decisions due to its own interpretation of the laws. In connection with this General O'Ryan stated that it is his intention at the conclusion of the committee work, to recommend specific legislation to overcome the deficiencies discovered in the War Risk Insurance Act. These proposed amendments will be advocated in the form of specific amendments to the law.

3. The problems in connection with the Rehabilitation Section of the Bureau are so vast and so complicated that the time in which the Committee has to work is too short to give more than a limited exposition of conditions. General O'Ryan believes that many men are receiving training whose condition does not entitle them to it, and that in these cases some process of
“scientific salvage” must be developed in order to treat the Government fairly and at the same time consider the individual interests of the veterans. In a large number of such cases, where it would seem at first blush that the trainee is entitled to no further consideration, General O’Ryan believes that the Veterans’ Bureau is “particeps criminis,” and that at least half of the blame for these cases should be placed at the door of the government.

4. General O’Ryan stated that a large proportion of the time of his volunteer workers had been spent investigating charges of inefficiency, waste, mismanagement and graft in connection with the Bureau operation, the purchase and sale of supplies, and the location and erection of hospitals for the disabled. He stated that, should any cases be brought to light where the Committee believed dishonesty had been practiced, prosecution would follow. It is his intention, he said to subdivide these cases upon presentation to the Senatorial Committee. In some the evidence is not sufficient to determine the underlying motives actuating the persons participating in these transactions. In such cases, the exact facts, with recommendations, will be placed before the Committee. In a number of these cases, General O’Ryan said, that if no actual dishonesty had been involved, the representatives of the Bureau displayed the most astounding ignorance, trustfulness, and lack of business ability, while the persons on the outside with whom they transacted government business appeared to be men determined upon making the best bargain possible for themselves. In at least two cases, General O’Ryan believes from informal information he has received to date that actual dishonesty is involved. Investigations of these cases will be pressed to the limit in order to determine the exact facts in the matter.

5. That at the present stage of his investigations it is impossible to indicate whether he will recommend the construction of additional Veterans’ Bureau hospitals. This applies also to the question of adding to the facilities of hospitals already in operation or under construction. General Frank T. Hines, the new Director, is at present conducting an independent survey of this problem, General O’Ryan said.

General O’Ryan stated that there has been a great improvement in the administration of the Veterans’ Bureau under the administration of General Hines. He has quietly and effectively brought about a great deal of progress, General O’Ryan said, simplifying methods, cutting red tape and eliminating waste, expediting relief and giving personal and intensive study to the constructive problems which he faces and which must be solved before the Veterans’ Bureau can be said to function effectively. General O’Ryan said that it has been his policy to conduct the investigation with the question of aiding the disabled men in mind as the primary consideration. Accordingly, as cases of injustice and maladministration have been unearthed, he has immediately reported these to Director Hines, so that the matters could be straightened out without delay. However, he states that these actions will be enumerated in his report to the Senatorial Committee. He gave as his opinion, from the experience gained in the investigation to date, that the creation of Special Committees in both Houses of Congress, especially in the Senate, to care for veterans’ affairs, would be of great assistance in solving the problems of the disabled veterans of the World War, both from a legislative and an administrative viewpoint.

The whole country awaits with deep interest the results of this investigation of the Bureau. It was welcomed by all friends of disabled soldiers of the World War who are cared for, or who may be entitled to care through this governmental agency created two years ago to consolidate the administration of all World War veteran relief under one responsible head.

Much progress has been made by the Bureau during its short existence. It is universally admitted that the efficiency with which it handles veterans’ affairs has been increased, that a proportion of the red tape has been eliminated, and that hard boiled methods have to a certain extent been changed to sympathetic treatment of the veterans. But for all this, the Bureau has not functioned properly. The problems which have confronted it have been so new,
so intricate and so vast—the machinery created so complicated, that it is
doubtful whether the most able administrator in America could have conducted
it during its formative period with complete justice to both the disabled and
the government which foots the bills.

The Bureau's duties are almost unmeasured. First it passes upon the
veterans' claims to insurance, compensation, vocational training and hos-
pitalization. Following this, it administers the care to which the veterans are
entitled by law. It operates the Insurance Division, which now has outstand-
ing $5,000,000,000 worth of insurance policies; it is conducting the vocational
training of 90,000 veterans in 2,400 contract and government schools, and in
placement training; it cares for 25,000 men in government and contract hos-
pitals; it has selected hospital sites and administrative centers all over the
country; it is now engaged in erecting $17,000,000 worth of new hospitals, and
putting into operation $18,000,000 worth of hospitals turned over to it by the
White Committee; and it purchases and sells supplies running into millions
dollars. It has 30,000 employees to handle these varied activities, and ex-
pends $450,000,000 annually—more than any other department of the Gov-
ernment.

As America was unready for war, she was likewise unprepared to handle
the war's aftermath—with adequate care for the wrecked bodies and minds
of those who fought her battles. In the emergency three unrelated govern-
ment agencies were drafted to work out the problem. These were the Bureau
of War Risk Insurance, suddenly charged with awarding compensation for the
disabled; the Federal Board for Vocational Education, assigned to refit men
for industry, who had incurred vocational handicaps; and the Public Health
Service, designated to supply the disabled with hospital care and treatment.

These three agencies, enormously expanded, and working separately, set
out to accomplish objects totally different from the mission they have been
created to fulfill. The result was inevitable. Disabled veterans, ignorant of
their rights or how to obtain them, were kept moving in vicious circles be-
tween the three departments, while each department disclaimed fault or re-
ponsibility, and placed the blame on the others. But the disabled veteran
was getting nowhere—his situation was a pitiable one.

To cure this condition the second Sweet Bill was drawn by your National
Legislative Committee and enacted into law by the Congress, in August, 1921.
This created the U. S. Veterans' Bureau, consolidating the three agencies under
one administrative head, responsible alone to the President. At the same
time it divided the country into fourteen districts for purposes of administra-
tion, to which the records and administrative functions of the three consoli-
dated agencies were decentralized. This brought the Bureau operations
closer to the veterans, and greatly reduced time and travel in the presentation
of claims.

Efficient consolidation of the three agencies, however, was a tremendous
 task. It called for the highest order of administrative ability, teamwork, and
familiarity with veterans' laws and problems, in order that duplication, and
overlapping duties might be eliminated, and the efforts of the Bureau per-
sonnel sympathetically concentrated upon its duties of caring for the disabled.
Too often have these attributes been lacking, and in their place have been
lost motion, inefficiency, waste, and in many cases neglect. Politics, favorit-
ism and clique domination had grown up in the three agencies, and continued
after their consolidation into the Bureau. Ex-service men have continually
charged that "key positions" are held by non-veterans, and that a large pro-
portion of the efforts of these is devoted toward enhancing and securing their
own jobs, rather than in rendering efficient aid to the disabled. It is to ascer-
tain just where these weaknesses exist, and to correct them, as well as to offi-
cially uncover the facts surrounding the charges of dishonesty, that your
National Legislative Committee urged the appointment of the Special Commit-
tee to investigate the Bureau.

Administration leaders for a time were divided concerning the advisability
of the investigation, fearing that an attempt might be made by some to create
political capital out of faults unearthed. But when The American Legion,
which has consistently aided the Bureau in solving its many problems, officially requested the Senate to conduct the investigation, the scales were turned, and the investigation was voted unanimously.

**CODIFICATION OF WAR RISK INSURANCE AND VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION ACTS.**

Your National Legislative Committee in the past has frequently called to the attention of Congress and the U. S. Veterans’ Bureau that various discrepancies and minor conflicts have existed in the War Risk Insurance Act, as amended, which governs the administration of the hospitalization, compensation and insurance for the disabled, and the Vocational Rehabilitation Act which provides the conditions under which vocational training is supplied disabled veterans of the World War. As a result of Legion comment, Major William Wolf Smith, General Counsel of the U. S. Veterans’ Bureau, a Legionnaire, called a meeting of the various veterans’ organizations which maintain offices in Washington, to consider the question of analyzing all of the existing laws relating to the disabled of the World War, and to have them codified in such a manner that all discrepancies and conflicts would be eliminated.

Your National Legislative Committee gave hearty support to Major Smith’s suggestion, and during the recent recess of Congress has taken an active part, aided by other veteran organizations, in reducing all laws of this character to a tangible code, with all conflicts eliminated. It is intended that this code shall be presented to the Congress for enactment with the recommendations of the Legion and all other reputable veterans’ organizations, together with the backing of the U. S. Veterans’ Bureau.

Although the proposed code will require action by Congress to become effective, it is in no sense new legislation, as the slight amendments which it proposes to the existing laws are primarily for the purpose of evening up certain inequalities which exist, and to simplify administration of the machinery which these laws have created to aid the disabled. Under the proposed Veterans’ Code, the War Risk Insurance and Vocational Rehabilitation Acts will be codified under one act.

**EXEMPTION OF STATE BONUSES FROM FEDERAL INCOME TAX.**

Through co-operation with Senator Charles Curtis of Kansas, your National Legislative Committee has obtained a ruling from David H. Blair, Commissioner of Internal Revenue, which specifically exempts from Federal tax as taxable income, all state bonuses to veterans of the World War. The Internal Revenue Department holds that such a bonus is a gift within the meaning of Section 213 of the Revenue Act of 1921 and as such is exempt from Federal income taxation and need not be reported in the gross income of the recipient.

Commissioner Blair’s letter, dated August 30th, 1923, on this subject, is as follows:

You desire to be advised whether or not such bonus should be reported for the purpose of Federal income tax as taxable income, for the year in which it is received.

In reply you are advised that Section 213 of the Revenue Act of 1921 provides in part as follows:

That for the purposes of this title (except as otherwise provided in section 283) the term gross income—

(b) Does not include the following items, which shall be exempt from taxation under this title:

(3) The value of property acquired by gift, bequest, devise or descent (but the income from such property shall be included in gross income);

The cash bonus paid by States to veterans of the World War is held to be a gift within the meaning of the quoted section of the statute, and as such is exempt from Federal income taxation and need not be reported in the gross income of the recipient.
LEGISLATION FOR THE AMERICAN LEGION.

Three laws were enacted during the recent Congress which turned Government lands over to The American Legion under certain conditions, for the exclusive use of the Legion. Two of these laws provided the sites for post club houses, while the third provided land for park purposes, and as a home for invalid members of the Legion. In order that other posts and departments may understand the conditions under which Government land may be obtained for Legion purposes, two of these three laws are reproduced in full below, as follows:

Public Law No. 464, 67th Congress. "Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of Commerce, for and on behalf of the United States, is hereby authorized and directed, in his discretion, to sell and convey to the Gogebic County Board of The American Legion, Bessemer, Michigan, for the sum of $1, that certain piece or parcel of land known as the Montreal River Lighthouse Reservation, Michigan, with all the rights, easements, and appurtenances thereto belonging, which is all that parcel of land situated at the mouth of the Montreal river in the county of Gogebic, State of Michigan, comprising lot two, section ten, township forty-eight north, range forty-nine west, and containing forty and eighty-five one-hundredths acres more or less, the same being no longer required for lighthouse purposes; Provided, That said Gogebic County Board of The American Legion shall use this site for park purposes and as a home for invalid members of The American Legion; Provided further, That the deed of conveyance shall be upon the express condition that if at any time the Secretary of Commerce shall determine that the site hereby authorized to be conveyed is not being maintained by the said Gogebic County Board of The American Legion as a site for park purposes and as a home for invalid members of The American Legion, and shall file and cause to be recorded a certificate to that effect in the officer of the official custodian of the records pertaining to real estate in the county of Michigan, in which said lands are located, then the estate thereby conveyed shall immediately terminate and revert to the United States, which may thereupon re-enter into and upon said premises as of its first and former estate."

"Section 2. That the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved."

Private Law No. 532, 67th Congress. "Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior be, and is hereby, authorized and directed to transfer by deed, to be duly executed by him, to the Robert E. Kelley Post, Number Seventy, American Legion, South Dakota, the following-described land: The north half of lot fourteen of the southeast quarter of section twenty-one, township one hundred seven north, range forty-eight west of the fifth principal meridian in Moody County, South Dakota, more particularly described as beginning at a point one hundred and eighty-one and one-half feet north of a point eight hundred and ninety-six feet east of the southwest corner of said section, thence north one hundred and eighty-one and one-half feet, thence east one hundred and twenty feet, thence south one hundred and eighty-one and one-half feet, thence west one hundred and twenty feet to the place of beginning, upon payment of the appraised value of said lot."

Public Law No. 25, 67th Congress, (H. R. 8,460) authorized the Ketchikan Post No. 3, American Legion, Department of Alaska, to build a clubhouse upon Government land at Tongass Narrows, Alaska.

Military Badges and Medals Protected. Through the efforts of your National Legislative Committee, S. 4,036, now Public Law No. 438 of the 67th Congress, was passed during the closing days of the session. This law punishes by fine and imprisonment the unauthorized use, manufacture, or sale of any
medals, badges, ribbons or buttons awarded for military service. The text of this law is as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That hereafter the wearing, manufacture, or sale of the Congressional Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Distinguished Service Medal, or any of the service medals or badges awarded by the War Department, or the ribbon, button, or rosette thereof of the form as is or may hereafter be prescribed by the Secretary of War, or of any colorable imitation thereof, is prohibited, except when authorized under such regulations as the Secretary of War may prescribe.

Any person who offends against the provisions of this section shall, on conviction, be punished by a fine not exceeding $250 or by imprisonment not exceeding six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Relief for Widows and Orphan Children of Spanish War Veterans. One of the specific resolutions of the New Orleans Convention urged the support of legislation providing for the payment of $20 a month to the widow and $3 a month to every orphan child of Spanish war veterans. Public Law No. 294 of the 67th Congress, fulfills this recommendation by providing $20 per month for the widow of any officer or enlisted man who served 90 days or more in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps of the United States during the war with Spain, the Chinese Boxer Rebellion, or the Philippine Insurrection, between April 21, 1898, and July 4, 1902, inclusive for 90 days, service to be computed from date of enlistment to date of discharge, and was honorably discharged from such service, or, regardless of the length of service, was discharged for or died in service of a disability incurred in the service in line of duty, such widow having married such soldier, sailor or marine prior to the passage of the Act. And any such widow or former widow shall receive $4 a month for each child of such officer or enlisted man under the age of 16 years, and in case of the death or remarriage of such widow, leaving a child or children of such officer or enlisted man under the age of 16 years, such pension shall be paid to such child or children until the age of 16 years.

LAND.

In accordance with resolutions of the New Orleans Convention favoring speedy legislation for the reclaiming of swamp, waste and arid lands with preference right for ex-service men in their settlement, your National Legislative Committee pressed for the enactment of legislation of this character during the short session of the 67th Congress.

Legionnaires will recall that the Smith-McNary bill, the enactment of which would fulfill the Legion resolutions, was incorporated by the Senate as one of the options under five-fold Adjusted Compensation bill in September, 1922, but that the conference between the House and the Senate on our bill struck out the Smith-McNary amendment. This session adjourned a few days later. During the extra session which convened November 20th, 1922, and the 4th regular, or short session which convened in December, 1922, strong efforts were made to obtain action upon the Smith-McNary bill without success. This bill died with the session, and no general legislation of this character was enacted.

In accordance with a resolution of the New Orleans Convention, your National Legislative Committee obtained the enactment of H. J. Res. No. 180, to allow a sixty-day preferred right of entry on lands to citizens of the United States who served with the Allied Armies during the World War. This is now Public Resolution No. 79, of the 67th Congress, the text of which is as follows:

That the provisions of the Act of Congress of February 25, 1919, allowing credit for military service during the war with Germany in homestead entries, and of Public Resolution Numbered 29, approved February 14th, 1920, allowing a preferred right of entry for at least sixty days after
the date of opening in connection with lands opened or restored to entry, be, and the same are hereby, extended to apply to those citizens of the United States who served with the allied armies during the World War, and who were honorably discharged, upon their resumption of citizenship in the United States, provided the service with the allied armies shall be similar to the service with the Army of the United States for which recognition is granted in the Act and resolution herein referred to.

Public Law No. 385 of the 67th Congress (H. R. 13,559) making appropriations for the reclamation service for the Department of the Interior (all of which lands are subject to preferential right of settlement by ex-service men) totaling $12,250,000, was allocated as follows:

Salt River project, Arizona: For examination of project and project accounts, $5,000;
Yuma project, Arizona-California: For operation and maintenance continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $450,000;
Grand project, California: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $50,000;
Grand Valley project, Colorado, including Orchard Mesa Unit. For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $395,000;
Uncompahgre project, Colorado: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $185,000;
Boise project, Idaho: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations. Provided, That the expenditure for drainage shall not exceed the amount paid by the water users pursuant to the provisions of the Boise public notice dated February 15, 1921, except for drainage in irrigation districts formed under State laws and upon the execution of agreements for the repayment to the United States of the costs thereof, $1,390,000;
King Hill project, Idaho: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $35,000;
Minidoka project, Idaho: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, with authority in connection with the construction of American Falls Reservoir, to purchase or condemn and to improve suitable land for a new town site to replace the portion of the town of American Falls which will be flooded by the reservoir, and to provide for the removal of buildings to such new site and to plat and to provide for appraisal of lots in such new town site and to exchange and convey such lots in full or part payment for property to be flooded by the reservoir and to sell for not less than the appraised valuation any lots not used for such exchange, $665,000;
Huntley project, Montana: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $115,000;
Milk River project, Montana: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $140,000: Provided, That repayment of the construction cost of the project may be made through a division by the Secretary of the Interior of such cost into a primary construction charge and a supplemental construction charge, of approximate equality, the former payable according to section 2 and the latter payable according to section 4 of the extension Act of August 13, 1914 (Thirty-eighth Statutes at Large, page 688);
Sun River project, Montana: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $145,000;
Lower Yellowstone project, Montana-North Dakota: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $120,000;
North Platte project, Nebraska-Wyoming: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $1,420,000;
Newlands project, Nevada: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $735,000;
Carlsbad project, New Mexico: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $80,000;

Rio Grande project, New Mexico-Texas: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $900,000;

North Dakota pumping project, North Dakota: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $100,000;

Baker project, Oregon: For investigation, commencement of construction, and incidental operations, $500,000;

Umatilla project, Oregon: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $900,000;

Klamath project, Oregon-California: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $700,000;

Belle Fourche project, South Dakota: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $95,000;

Strawberry Valley project, Utah: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $45,000;

Okanogan project, Washington: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $65,000;

Yakima project, Washington: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $1,310,000;

Riverton project, Wyoming: For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $600,000;

Secondary projects: For co-operative and miscellaneous investigations, $100,000;

For the continued investigation of the feasibility of irrigation, water storage, and related problems on the Colorado River, and investigation of water sources of said river, $100,000;

Under the provisions of this Act no greater sum shall be expended, nor shall the United States be obligated to expend, during the fiscal year, 1924, on any reclamation project appropriated for herein, an amount in excess of the sum herein appropriated therefor, nor shall the whole expenditures or obligations incurred for all of such projects for the fiscal year 1924 exceed the whole amount in the "reclamation fund" for that fiscal year;

Ten per centum of the foregoing amounts shall be available interchangeably for expenditures on the reclamation projects named; but not more than 10 per centum shall be added to the amount appropriated for any one of said projects, except that should existing works or the water supply for lands under cultivation be endangered by floods or other unusual conditions, an amount sufficient to make necessary emergency repairs shall become available for expenditure by further transfer of appropriation from any of said projects upon approval of the Secretary of the Interior;

Whenever, during the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1924, the Director of the Reclamation Service shall find that the expenses of travel can be reduced thereby, he may, in lieu of actual traveling expenses under such regulations as he may prescribe, authorize the payment of not to exceed 3 cents per mile for a motorcycle or 7 cents per mile for an automobile, used for necessary travel on official business.

Total, Reclamation Service, $12,250,000.

The aggregate of all estimates of appropriations from the "reclamation fund" contained in the Budget for any fiscal year shall be included in the totals of the Budget for that year.

The difficulty that the ex-service men and others have experienced upon reclaimed government arid and semi-arid lands, under irrigation, has caused the new Secretary of the Interior considerable concern. He is Hubert Work, a Legionnaire. Recently, he formed a "fact finding" commission to investigate
the whole system of government methods in reclamation work, and invited seven citizens of national prominence to serve on the commission and conduct an intensive study of the problem. These members of the Commission are:

Julius Barnes, President, United States Chamber of Commerce, Washington, D. C.

Oscar E. Bradfute, President, American Farm Bureau Federation, Xenia, O.

James R. Garfield, former Secretary of the Interior, Cleveland, Ohio.

Elwood Mead, engineer and author of works on irrigation and reclamation, Berkeley, Calif.

Former Governor Thomas E. Campbell of Arizona, Phoenix, Ariz.

Former Governor David W. Davis of Idaho, Commissioner of Reclamation; and

Dr. John A. Widtsoe, former President of State University and State Agricultural College of Utah, Salt Lake City.

In connection with this, Secretary Work stated that relatively few of the original settlers on government projects now remain on them as water users. He pointed out that $134,000,000 of government money had been expended on Reclamation projects. Of this sum, $14,000,000 has been returned, and $6,000,000 was due and unpaid as of December 31st, 1922. "Time extensions," he said, "for payment of both construction and maintenance charges have been asked, which if granted, would multiply deferred annual payments, it is feared, beyond the ultimate ability of the settler to pay, entailing probable loss of his home and to the government the loss of the investment. The purpose of this inquiry is to have the processes of administration of this trust reviewed by men of affairs applying their best thought to this immediate governmental agency. Reclamation has done much toward the development of the West, but it now clearly requires to be adapted to existing conditions so that its future success may be achieved and the possibility of home ownership be assured to settlers."

One of the difficulties which the ex-service men, desiring to settle upon the land, have met in taking up government land, is that all of the best government land has long ago been taken up by settlers, and that a very large proportion of the land now being opened for homestead entries is of a character unsuitable to the establishment of homes, which will support a settler and family from the land. Much of the land now being opened for settlement is mountainous and a large proportion of it arid. In order that ex-service men may understand the character of land being offered them, the Department of the Interior has agreed to publish accurate descriptions of the land whenever future openings are announced. This will not only include the character of the land, but its location and aptitude for farming purposes.

MEMORIALS.

Battle Monuments Commission. One of the specific resolutions of the New Orleans Convention called upon Congress to enact H. R. 14,087, the Battle Monuments Commission bill, designed to create a commission appointive by the President to select and mark with suitable memorials, the various battlefields of Europe where the American troops were engaged during the World War.

Your National Legislative Committee presented this resolution to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs as soon as Congress reconvened in extraordinary session, November 20th, 1923, and on November 28th, the Vice-Chairman of your Committee urged the Foreign Affairs Committee at a public hearing, to make an early and favorable report on the bill. The Committee reported the bill favorably, and under pressure of your Committee it was enacted by the House and referred to the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs, where your Committee's efforts received consideration, and the bill was reported to the Senate on March 1, 1923. By careful planning this bill was enacted into law on the last day of the session, and approved by the President. It is now Public Law No. 534 of the 67th Congress.
The text of this law follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a commission is hereby created and established, to be known as the American Battle Monuments Commission to consist of seven members who shall be appointed by the President, who shall also appoint one officer of the Regular Army to serve as its secretary. The members and secretary shall serve at the pleasure of the President who shall fill any vacancies that from time to time occur. The secretary shall also serve as disbursing officer of the commission, who shall make disbursements upon vouchers approved by its chairman.

The members of the Commission shall serve without compensation except that their actual expenses in connection with the work of the Commission may be paid from any funds appropriated for the purposes of this Act, or acquired by other means hereinafter authorized.

Upon request of the Commission, the President is authorized to designate such personnel of any department or of the Army, Navy or Marine Corps as may be necessary to assist in carrying out the purpose of this Act, and the Commission is authorized to employ such further personnel as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act, within the limits of any appropriation or appropriations made for such purposes.

Sec. 2. That the Commission shall prepare plans and estimates for the erection of suitable memorials to mark and commemorate the services of the American forces in Europe and erect memorials therein at such places as the commission shall determine, including works of architecture and art in the American cemeteries in Europe.

The Commission shall control as to materials and design, provide regulations for and supervise the erection of all memorial monuments and buildings in the American cemeteries in Europe.

The Commission shall cause such photographs to be secured or taken of the terrain of the various battle fields of Europe, upon which units of the armed forces of the United States were actively engaged with the enemy, as will complete the historical photographic record of the operations of such units; and the Commission shall transmit such record when completed to the Secretary of War for permanent file with the records of the War Department.

Sec. 3. That before any design or material for memorials is accepted by the Commission, the same shall be approved by the National Commission of Fine Arts.

Sec. 4. That the President is requested to make the necessary arrangements with the proper authorities of the countries concerned to enable the Commission to carry out the purposes of this Act.

Sec. 5. That the Commission is authorized to receive funds from any state, municipal, or private source for the purposes of this Act, and such funds shall be deposited by the Commission with the Chief of Finance of the United States Army and shall be kept by him in separate accounts and shall be disbursed upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the Commission.

Sec. 6. That authority is hereby given for the preparation of models and designs and the fabrication of memorials, and the materials for such memorials, at arsenals or navy yards or by other governmental agencies, if the Commission shall so determine.

Authority is hereby given for the use of captured war materials, not otherwise disposed of by congressional action, in the fabrication of not to exceed ten thousand pounds of bronze to be used on the memorials constructed under the provisions of this Act: Provided, That in the selection of materials the Commission shall refrain from utilizing materials which might otherwise be available for decorative or memorial purposes.

Sec. 7. That the Commission is authorized to furnish replicas of any memorial, or any part thereof, to States, municipalities, or interested pri-
vate persons or associations at actual cost, and to apply any proceeds from such sales to the purposes of this Act.

Sec. 8. That the Commission is authorized and directed to co-operate with American citizens, states, municipalities, or associations desiring to erect war memorials in Europe in such manner as may be determined by the Commission; Provided, That no assistance in erecting any such memorial shall be given by any administrative agency of the United States unless the plan has been approved in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

Sec. 9. That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of War to maintain the memorials erected by the Commission under authority of this Act, and the Commission shall advise the Secretary of War of the location and date of completion of each memorial.

Sec. 10. That the Commission shall transmit to the President of the United States annually on the 1st of July a statement of all its financial and other transactions during the preceding fiscal year.

Sec. 11. That such sum or sums as Congress may hereafter appropriate for the purposes of this Act are hereby authorized to be appropriated.

Sec. 12. That the records and archives of the Commission shall upon the termination of its duties, be deposited with the Secretary of War.

Shortly after the enactment of this law, President Harding appointed the following members on this committee:

General John J. Pershing, Chairman; Representative John Philip Hill, Baltimore, Md.; Thomas W. Miller, Wilmington, Del.; D. J. Markey, Frederick, Md.; Senator David A. Reed, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Robert G. Woodside, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Mrs. Frederick W. Bentley, Chicago, Ill., and Major X. H. Price, Secretary, Room 524 State War & Navy Building, Washington, D. C.

It will be noted that due recognition has been given The American Legion in these appointments, as all of the male members of the Commission are Legionnaires.

Belleau Wood Memorial Association. During the closing days of the 67th Congress, S. 4,552, an Act to Incorporate the Belleau Wood Memorial Association was enacted into law. This is now Public Law No. 489 of the 67th Congress, and allows the Association to acquire and maintain any portion of Belleau Wood, Department of the Aisne, for memorial purposes, to erect buildings and monuments and establish institutions thereon, as a memorial to the men of the American Expeditionary Forces who participated in the Battle of Belleau Wood. The text of this law follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Ira E. Bennett, Tasker H. Bliss, Nathalie Boynton, Marie Moore Forrest, Elizabeth Van Rensselaer Frazer, James Barton Payne, Augusta Reath, Alice Hay Wadsworth, John Walsh, and their associates and successors, are hereby created a body corporate by the name of “Belleau Wood Memorial Association.”

Sec. 2. That the purposes of this Corporation shall be: (a) To acquire and maintain the whole or any portion of Belleau Wood, Department of the Aisne, France, for memorial purposes; (b) to erect such buildings and monuments and establish such institutions thereon as it may deem appropriate as a memorial to the men of the American Expeditionary Forces who participated in the battle of Belleau Wood, France, and vicinity during the World War; (c) to solicit and obtain members; (d) to charge and collect membership dues, and to solicit and receive contributions of money to be devoted to carrying out such purposes, and (e) to care for and maintain such memorial.

Sec. 3. That the Corporation (a) shall have perpetual succession; (b) may sue and be sued; (c) may adopt a corporate seal and alter it...
Report of National Legislative Committee  Drv. III

at pleasure; (d) may adopt and alter by-laws not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the United States or of any State; (e) may establish and maintain offices for the conduct of its business; (f) may appoint officers and agents; (g) may choose a board of trustees consisting of not more than fifteen persons nor less than five persons, to conduct the business and exercise the powers of the Corporation; (h) may acquire, by purchase, devise, bequest, gift, or otherwise, and hold, encumber, convey, or otherwise dispose of, such real and personal property as may be necessary or appropriate for its corporate purposes, and especially the whole or any portion of Belleau Wood, Department of Aisne, France, to the extent that it may be or become consistent with, or permitted by, the laws of the French Republic; and (i) generally may do any and all lawful acts necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes for which the Corporation is created.

Sec. 4. That the Belleau Wood Memorial Association, a Corporation heretofore incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia, is authorized to transfer to the Corporation created by this Act, all of its property, rights, and assets, and such Corporation is authorized to receive all of such property, rights, and assets. Upon such transfer, such Association shall thereafter be dissolved, and such Corporation shall be liable for all the obligations of, and claims against, such Association, and all of such obligations and claims may be enforced against the corporation.

Sec. 5. That the corporation shall, on or before the 1st day of December in each year, transmit to Congress a report of its proceedings and activities for the preceding calendar year, including the full and complete statement of its receipts and expenditures. Such reports shall not be printed as public documents.

Sec. 6. That the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act at any time is hereby expressly reserved.

Yorktown Memorial. With the approval of your National Legislative Committee, the Congress enacted H. R. 13,326, a bill to investigate the feasibility of establishing a national military park at Yorktown, Virginia. This is now Public Law No. 473 of the 67th Congress. It provides that the expenses of the investigation shall be paid from the contingencies of the Army appropriations. The memorial military park will commemorate the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, Commander of the British forces, to General Washington, at the final battle of the Revolutionary War in 1781. The text of this law is as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, directed to investigate the feasibility of establishing a national military park in and about Yorktown, in the State of Virginia, for the purpose of commemorating the campaign and siege of Yorktown in the fall of 1781 and the preservation of said battle field for historical purposes, and to prepare plans of such park and an estimate of the cost of establishing and acquiring the same and obtaining such further information as may enable Congress to act upon the matter after being fully advised. To aid and assist him in this undertaking, the Secretary of War is authorized to appoint a commission of not to exceed three persons, who shall serve without compensation or expense to the Government.

Sec. 2. That the expense of the investigation herein directed to be made shall be paid from the appropriation “Contingencies of the Army.”

George Washington Victory Memorial. The Kansas City Convention of the Legion adopted resolutions protesting against the erection of the George Washington Victory Memorial, which was followed by a resolution of the National Executive Committee this year along the same lines. A resolution to investigate this project was introduced in the House February 20, 1922, by Representative Underhill, known as H. Res. 289. No action was taken on this
resolution, although a month previous your National Legislative Committee had appeared before the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds of the House and opposed the erection of this memorial. On March 29, 1922, the Attorney General and the Acting Judge Advocate General of the Army rendered decisions that the Association was entitled to a permit to proceed with the construction of the memorial on the site at Sixth and B Streets, N. W., Washington, D. C. The permit to construct the building was issued in February, 1923. The excavations for this building have now been completed, and construction of the foundations have been started during the past year.

This organization was granted a charter by Congress in 1898 to establish a university in accordance with the last will of George Washington, the first President of the United States. As the accumulation of funds for this purpose dragged on, the purpose of the Association has been changed to construct a building as a memorial to the World War. In comparison to this the Fine Arts Commission of Washington has contemplated a group of buildings to cost between forty and fifty million dollars for a World War Veterans' Memorial.

MILITARY AFFAIRS.

The Army Appropriations Bill for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1924, now Public Law No. 465, of the 67th Congress, (H. R. 15,793) carried appropriations for the military and non-military activities of the War Department totaling $336,000,000. This provides for an enlisted personnel for the Army of 125,000 men, in addition to 12,000 officers. The War Department reports that its enlisted strength on July 31st, was only 111,000 or 14,000 under the authorized strength, due to a restriction in the appropriations bill which provided that no part of the funds should be utilized for the enlistment of boys under 21 years of age without the written consent of their parents or guardians.

The War Department also reports that on July 31st, it had only 11,600 officers, or 400 under the authorized strength. During the year the special retirement act became effective, under which 150 regular Army officers were retired and 886 were discharged from the service. Some of these were retired on a percentage basis, while others received one year's pay in lieu of other retirement privileges. During the year, the last of the A. E. F. were brought back to America. This action was taken by the President in response to S. Res. 395, introduced by Senator Reed of Missouri, which was adopted by the Senate on January 6th, 1923. These troops consisted of a regiment of 1,200 men, which arrived at Savannah, Georgia, on the Transport Streit on February 7th, 1923.

In the Army appropriation bill, $900,000 was appropriated for the pay and allowance of Reserve Officers called to active duty for not more than 15 days' training, and $250,000 for the pay of Reserve Officers called to active duty more than fifteen days. In addition, $250,000 was appropriated for mileage, but limiting officers called for 15 days' training or less to 4c per mile. Divisional and Regimental headquarters and camps for training organized reserves, received an appropriation of $350,000, while the senior Division of the Reserve Officers Training Corps received for the payment of commutation and subsistence, $3,500,000 to remain available until December 31st, 1924. The civilian military training camps received an appropriation of $2,000,000 together with the unexpended balance of the appropriation for this purpose for the fiscal year 1923, to remain available until December 31st, 1924.

The Army Bill carried an appropriation of $500,000 for the audit of World War contracts. This sum was provided in the following language:

Provided, that $500,000 of this amount shall be available only for the compensation and traveling expenses of clerks and other employees engaged on work pertaining to the audit of World War contracts, and of this amount not to exceed $25,000 shall be available for personal services, the salaries not in excess of $3,000 per annum, in the office of the Chief of Finance, War Department.
The Army Air Service received an appropriation of $13,426,200 which is
detailed under the report of your Committee on Aviation.

The Militia Bureau received the following appropriation:
For procurement of forage, bedding, and so forth, for animals, $1,400,000.
For compensation of help for care of material, animals, and equipment,
$2,100,000.
For expenses, camps of instruction, $10,200,000.
For expenses, selected officers and enlisted men, military service schools,
$325,000.
For pay of property and disbursing officers for the United States, $70,000.
For general expenses, equipment and instruction, National Guard, $900,000.
For travel of officers and non-commissioned officers of the Regular Army
in connection with the National Guard, $450,000.
For repair of Federal property issued to the National Guard, $50,000.
For transportation of equipment and supplies, $375,000.
For expenses, sergeant-instructors, $500,000.
For office rent, and so forth, instructors, $5,000.
For pay of National Guard (armory drills), $11,039,140.

Arms, Uniforms, Equipment, and so forth, for Field Service, National
Guard. To procure by purchase or manufacture and issue from time to time
to the National Guard upon requisition to the governors of the several States
and Territories, or the commanding general, National Guard of the District
of Columbia, such number of United States service arms with all accessories,
Field Artillery and Coast Artillery material, Engineer, Signal, and sanitary
material, accouterments, field uniforms, clothing, equipage, publications, and
military stores of all kinds, and a reserve supply of such arms, material, ac-
couterments, field uniforms, clothing, equipage, and military stores of all
kinds, as are necessary to arm, uniform, and equip for field service the National
Guard of the several States, Territories, and the District of Columbia, $2,500,-
000: Provided, That the Secretary of War is hereby directed to issue from
surplus or reserve stores and materials now on hand and purchased for the
United States Army such articles of clothing and equipment and Field Artil-
lery, Engineer, and Signal material and ammunition as may be needed by the
National Guard organized under the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act
for making further and more effectual provision for the national defense, and
for other purposes," approved June 3rd, 1916, as amended by the Act ap-
proved June 4th, 1920. This issue shall be made without charge against
militia appropriations, except for actual expenses incident to such issue,
which shall be charged against militia funds for both the fiscal years 1923 and
1924. None of the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be used for
purchase of arms, Field Artillery, Engineer, or Signal material, public animals,
or chevrons.
The mounted, motorized, air, medical, and tank units of the National
Guard shall be so reduced that the appropriations made in this Act shall
cover the entire cost of maintenance of such units for the National Guard dur-
ding the fiscal year 1924.

Militia Bureau, War Department. Salaries: Chief clerk, $2,250; clerks—
three of class four, five of class three, ten of class two, twenty-six of class
one, eighteen at $1,000 each; messenger, $840; two assistant messengers, at
$720 each; two laborers, at $660 each; in all, $82,450.

Commutation and Hospital Care for National Guard and Reserve. Public
Law No. 532, 67th Congress, (H. R. 14,077), approved the closing day of the
session, provides that National Guard, Reserve and Warrant Officers when
called to active duty, including training, shall receive the allowances prescribed
for the Regular services. Payments heretofore made on this account are vali-
dated, and the law made retroactive in effect. Pay made to Captains and
Lieutenants of the National Guard for drills is also validated, and officers
entitle to pay under this section, but who have not collected it, may now do so.
National Guard and Reserve Officers and enlisted personnel, as well as
members of the Officers Reserve Corps and Enlisted Reserve Corps, Reserve Officers Training Corps and members of civilian military training corps, who are injured in line of duty while on active duty under proper orders, are entitled to medical and hospital treatment at Government expense, and to transportation to their homes. Expenditures heretofore made on this account are validated.

NAVAL AFFAIRS.

Public Law No. 384 of the 67th Congress (H. R. 13,374), the Navy Appropriation Bill for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1924, appropriated $329,906,528 for the Navy. This Bill authorized an enlisted personnel of 86,000, and is designed to maintain our Navy at the 5-5-3 ratio, concerning which the New Orleans Convention adopted resolutions. In accordance with another resolution of the New Orleans Convention, a Congressional Committee was appointed to investigate the feasibility of a naval base at Alameda, California.

Much publicity has been given during the past year to the question of whether our Navy is actually maintaining its place as prescribed in the 5-5-3 ratio by the Arms Limitation Conference held in Washington two years ago. In order that Legionnaires may be advised on this question, your National Legislative Committee has obtained from the Navy Department the tables set forth below, which show the present strength of our Navy as compared to other navies, and includes the estimates placed upon our relative position by our Navy Department.

For 1923—Congress was asked for 96,000 men—cut to 86,000.

For 1924—Gave 86,000, same as last year. But Navy still insists 90,000 is minimum.

JUNE 30, 1923, COMPARATIVE NAVAL DATA FOR THE UNITED STATES, THE BRITISH EMPIRE AND JAPAN.

PERSONNEL (Unlimited)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Actual Personnel</th>
<th>Necessary for the 5-5-3 ratio</th>
<th>Increment necessary to attain the 5-5-3 ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Officers</td>
<td>Men</td>
<td>Totals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>5,873</td>
<td>86,000</td>
<td>93,873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*British Empire</td>
<td>8,487</td>
<td>100,357</td>
<td>108,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>7,378</td>
<td>70,218</td>
<td>77,596</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Not including proportion of R. A. F. assigned to Navy. The Air forces of the American and Japanese Navies are included in the above figures. Figures for British Empire include colonial Navies and Auxiliaries.

CAPITAL SHIPS (Limited)

TO BE SCRAPPED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Old Ships</th>
<th>New Ships</th>
<th>TO BE RETAINED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Tons</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>272,740</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Empire</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>506,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>163,312</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>940,052</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### SHIPS AFFECTED BY TREATY.
**CAPITAL SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT CARRIERS.**
(Only types affected by Treaty.)

**COMPLETED.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Unit States</th>
<th>Brit Empire</th>
<th>Japan</th>
<th>France</th>
<th>Italy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Battleships, 1st line (12&quot; plus, 20,000 tons plus, 20 knots plus)</td>
<td>18 500,060</td>
<td>18 457,720</td>
<td>6 199,720</td>
<td>6 138,816</td>
<td>5 118,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battleships, 2nd line (12&quot; plus, 20,000 tons minus, 15-20 knots plus)</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>0 3 55,606</td>
<td>3 37,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battlecruisers, 1st line (13-5/&quot; plus, 16,000 tons plus, 27 knots plus)</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>4 122,700</td>
<td>4 111,000</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Battleships and Battlecruisers</strong></td>
<td>18 500,060</td>
<td>22 680,450</td>
<td>10 301,320</td>
<td>9 194,421</td>
<td>8 156,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aircraft Carriers, 1st line (27 knots plus)</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>1 19,100</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aircraft Carriers, 2d line (27 knots minus)</td>
<td>1 12,700</td>
<td>3 24,600</td>
<td>1 9,500</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>0 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BUILDING.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Unit States</th>
<th>Brit Empire</th>
<th>Japan</th>
<th>France</th>
<th>Italy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Battleships, 1st line (12&quot; plus, 20,000 tons plus, 20 knots plus)</em></td>
<td>2 65,200</td>
<td>2 70,000</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aircraft Carriers, 1st line (27 knots plus)</td>
<td>2 (a)</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>2 (b)</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aircraft Carriers, 2d line (27 knots minus)</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>2 28,850</td>
<td>2 19,500 (c)</td>
<td>1 24,839</td>
<td>0 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*On completion of the two Battleships (Rodney and Nelson) in 1925, Great Britain will scrap the Battleships Ajax, Centurion, Thunderer and King George V, and total tonnage of capital ships (i.e., Battleships and Battle Cruisers) retained will be 538,850. On completion of West Virginia and Colorado, United States will scrap the North Dakota and Delaware, and total tonnage retained will be 558,850. Aircraft tonnage allowed by Treaty is as follows: United States, 135,000 tons; British Empire, 135,000 tons; Japan, 81,000 tons; France, 60,000 tons; Italy, 60,000 tons. Provided no Aircraft Carrier to exceed 27,000 tons except that each power may build two of 33,000 tons each, providing tonnage allowance not exceed thereby.

(b) United States to convert Battle Cruisers Lexington and Saratoga to Aircraft Carriers.

(c) May not now be built.

### SHIPS NOT AFFECTED BY TREATY.
**HIGH SPEED LIGHT CRUISERS LESS THAN TEN YEARS OLD (Unlimited).**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Unit States</th>
<th>Brit Empire</th>
<th>Japan</th>
<th>France</th>
<th>Italy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Built</strong></td>
<td><strong>Building</strong></td>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tonnage necessary for 5-5-3 ratio</strong></td>
<td><strong>Increment necessary to attain the 5-5-3 ratio</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Tons</td>
<td>Tons</td>
<td>Tons</td>
<td>Tons</td>
<td>Tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>3 22,500</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>29,000</td>
<td>10 75,000</td>
<td>0 362,883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Empire</td>
<td>41 267,899</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>34,600</td>
<td>45 242,490</td>
<td>0 262,883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>10 51,210</td>
<td>15 106,520*</td>
<td>25 157,730</td>
<td>0 157,730</td>
<td>0 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*4 of 7,500 tons each and 4 of 10,000 tons each ordered since the Washington Conference, the only cruisers so ordered.

(Long Radius) **SUBMARINES OF OVER 1000 TONS EACH (Unlimited).**
(Numbers but no tonnages.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Unit States</th>
<th>Brit Empire</th>
<th>Japan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Built</strong></td>
<td><strong>Building</strong></td>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tonnage necessary for 5-5-3 ratio</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Tons</td>
<td>Tons</td>
<td>Tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Empire</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>33*</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Indications are that about 22 of these submarines are post-Conference vessels, averaging over 3,600 tons each. At $1,500 per ton, they will cost about $49,500,000. As above, Japan is building 70,000 tons of post-Conference cruisers which, at $1,000 per ton, will cost about $70,600,000. That is to say that her new cruiser and submarine program, undertaken since the Conference, alone totals about $116,500,000 which as above, her saving from not building capital ships would be less than $40,000,000. So the net increase in Japan’s post-Conference building program will be over $78,600,000.
The Navy Appropriation Bill appropriated $3,594,000 for the Naval Reserve Force, as follows:

**Naval Reserve Force.** For expenses of organizing, administering, and recruiting the Naval Reserve Force and Naval Militia; for the maintenance and rental of armories, including the pay of necessary janitors, and for wharfage, $194,000; for pay and allowances of officers and enrolled men of the Naval Reserve Force, other than class one, while on active duty for training; mileage for officers while traveling under orders to and from active duty for training; transportation of enrolled men to and from active duty for training, and subsistence and transfers en route or cash in lieu thereof; subsistence of enrolled men during the actual period of active duty for training; pay and allowances of officers of the Naval Reserve Force and pay, allowances, and subsistence of enrolled men of the Naval Reserve Force when ordered to active duty in connection with the instruction, training, and drilling of the Naval Reserve Force; and retainer pay of officers and enrolled men of the Naval Reserve Force, other than class one, $3,400,000; in all, $3,594,000, which amount shall be available, in addition to other appropriations, for fuel and the transportation thereof and for all other expenses in connection with the maintenance, operation, repair, and upkeep of vessels assigned for training the Naval Reserve Force: Provided, That members of the Volunteer Naval Reserve may, in the discretion of the Secretary of the Navy, be issued such articles of uniform as may be required for their drills and training, the value thereof not to exceed that authorized to be issued to other classes of the Naval Reserve Force and to be charged against the clothing and small stores fund: Provided further, That no part of the money appropriated in this Act shall be used for the training of any member of the Naval Reserve Force except with his own consent. That, until June 30th, 1924, of the Organized Militia as provided by law, such part as may be duly prescribed in any State, Territory, or for the District of Columbia shall constitute a Naval Militia; and, until June 30th, 1924, such of the Naval Militia as now is in existence, and as now organized and prescribed by the Secretary of the Navy under authority of the Act of Congress approved February 16th, 1914, shall be a part of the Naval Reserve Force, and the Secretary of the Navy is authorized to maintain and provide for said Naval Militia as provided in said Act: Provided That upon their enrollment in the Naval Reserve Force, and not otherwise until June 30th, 1924, the members of said Naval Militia shall have all the benefits, gratuities, privileges, and emoluments provided by law for other members of the Naval Reserve Force; and that, with the approval of the Secretary of the Navy, duty performed in the Naval Militia may be counted as active service for the maintenance of efficiency required by law for members of the Naval Reserve Force: Provided further, That retainer pay provided by existing law shall not be paid to any member of the Naval Reserve Force who fails to train as provided by law during the year for which he fails to train.

An appropriation of $14,647,174 was made for naval aviation. The section of the law providing this is quoted under Aviation in this report of your Committee.

Provision in this bill for the Marine Corps was made in accordance with resolutions of the New Orleans Convention, which advocates that it be maintained at its historical efficiency. The total amount provided in this bill is $16,891,005 for the Marine Corps. The sum of $54,000,000 is appropriated in the Navy Appropriation bill for increase in the Navy. The section of the law providing this is as follows:

The Secretary of the Navy may use the unexpended balances on the date of the approval of this Act under appropriations heretofore made on account of "Increase of the Navy," together with the sum of $19,097,000, which is hereby appropriated, for the prosecution of work on vessels
under construction on such date, the construction of which may be pro-
ceeded with under the terms of the treaty; providing for the limitation
of naval armament, concluded on February 6, 1922, published in Senate
Document Numbered 126 of the second session of the Sixty-seventh Con-
gress; for continuing the conversion of two battle cruisers into aircraft
carriers, including their complete equipment of aircraft and aircraft
accessories, in accordance with the terms of such treaty; for the settle-
ment of contracts on account of vessels already delivered to the Navy
Department; for reimbursement to contractors and subcontractors of
carrying charges heretofore and hereafter approved by the Secretary of
the Navy to cover additional expenses resulting from the deferring of
deliveries or payments under contracts and subcontracts for materials
for vessels, the construction of which may be continued under the terms
of such treaty; for the procurement of gyro compass equipments for
destroyers not already supplied; for the completion of armor, armament,
ammunition, and torpedoes for the supply and complement of vessels
which may be proceeded with as hereinafter mentioned; and not more
than $10,000,000 of the additional funds herein made available under
‘Increase of the Navy’ shall be applied to objects of expenditure under
the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Ordnance; and for the installation of
fire-control instruments on destroyers not already supplied, and the
funds herein made available shall not be used for any other purpose:
Provided, That in addition to the funds hereinafter made available for
‘Increase of the Navy,’ the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and
directed to make transfers during the fiscal year 1924 from the naval
supply account fund and the clothing and small stores fund to the
appropriation ‘Increase of the Navy,’ of sums aggregating $35,000,000.

No part of any appropriation made for the Navy shall be expended
for any part of the purposes herein provided for on account of the Navy
Department in the District of Columbia, including personal services of
civilians and of enlisted men of the Navy, except as herein expressly
authorized: Provided, That there may be detailed to the Bureau of
Navigation not to exceed at any one time thirty-four enlisted men of
the Navy: Provided further, That enlisted men detailed to the Naval
Dispensary and the Radio Communication Service shall not be regarded
as detailed to the Navy Department in the District of Columbia.

No part of the appropriations made in this Act shall be available for
the salary or pay of any officer, manager, superintendent, foreman, or
other person having charge of the work of any employee of the United
States Government while making or causing to be made with a stop
watch or other time-measuring device a time study of any job of any
such employee between the starting and completion thereof, or of the
movements of any such employee while engaged upon such work; nor
shall any part of the appropriations made in this Act be available to pay
any premiums or bonus or cash reward to any employee in addition to
his regular wages, except for suggestions resulting in improvements or
economy in the operation of any Government plant; and that no part
of the moneys appropriated in each or any section of this Act shall be
used or expended for the purchase or acquirement of any article or
articles that, at the time of the proposed acquirement, can be manu-
factured or produced in each or any of the Government navy yards of
the United States, when time and facilities permit, for a sum less than
it can be purchased or acquired otherwise.

A rider placed on this Bill requested the President to enter into nego-
tiations looking to further reduction in armaments. This section reads as
follows:

“The President is requested to enter into negotiations with the Gov-
ernments of Great Britain, France, Italy, and Japan with the view of
reaching an understanding or agreement relative to limiting the con-
struction of all types and sizes of subsurface and surface craft of 10,000 tons standard displacement or less, and of aircraft."

Additional Naval Appropriations. Additional appropriations for the Navy Department were carried in H. R. 14,408, now Public Law No. 543 of the 67th Congress, to supply deficiencies for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1923, and prior fiscal years, and to provide supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1924. This law appropriated sums to increase the range of the turret guns of thirteen battleships, provided funds for increasing the cost of certain war ships, and for the scrapping of designated vessels. The Navy Department has announced it will not use the $6,500,000 appropriated for increasing the range of the turret guns, due to a misunderstanding at the time the appropriation was requested.

The section of this law providing these appropriations is as follows:

Increasing Turret Gun Elevation. For making such changes as may be permissible under the terms of the treaty providing for the limitation of naval armament, concluded on February 6, 1922, published in Senate Document Numbered 126 of the Sixty-seventh Congress, second session, in the turret guns of the battleships Florida, Utah, Arkansas, Wyoming, Pennsylvania, Arizona, Oklahoma, Nevada, New York, Texas, Mississippi, Idaho, and New Mexico, as will increase the range of the turret guns of such battleships, to remain available until December 31, 1924, $6,500,000.

Increasing Cost of War Ships. The limits of cost of the vessels heretofore authorized and herein below enumerated are increased as follows: Battleship Colorado, from $17,000,000 to $17,500,000; scout cruisers numbered 9 and 10, from $8,250,000 to $8,400,000 each; and destroyer tender numbered 3, from $3,400,000 to $4,500,000.

Scraping Appropriations. Scrapping of naval vessels. The Secretary of the Navy may use, pursuant to the provisions of the Act approved July 1, 1922, entitled "An Act authorizing the President to scrap certain vessels in conformity with the provisions of the treaty limiting naval armament, and for other purposes," the unexpended balance on the date of approval of this Act under the appropriation heretofore made on account of scrapping of naval vessels, together with the sum of $12,500,000, which is hereby appropriated, for necessary expenses in connection with the care and preservation of vessels whose construction has been or shall be suspended or discontinued on account of the treaty limiting naval armament, and for expenses of handling, preserving, transporting, and inventorying material on hand or in course of fabrication for said vessels, and toward payment of bills for material already completed for said vessels and toward payment of any amounts payable as a result of the modification or cancellation of contracts and purchase orders on account of said vessels, their machinery, materials, and equipment, and for reimbursement to contractors of carrying charges heretofore or hereafter approved by the Secretary of the Navy, to cover additional expenses resulting from the deferring of deliveries or payments under said contracts and purchase orders, and for reimbursement to contractors for work done and for such portion of running and overhead expenses and other indirect charges as may be approved by the Secretary of the Navy on account of contracts under which settlement is deferred on account of the treaty limiting naval armament, and a further sum of $8,450,000 is hereby appropriated for the payment of any amounts payable as a result of the modification or cancellation of contracts and orders, including incidental expenses, for the armament, armor, ammunition, and ordnance outfits (including material required in connection therewith) of vessels whose construction has been or shall be suspended or discontinued on account of the treaty limiting naval armament, and for settlement of contracts and orders for material for destroyer-type torpedoes in excess of requirements for the number of such torpedoes that may be completed under the provisions of the naval appropriation Act approved July 1, 1922; in all $20,950,000, to remain available until June 30, 1924.
MUSCLE SHOALS.

The New Orleans Convention adopted an exhaustive resolution on the subject of Muscle Shoals, calling upon the Congress of the United States to determine upon a fixed policy regarding the disposition of same, which should include the operation of the plants in time of peace for the manufacture of fertilizer, opposing Federal operation, and providing for the maintenance of a research department to keep up with the most approved methods of nitrogen production, so that in the event of a military emergency the plants may be made available for the manufacture of nitrogen for explosives.

Immediately upon the convening of Congress your National Legislative Committee presented the full text of these resolutions to each Congressman and Senator, which it had read into the Congressional Record. No general legislation concerning Muscle Shoals was enacted by the 67th Congress, but appropriations up to $10,501,200 for construction work was provided in the Army Appropriation Bill, now Public Law No. 465, in the following language:

“For the continuation of the work on dam No. 2 on the Tennessee River at Muscle Shoals, Alabama, $6,998,800; Provided that the Secretary of War may enter into a contract or contracts for such machinery, gates, or other metal parts, and for such materials to be used in the construction of the locks, dam, and the powerhouse, as may be necessary to procure said project, to be paid for as appropriations may from time to time be made by law, not to exceed in the aggregate $10,501,200, exclusive of the amounts herein and heretofore appropriated.”

Early in September Henry Ford called upon President Coolidge at the White House and discussed the Muscle Shoals situation with the President.

POLITICAL PRISONERS.

The New Orleans Convention reaffirmed the stand of the previous Legion conventions by protesting against “amnesty” for the 52 traitors who had been serving sentences in Federal penitentiaries for violation of war time laws. In accordance with this, your National Legislative Committee has repeatedly tried to ascertain the attitude of the Department of Justice toward these traitors to our country, but has been unable to obtain this information.

These men are the so-called “political prisoners,” members of the I. W. W., who used every effort to hamper America’s efforts during the World War, and who were convicted and sentenced to Federal prisons as the result of raids on the I. W. W. headquarters at Chicago, Wichita, and Sacramento, in September, 1917. More than three hundred of these traitors were originally convicted, but the number was reduced to 52 through expiration of sentence, parole, commutation and deportation. These 52 members of the I. W. W. declined to appeal for Executive clemency. They relied upon the propaganda and agitation for their pardon carried on by the American Civil Liberties Union, 138 West 13th St., New York City, the General Defense Committee, 1001 West Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois, and radical organizations. Leaders of these groups, together with members of the I. W. W. not in jail, and of the Workers Party (the Communist Party in America), have worked unceasingly for “amnesty” or unconditional pardon for these traitors. While some few patriotic organizations have voiced their protest, The American Legion is the only large national organization which has vigorously opposed the opening of the jails to these enemies of our country.

On June 20, last, the late President Harding offered commutation of sentence to 27 of them, but the conditions surrounding the Executive’s offer were such that only 11 of the 27 accepted. The other 16 declined freedom upon the terms offered, and are still in Federal prison. The conditions were as follows:

“* * * commute the sentence of the said. to the term already served upon condition that he be law-abiding and loyal to the Government of the United States, and does not encourage, advocate, or become wilfully connected with lawlessness in any form, and upon the
further condition that if he violates any of the foregoing conditions, of which fact the President shall be the sole judge, he, the President, may revoke the commutation, and it shall thereupon become null and void and of no effect, and he may, by direction to any officer of the penitentiary where the prisoner is now confined, or to any United States Marshal or Deputy Marshal, cause the said to be apprehended and returned to the penitentiary, there to complete the service of his sentence."

These provisions in effect required these traitors to agree to become law-abiding citizens as a condition of their release.

To the casual outsider this would seem generous, as the proposition has been advanced as one of whether they should be kept in jail or given their freedom "now that the war is over," an argument greatly featured by those directing the "amnesty" drives. The refusal of these traitors to accept the conditions of commutation, shows clearly that the contention of The Legion has been correct. This has been based upon the Legion's conviction that the "amnesty" struggle has in reality been a struggle to weaken the ability of this country to present a united front to the enemy in war time.

These "political prisoners" were leader in the I. W. W. at the time its Executive Board adopted a resolution that "we will resent with all the power at our command any attempt * * * to compel us * * * to participate in a war that can only bring in its wake death and untold misery, privation and suffering to millions of workers."

"We further wish to assure the membership that the entire strength of the organization, morally, economically, and financially, will be used to support any of our members in their refusal to kill and be killed." This was in the early months of the war.

The I. W. W. thereupon commenced a campaign of sabotage in the vital industries affecting the war. In addition, its members discouraged enlistments, and threatened expulsion to any member who enlisted. A general strike in basic industries was planned and partly put into operation. It was at this time that general raids upon the headquarters of these organizations placed the leaders under arrest, and supplied the Government with documents which showed the lines along which the organization was working in its effort to cripple America's war strength.

President Harding's commutation of sentence said in effect that "you were wrong, but we are a merciful nation. If you will promise to be as good as the average citizen, we will not require you to serve the remainder of your sentence, but will allow you your freedom right now." But this did not satisfy the seekers for "amnesty," which means a general act of pardon for offenses committed against a Government. What they have been seeking is a pardon which would say in effect that the crimes committed by these traitors were not crimes at all, coupled with an admission that the "political prisoners" should never have been locked up for committing them.

These members of the I. W. W. do not believe in nationalism, nor patriotism, and do not believe in fighting for your country. The only war which they believe in is the class war, or revolution, and that is the only war in which they say their members will participate. In the meantime, they strike to weaken the defenses of our country so that it may be more easy to overthrow, should the revolution they advocate occur.

An attempt has been made to have it appear that these traitors are the defenders of our constitutional right of free speech. Nothing could be further from the truth. Their purpose in attempting to shelter themselves behind provisions of our Constitution, is to overthrow the Constitution in its entirety and set up in its place a form of government foreign to the immortal principles and ideals which our fathers fought for, and which it is our heritage to defend.

It is a peculiar fact that thousands of persons have been induced to clamour for the release of these traitors, when there has been no attempt on their part to obtain freedom for the 215 World War soldiers, sailors and
marines who are still in Federal penitentiaries for offenses committed while in the uniform of their country, for which they were convicted by courts martial. Thirty-nine of these soldiers are serving sentences for desertion, and the majority of these desertions occurred in this country following the Armistice. The failure of these “lovers of liberty” to agitate for the release of soldiers is in striking contrast to their active propaganda for the release of traitors.

During President Harding’s entire administration these “amnesty” propagandists brought into action all of the forces at their command, even to the extent of picketing the White House with women and children. The President at that time stated that all of the cases would be examined and judged upon their individual merits but that no general “amnesty” would be granted. On June 20th, last, he did, acting in his capacity as the supreme pardoning power, grant to 27 of the traitors commutation of their sentences on condition that they be law abiding citizens. Of the 27 only 11 elected to accept the conditions, proving the fallacy of the campaign being waged to have them released from jail. Immediately upon the assumption of office by President Coolidge, due to the death of President Harding, the propagandists began anew their efforts to obtain from him unconditional freedom for their comrades on the principle already set forth. President Coolidge, however, replied that he would follow the plan and program set out by President Harding, and that each case would be considered individually upon its merits. While this campaign to influence President Coolidge was being conducted, The American Legion through its National Legislative Committee immediately presented to the President a forceful and formal protest, reviewing the campaign from its inception, and in the name of the ex-service men and women of the country, urged the President to stand firm against these traitors who would undermine the very foundations of our Government and our country.

PREFERENCE FOR AMERICAN CITIZENS AS SAILORS ON AMERICAN SHIPS.

The New Orleans Convention adopted the following resolution:

"Whereas, it appears that foreigners are in command of American ships in preference to Americans, particularly those operated under the United States Shipping Board; therefore, be it Resolved, by The American Legion, in national convention assembled, that we urge that the National Legislative Committee take necessary steps to petition Congress and the Shipping Board to give preference to American citizens in securing officers and men for all ships operated by the United States Shipping Board; and, be it further Resolved, That posts of The American Legion located at all shipping points be urged to take an especial interest in the affairs of The American Merchant Marine and the interests of the American seamen."

Accordingly, John Thomas Taylor, Vice Chairman of your National Legislative Committee, immediately wrote Mr. A. D. Lasker, Chairman of the U. S. Shipping Board, calling the resolution to his attention and asking the Chairman to give his cooperation in this matter. Mr. Lasker’s reply was as follows:

"I have your very fine letter of November 6th, which came during my absence.

"I have previously read, with deep satisfaction, the resolution which The American Legion had adopted at its convention in New Orleans and am grateful not only for the splendid support and increased strength which this gives to the efforts to have the pending shipping legislation enacted, but also because it shows the fine vision with which the Legion is looking toward the future of our common country.

"I have repeatedly advised the heads of our departments that wherever consistent with the service, preference be given to ex-service men, and while we do not control the employment of personnel on board ships, we do main-
tain a Sea Service Bureau which is actively assisting in this regard in every way possible, and I know the policy of Captain Evans, the Head of the Bureau, is to see that all possible preference is given to ex-service men.”

PREFERENCE FOR VETERANS IN HOMESTEAD ENTRIES WHO SERVED WITH THE ALLIED ARMIES.

The New Orleans Convention of the Legion adopted a resolution urging the passage of H. J. Res. 180, a joint resolution which extended the provisions of the Act of February 25, 1919, allowing credit for military service during the war with Germany in homestead entries, and of Public Resolution No. 29, approved February 14, 1929, allowing a preferred right of entry for at least sixty days after the date of opening in connection with lands opened or restored to entry, be, and the same extended to apply to those citizens of the United States who served with the allied armies during the World War, and who were honorably discharged upon their resumption of citizenship.

Accordingly, your National Legislative Committee urged the enactment of this resolution by Congress with the result that it was enacted into law as Public Resolution No. 79 of the 67th Congress. The text of this resolution follows:

“That the provisions of the Act of Congress of February 25, 1919, allowing credit for military service during the war with Germany in homestead entries, and of Public Resolution Numbered 29, approved February 14, 1920, allowing a preferred right of entry for at least sixty days after the date of opening in connection with lands opened or restored to entry, be, and the same are hereby, extended to apply to those citizens of the United States who served with the allied armies during the World War, and who were honorably discharged, upon their resumption of citizenship in the United States, provided the service with the allied armies shall be similar to the service with the Army of the United States for which recognition is granted in the Act and resolution herein referred to.”

RETIREMENT FOR DISABLED EMERGENCY ARMY OFFICERS.

The Fourth Annual Convention of the Legion, like previous National Conventions, adopted strong resolutions urging Congress to immediately enact the Bursum bill, designed to extend to the disabled Emergency Army Officers the same retirement privileges already extended to the disabled Navy and Marine Emergency officers, the disabled Army, Navy and Marine Provisional officers, and the Regular officers of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps.

At this time this bill, S. 1665, slumbered in the Military Affairs Committee of the House, where, through the influence of the Chairman, Julius Kahn of California, and the Vice Chairman, John C. Mackenzie of Illinois, the Committee had not voted upon the question of reporting it to the House of Representatives for action. This particular bill had been introduced in the Senate on May fourth, 1921. Through constant urging by your Committee, it was brought up for debate on the floor of the Senate on February 16th, 1922, and on February 21, 1922, was passed by the Senate by a vote of 50 to 14. From there it had immediately gone to the House Committee on Military Affairs where the influence of influential committee members succeeded in delaying action upon it. In June, 1922, your Committee obtained hearings on the bill before the House Military Affairs Committee and the case of the Disabled Emergency Army Officer was fully presented by your Committee, assisted by the representatives of the Disabled Emergency Officers Association and other veteran organizations. Nothing was done by the House Military Affairs Committee, however, and the Disabled Emergency Officers Bill was quiescent in this committee at the time of the New Orleans Convention.

As soon as Congress reconvened on November 20th, 1922, your Committee presented the House Military Affairs Committee with the Convention resolutions and urged immediate action upon the Bursum Bill. On December 7th, 1922, the Military Affairs Committee met in executive session and discussed
the bill, the Chairman being instructed to obtain a decision from the Comptroller General on the wording of the measure. On December 21st, the Comptroller General rendered a decision to the Committee instructing it how to change the wording of the bill to make payments under it legal. Your Committee again pressed for action and on December 30th, Chairman Kahn of the Military Committee wrote us saying he was going out of Washington for a "few weeks" because of his health. On January 3rd, 1923, in response to inquiry we were informed that no meetings of the Committee had been scheduled during the Chairman's indefinite absence from Washington.

In the meantime your Committee was active in stirring up individual members of Congress to bring pressure on the Military Affairs Committee to report the bill. With the aid of officials of the Disabled Emergency Officers Association, a petition was circulated among the 435 members of the House with the result that 334 Representatives signed themselves as being favorable to this measure. Supplementing this, John Thomas Taylor, Vice Chairman of your Committee, on January 8th, 1923, wrote each member of the Lower House of Congress an urgent letter outlining in detail the history of this legislation since December, 1919, and pointing out how the refusal of the House Committee to act on such a meritorious piece of legislation passed by the Senate and favored by a majority in the House, was a shameful example of the inability of Congress to function when the desires of a few leaders in a committee could defeat for such a long period of time, legislation backed by the wishes of the entire nation.

At this time Secretary Weeks of the War Department notified Commander Owsley that he would withdraw his opposition to the measure provided it contained a separate retirement list for Emergency Officers. This was a real achievement, as the opposition of high government officials had been the chief obstacle blocking the enactment of this measure. At this time your Committee consulted with the twenty-five Legionnaires in the House on the question of the Bursum bill and other legislation designed to aid disabled veterans. It was decided to call a caucus of the Republicans of the House to consider these two matters and the question of the creation of a Special Veterans Committee which would handle legislation of this character and thus relieve the disabled from the delays resulting from improper committee handling. The caucus met on January 22nd, 1923, but failed to obtain a quorum, and another caucus called a few days later failed for the same reason.

In the meantime your Committee continued to press the House Military Affairs Committee for action on the bill. This committee finally met on January 31st and by a vote of 8 to 7 voted to table the measure. John Thomas Taylor, Vice Chairman of your National Legislative Committee, immediately wrote the following letter to each member of the House of Representatives:

The American Legion has been informed that the Bursum bill, S. 1565, was tabled today at a meeting of the House Military Affairs Committee by vote of 8 to 7.

This means unless immediate action is taken to compel the Committee to report a bill providing for the retirement of the Disabled Emergency Army Officers the Legislation will fail of passage during the present session of Congress.

The unfavorable vote took place following receipt by the Committee of a petition from 235 members of the House, containing the names of a majority of both Republican and Democratic members, who asked that the bill be immediately reported so that the House of Representatives might have an opportunity to pass upon the merits of this legislation which the Senate had already approved by a vote of 50 to 14 nearly a year ago.

But in spite of this, the House Committee on Military Affairs has denied the House of Representatives the right to pass judgment upon this measure. Its action says in effect:

We must protect somebody from the Senate of the United States, which has already passed this bill, 50 to 14;
We must protect somebody from the House of Representatives, a majority of whose members ask us for the right to vote on this bill; we must do this because we are wiser than other men.

This bill, and its predecessors have been before the Congress for more than three years; it is designed to give the privileges of honorable retirement in a limited degree to Emergency Army Officers disabled in the World War, which the Regular Army, Navy and Marine Corps have, and which Emergency, Naval and Marine officers now enjoy in full.

The U. S. Veterans Bureau estimates it will affect 895 officers only, and that the cost would be less than $600,000. Its passage has been urged by every veteran organization—Secretary Weeks has approved it in modified form—and while the Military Affairs Committee has pondered this question, 30 of these officers have died.

Less than five weeks remain of the present session of Congress, and immediate action is necessary if results are to be accomplished. The majority party in the House can obtain the enactment of this legislation if it desires to do so. The question arises, will the majority allow a Committee to prevent it from passing a law it approves?

The American Legion believes that the majority is sincere in its approval of this just measure, and looks to the majority to devise ways and means of having the House of Representatives itself pass upon this retirement measure.

In the meantime Representative Lineberger of California, a Legionnaire, had tried unsuccessfully to attach the Bursum bill to the Army Appropriation bill, where it was ruled out on the floor of the House on a point of order. On February 16th, H. R. 14,305, an amended "Bursum bill" was introduced by Representative Johnson of South Dakota, a Legionnaire, and H. R. 14,306, an identical bill, was introduced by Representative Wurzbach. These bills met with the approval of Secretary Weeks, and were unofficially submitted by the War Department to the Military Affairs Committee, but as this Committee took no action in the matter, the bills were introduced on the floor. On February 17th a meeting of the Military Committee of the House was called and on motion of Representative Wurzbach took up the consideration of H. R. 14,306, which he had introduced following its approval by Secretary Weeks. The Military Committee, however, declined to take action on this bill so it and all other general legislation designed to retire the Disabled Emergency Army Officers died with the session.

In spite of this the Congress showed clearly that it still supported the principle of retirement for Disabled Emergency Officers. During the discussion of our bill in the House, it was disclosed that eight disabled midshipmen had been retired by vote of Congress who had never been commissioned officers in the Navy. In addition to this H. R. 12,138, to retire Frank A. Jahn, was enacted into law in the closing days of the session. This law provides that Jahn be appointed a Lieutenant, Junior Grade, in the United States Navy, and placed upon the retired list of the Navy with the retired pay and allowances of that grade. The Senate also passed a bill to retire Lieutenant John L. Livingston, an Emergency Naval Officer, whose back was broken by an aeroplane accident following the war. The bill was amended to provide an annual pension for Lieutenant Livingston at $1,800 a year. H. R. 11,389 was also enacted into law, providing retirement privileges for Robert Guy Robinson, a Disabled Emergency Officer of the United States Marine Corps, who had failed to apply for retirement during the period required under the Emergency Navy and Marine retirement act.

The foregoing shows clearly that the Congress of the United States still favors the principle of retirement for its disabled Emergency Officers.

During the war there were nine kinds of these officers: the Regular, Provisional and Emergency Navy; the Regular, Provisional and Emergency Marine; and the Regular, Provisional and Emergency Army Officers. Congress has provided retirement for the first eight classes who were disabled in the war, but has still neglected to provide for the ninth class, the Disabled
Emergency Army Officer. This has been solely due to the ability of the leaders in the House Committee on Military Affairs to prevent the enactment of this legislation.

There are only 895 of these officers according to the estimate of the U. S. Veterans Bureau, which has calculated that the amount of money involved in their retirement will be less than $600,000. No objection to the measure has ever been raised on the expense involved. The only question has been on the principle of according equality off the field as well as on the field to the Emergency Army Officer as compared to the Regular Army Officer.

With the creation of a Special Veterans Committee in the House to handle all legislation affecting the disabled veterans of the World War, this bill would be taken over by this new Committee and would circumvent the enemies which have so far prevented its enactment. It is, therefore, of paramount importance that the Special Veterans Committee be created during the opening days of Congress when the House of Representatives organizes its committees for the session. With an overwhelming majority of the members of both the Senate and the House in favor of the Buresum bill, the creation of this new Committee will assure the passage of this just measure. It is therefore imperative that Legionnaires use all influence possible to insure the creation of the proposed Veterans Committee.

Since the adjournment of Congress your National Legislative Committee has held a series of conferences with representatives of other veteran organizations, to insure that this legislation may be perfected in a technical way, and prevent pertinent objections to it being raised on the floor of either the House or the Senate. To assist in this work, a representative of the General Staff of the Army was invited to attend these conferences, where he rendered valuable assistance to your Committee by his experience and cooperation.

SHIP SUBSIDY BILL.

The Fourth National Convention of the Legion at New Orleans adopted a resolution favoring the Ship Subsidy bill as a means to establish our trade routes, and to add to the efficiency and strength of the Navy, as well as to aid business throughout the United States. After the convening of Congress this resolution was presented to the Committees handling this legislation.

The Ship Subsidy bill was the storm center of the two sessions of Congress which have intervened since the New Orleans Convention. The late President Harding was convinced that the enactment of this measure was of paramount importance, and in the hope of obtaining this in the short time which the 67th Congress had remaining to function, on November 9th he called the Congress to meet in extraordinary session November 20th, at which time the Administration Ship Subsidy bill, H. R. 12,817, was introduced in the House. The bill was passed by the House during the extraordinary session, and was sent to the Senate Committee on Commerce, which reported it favorably during the early days of the last regular session, December 14th, 1922. The reporting of this bill to the Senate precipitated a storm of opposition which finally developed into a filibuster. Opponents feared the ability of the Administration to pass it through the Senate if the measure could be brought to a vote. The debate upon it continued during January, when it was charged that a filibuster existed to delay its passage. This measure being the unfinished business before the Senate, blocked all other legislation, and nothing but this could be considered without a unanimous consent agreement. During the early part of February the filibuster was openly admitted, and finally, a week before the session expired, the administration forces pushing the bill gave up, admitted the success of the filibuster and withdrew the bill on February 28th, when it was finally displaced as the unfinished business of the Senate. This left only four days for the enactment of many vital measures, as the session closed on March 4th, 1923. The bill died with the session.
SLACKERS.

During the year Representative Royal C. Johnson, of South Dakota, a Legionnaire, read additional slacker lists into the Congressional Record.

Public Law No. 536 of the 67th Congress (H. R. 14,222), amending the Trading With the Enemy Act, limited the return to individual aliens, subjects of Germany, Austria, Hungary, of Austria-Hungary, money or other personal property to amounts not in excess of $10,000. This law also contains a section which will prevent the return of his property to Grover Cleveland Bergdoll, as long as he is a fugitive from justice. His estate is now in the hands of Thomas W. Miller, Alien Property Custodian, and a Legionnaire. This section of the law is as follows:

Section 22. No person shall be entitled to the return of any property or money under the provisions of this Act who is a fugitive from justice from the United States or any state or territory thereof or the District of Columbia.

SOLDIER DEAD.

The War Department reports to your National Legislative Committee that the total number of our soldier dead now remaining in Europe is 30,351. These are interred in the following cemeteries: Romagne-sous-Montfaucon (Meuse), Bony (Aisne), Belleau Wood (Aisne), Thiaucourt (Meurthe-et-Moselle), Saringes-et-Nesles (Aisne), Paris (Seine), London, England, Waarghem, Belgium.

Practically the entire number whose relatives have requested shipment to this side have been returned to the United States. There are now 19 who have been identified awaiting shipment, and others will be shipped following identification.

No permanent headstones have been placed in these American cemeteries abroad. These await appropriations by Congress for this purpose. Approximately 7,000 marble headstones have been ordered for use in this country, and these are now being supplied as rapidly as the contractors can turn them out. There are now more than 5,000 marble headstones at Arlington cemetery over the graves of World War veterans buried there.

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' CIVIL RELIEF ACT.

Public Law No. 535 of the 67th Congress, (H. R. 14,144), limits the time under which suits may be brought under the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act: The text of this law is as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any person entitled to claim any right, title to, or interest in any real estate because of any failure to comply with the provisions of subdivision 3 of section 302 of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act, approved March 18, 1918, being chapter 20, volume 40, General Statutes of the United States, in the foreclosure of a mortgage, or the sale upon a judgment, of such real estate shall be barred forever from asserting such claim unless the claim is successfully asserted in an action or proceeding, in a court of competent jurisdiction, commenced prior to the approval, of this Act or within one year thereafter.

STATE BENEFICIAL LEGISLATION.

Accomplishments of State Legislative Committees.

ALABAMA.

Exemption from Payment of License to Practice Medicine. Veterans of the War with Germany, including members of the Volunteer Medical Service, are exempt from payment to the state of the annual license fee of five dollars to practice medicine. (Act 328-1919.)
ARIZONA.

American Legion Emblem. A law passed for the protection of the Legion emblem.

Armistice Day. Armistice Day, November 11, made a State Holiday.

Arizona Land Settlement Commission. The Arizona Land Settlement Commission, Phoenix, Arizona, has been created to provide homes for veterans, assist in the purchase, reclamation and settlement of farms and workers' allotments, and promote the agricultural interests of Arizona.

Each farm shall have a value, when unimproved, not to exceed $7,500; the value of the worker's allotment not to exceed $1,000. Loans shall be called "Short Time Loans" and shall not exceed $5,000 for a farm, or $1,000 for a worker's allotment. An applicant must have available the minimum amount of capital deemed necessary by the commission, which shall not be less than 5 per cent of the value of the land plus 5 per cent of the value of any improvements thereon. This land is open to all qualified persons desiring to purchase, preference being given to ex-service men and women who have had honorable service.

Bonus. A State adjusted compensation bill was passed by the lower House but was defeated in the Senate. A movement is now on foot to enact an adjusted compensation bill and submit it to the voters at the next general election.

Burials. It is provided that no ex-service man or woman shall be buried in potters' field, and $100 a person was appropriated for the burial of ex-service men or women.

Free Transportation. Railroad companies are allowed to issue free transportation to ex-service men and women going and returning from state conventions.

ARKANSAS.

Armistice Day. Law enacted making Armistice Day a State holiday.

Disabled Men. Law enacted appropriating $10,000 for prosecution of disability claims.

Flag. Law passed protecting the flag.

War Memorial Building. Ten thousand dollars appropriated to maintain State War Memorial Building.

CALIFORNIA.

Adjusted Compensation. Legislature memorialized Congress to enact the Adjusted Compensation bill.

American Legion Emblem. Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem.


Bond Issue. A $10,000,000 bond issue was voted last year to aid veterans in the purchase of homes and farms.

Burials. Ex-service men and their widows buried at the expense of the county in any cemetery or burial ground other than those used exclusively for paupers. A suitable headstone also provided.

Certificates of Discharge Recorded Free of Charge. No fee shall be charged for recording or indexing ex-service men's discharge certificates.

Certified Copies of Records Furnished Without Payment of Fees. No fees shall be charged for making certified copies of birth, death or marriage records when the same are to be used by any person in connection with enlistment in the Army or Navy, nor shall any fee be charged for any service rendered in connection with assisting in the preparation of such certified copies to be used in presenting claims against the United States Government nor filing or swearing to any claim or demand against any county in the state.
Land Settlement Board. A State Land Settlement Board to provide employment and rural homes for veterans has been created. The Board acquires land, and after subdividing, prepares it for irrigation and cultivation and makes improvements thereon not to exceed $1,500 on one farm, and erects laborers' cottages and provides water at a cost not to exceed $800 for one allotment. The law also provides for loans to be secured by mortgages or deeds of trust on permanent improvements, stock and farming implements to the total amount including money spent on improvements not to exceed $3,000 on one farm or $2,000 on one farm laborer's allotment.

Farms should be sold after advertisement in newspapers of the details and prices, but the Board shall have the right to reject any or all applications, the limit of the price being $15,000 for a farm not including improvements and $1,000 for a farm laborer's allotment not including improvements. (S. B. 211.)

COLORADO.

American Legion Emblem. Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem.

Bonus. A State adjusted compensation bill, passed by the legislature, provides $15 for each month of service. It will be presented to the people at the next general election for ratification.

Land Settlement Board. The Colorado Land Settlement Board promotes settlement for agriculture upon lands within the state and for the further purpose of aiding the settlement of ex-service men upon such lands and to make possible cooperation with the United States in the development and settlement of such lands. This Board is empowered to act under the terms of the law without the cooperation of the United States.

State Educational Loan Fund. An appropriation of $300,000 for the purpose of making education loans, not to exceed $200 in any one case, to citizens of Colorado, who are honorably discharged veterans of the World War. Such loans must be used for training in some educational institution of the State of Colorado. Applications should be made to the State Superintendent of Instruction, Room 127, Capitol Building, Denver, Colorado, who will refer it to the State Educational Loan Board for decision in each particular case. Loans should be repaid within five years, with legal interest after three years.

CONNECTICUT.

American Legion Emblem. Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem.

Civil Service Preference. Civil Service preference for veterans has been adopted.

Education of Blind. The education of blind ex-service men and women is to be provided from state funds.

Exemption from Taxation. Veterans are exempted from taxation.

Headstones. Headstones not to exceed $35 in cost each shall be erected at public expenses at graves of soldiers, sailors and marines.

Memorials. The placing of memorials in state parks and reservations is authorized.

Soldiers' Home. World War veterans are eligible for admission to the state soldiers' Home.

State Relief. An appropriation of $2,500,000 has been made, the yearly interest on which sum is used to take care of sick, indigent and disabled veterans and their dependents. An additional $200,000 appropriation has been voted for this fund.

Use of State Armories. World War veterans' organizations are granted the privilege of establishing quarters in state armories.

DELAWARE. (No legislation enacted.)
FLORIDA.

American Legion Emblem. Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem.

Appointment of Commission for Compensation. Commission created appointive by the Governor to investigate the feasibility of State Adjusted Compensation.

Recording Certificates of Discharge. Certificates of discharge are recorded free of charge by clerks of courts. (Chapter 7918—No. 136—Approved May 29, 1919.)

GEORGIA.

Community Service Commission. The Commission, with community boards in all counties of the state, in addition to various other duties, aids in securing employment for returned soldiers and sailors, and initiates and assists movements designed for their welfare. (Georgia Laws—1919, p. 228.)

Exemption from Payment of Road and Poll Taxes. Ex-service men are entitled to vote at any county election without the payment of road and poll taxes which accrue within the period from six months previous to entrance to service to six months after discharge. (Georgia Laws—1920, p. 145.)

Peddling Without License. Ex-service men are exempted from the payment of a tax for a license to peddle. (Georgia Laws—1919, p. 90.)

Service Bureau. A bill was passed providing for the appropriation of $5,000 per annum and the appointment of a Director of this Bureau, said Director to be appointed by the Governor from among the ex-service men of the state. The purpose of this bill is to disseminate information regarding federal laws beneficial to ex-service men and to assist all those who have claims for compensation, etc., under these laws in obtaining their rights.

IDAHO.

American Legion Emblem. Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem.

Funeral Expenses. Funeral expenses not to exceed $75, of ex-service men and their wives or widows, is payable by the County Treasurer.

Idaho Soldiers' Home. Ex-service men of the World War may be admitted to the Idaho Soldiers' Home.

Preference Right of Entry on Public Lands. Ex-service men and women will be given preference right of entry when the Carey Act lands are open for settlement.

Soldiers' Settlement Act. The sum of $100,000 has been appropriated for the purpose of cooperating with the United States Government in carrying on soldier settlement work in the State of Idaho through reclamation projects.

Veterans' Welfare Commission. Veterans' Welfare Commission renders emergency assistance to disabled and destitute ex-service men and their dependents.

ILLINOIS.

American Legion Emblem. Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem.


Bonus. A State adjusted compensation bill which was ratified by the people in the general election last fall was adjudged constitutional by the State Supreme Court on April 11. A summary of the provisions of the law is as follows:

Fifty cents for each day in service after April 6, 1917, (maximum payment $300), to each person who served for at least two months, part of such service being between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918, who were residents of Illinois at the time of entering such service, who were honorably dis-
charged or separated from such service, or furloughed to the reserve or are retired, or are still in active service. The law does not apply to members of the S. A. T. C. or S. N. T. C. Payment is not made to "conscientious objectors" or to persons who have received a similar bonus from another State.

Payment will be made to the nearest living relative (husband or wife, child or children, mother, father, brother or sister, in the order named) in case the veteran is now deceased. If the death occurred while such person was in the service, the full $300 will be paid. A bond issue of $55,000,000 is authorized to raise the required funds, and appropriated to the board to make the payments. All applications must be made before January 1, 1925.

About 325,000 have registered for payment, and the board is proceeding at a rate of 1,000 a day.

Burial. An appropriation to provide funeral expenses and headstones for deceased World War veterans, their mothers, wives or widows, will be made by the county, after approval by referendum. (H. B. 371—June 24, 1921.)

Cottages for Mentally Afflicted Service Men. Three Hundred Thousand dollars in a lump sum was granted for cottages which would segregate the mentally afflicted service men from the civilian patient, where he may receive custodial care and be restricted according to the condition of his mind. Four of these cottages were dedicated on May 23, 1922, and the others on June 15, 1923, and they are models in every sense.

Employment Statistics. Employers of five or more persons are required, annually, upon request, to report data concerning employment of veterans to the Department of Labor, which will investigate and promote their reestablishment in industry, and will classify and publish statistics relating thereto. (S. B. 121, approved June 21, 1919.)

Hospital. The legislature appropriated $100,000 for a site at Elgin and $200,000 for the erection of a hospital which will be a rehabilitation home for mental and nervous cases not provided for in the cottages before mentioned.

Orphans' Home. What was formerly the orphans' home for children of the veterans of the Civil and Spanish-American Wars has been rededicated to the veterans of the World War, and the following appropriations have been made to improve it, making it a wonderful monument to The American Legion in Illinois, and a splendid home for the children of our unfortunate comrades:

One hundred thousand dollars for heating and plumbing;
Fifty thousand dollars for two cottages for boys;
Fifteen thousand dollars additional to re-equip the old hospital;
This session an additional $50,000 for a complete new hospital, the old hospital to be used exclusively as an isolation hospital;
Forty thousand dollars for two more cottages for boys;
Sixty-nine thousand for permanent improvements, repairs and indoor swimming pool;
An increased appropriation for food and clothing.

Preference in Civil Service. In grading examinations for civil service, veterans shall be given credit of one per cent (on a basis of 100 per cent) for each six months or fraction of service, but not for more than 18 months of service. (H. R. 498, approved June 24, 1921, amends section 29a of the 1911 Act.)

Recording Discharge Certificates. Recorders are required to record free of charge in separate books certificates of discharge of honorably discharged U. S. soldiers and sailors. (S. B. 231.)

Scholarships. The award of normal school and University of Illinois scholarships may be made to residents of the state who were in the service. Any student who left such schools to serve in the Army or Navy shall be entitled to complete his course without further tuition charges; but this does not apply to the S. A. T. C. (H. B. 733.)
Soldiers' Orphans' Home. Indigent children up to 18 years of age whose father or mother was a veteran, will be admitted to the Soldiers' Orphans' Home. (S. B. 15, approved June 20, 1921.)

INDIANA.

American Legion Emblem. Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem.

Bonus. Bonus bill passed state legislature this year, but was vetoed by Governor Warren T. McCray as unconstitutional.

Civil Appointments. Persons honorably discharged from the military or naval service of the United States by reason of disability resulting from wounds or sickness incurred in line of duty shall be preferred for appointment to civil offices of the state. Resolution by General Assembly declares that all positions granted and growing out of oil inspection bills shall first be tendered to the soldiers and sailors of the World War.

Free Employment Office. Establishment of a free state employment office for soldiers and sailors was voted to cooperate with the Federal Board for Vocational Education in the rehabilitation of disabled veterans.

German Language Forbidden. The German Language shall not be taught in any of the elementary schools or any private or parochial schools or in any high school or in any benevolent correctional school in the state.

Indiana State Soldiers' Home. Veterans of the World War are given all privileges enjoyed by veterans of former wars so far as pertains to the state soldiers' home.

Inheritance Tax. The taxes provided for by the inheritance tax law shall not apply to the transfer of the estate of any decedent leaving an estate of less than $2,500 dying, or who has died, while serving in the military or naval forces during the continuance of the war, or as a result of injuries received or disease contracted in such service.

Memorials. Counties and cities are authorized to provide and maintain suitable memorials for soldiers and sailors of the World War.

Personal Memorials. The adjutant general is authorized to prepare and present a fit personal memorial to each person, a citizen of the State of Indiana, who served in any capacity in the military or naval forces of the United States during the World War.

Prohibiting Display of Banners. It is unlawful to display or exhibit at any meeting, gathering, or parade, either public or private, any flag, banner or emblem intended to symbolize a purpose to overthrow the Government of the United States.

Reclamation of Public Land. Resolution of the General Assembly provides that the State of Indiana favor such equitable action by the National Government as will permit soldiers and sailors of the World War to settle upon unoccupied government lands and to furnish necessary aid and equipment.

Rights and Privileges. Soldiers and sailors of the late World War, and their wives and orphans, shall have all rights and privileges now held and enjoyed by soldiers and sailors, their widows and orphans, of the Civil War, War with Spain, or in the regular service of the United States.

Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home. Orphans and children of honorably discharged veterans under the age of 18, destitute of means of support, will be admitted to the Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home.

Success Grades. In all cases where teachers have had no previous experience, time served in the Army or Navy shall be counted as teaching experience in awarding success grades and salaries.

Taxes. Every soldier and sailor of the World War was exempted from poll and road taxes for period of time in the service. No penalty shall be added nor the sale of any property be made for
the nonpayment or delinquency of taxes charged against any person who served in any naval or military forces of the United States during the World War until after six months have elapsed after discharge from such service.

**World War Memorial.** Provision is made for a World War Memorial to be located at Indianapolis, and the dedication of certain real estate and interest therein for memorial purposes, and the appropriation of money for the erection and maintenance of suitable structures, and providing for the City of Indianapolis and Marion County to purchase certain real estate and properties, and to dedicate for the same purpose with the State of Indiana.

**IOWA.**

**Armistice Day.** Armistice Day, November 11, made State holiday.

**Bonus.** A bill to pay fifty cents a day for each day of service has been enacted by the General Assembly, approved by the voters of the state at the general election November 7, 1922, and declared constitutional by unanimous decision of the Iowa Supreme Court March 13, 1923. The bill was drawn by the Legislative Committee of the Department of Iowa and presented to the legislature by this committee. Its constitutionality was successfully defended by the Legion. The bill provides for a bond issue of $22,000,000. Payment is now being made. To date 89,000 claims have been filed.

**Civil Service Preference.** Civil Service Preference has been granted to ex-service men.

**Exemption from Taxation.** Under certain conditions ex-service men are exempt from taxation.

**Veterans' Welfare Commissions.** Veterans' Welfare Commissions and Boards have been instituted.

**KANSAS.**

**American Legion Emblem.** Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem.

**Bonus.** Provision was made for a bond issue of $7,000,000 in addition to the $25,000,000 already appropriated for the payment of $1 per day to ex-service men. Legislation was enacted requiring that a time limit for payment be set for June 30, 1919. Final date for filing of applications is to be January 1, 1924. Payments now being made.

**Filing of Records and Discharges, Free of Charge.** An act was passed providing for the filing, without charge of discharges, and other official records of military service in the Army or Navy of the United States, and for official certificates thereof.

**Maintenance of American Legion.** Two thousand dollars was appropriated for the fiscal years 1922 and 1923, for the maintenance of The American Legion, and for the preservation of banners, mementoes, relics, flags, and records of service of individuals and organizations of the World War.

**Preference in Appointments.** Preference in appointments to fill positions in every public department and all public organizations of the state is given to ex-service men. (H. B. 15.)

**Privileges.** An act was passed extending to honorably discharged veterans of the World War all rights, privileges and immunities extended to veterans of previous wars. This refers to: burials, care of dependent families; enrollment; showing certain facts concerning the soldiers, sailors or marines, by assessors of taxing bodies; license to hawk and peddle goods, etc.; caring for remains of deceased veterans; graves marked.

**Prize Fights and Boxing Matches.** The act making prize fighting and boxing illegal was repealed.

**Tax Exemptions.** Act providing for exemption from taxation of ex-service men was repealed.
KENTUCKY.

Aid to Ex-service Men and Women. A Board known as the Kentucky Disabled Ex-service Men's Board was created for the purpose of assisting disabled veterans of the World War in preparing and presenting their claims for aid from the United States Government under Federal legislation for the benefit of disabled veterans. The Board consists of three members, who serve without compensation.

Erection of Monuments. Monuments are to be erected in the various counties of the state, in honor of the veterans and Red Cross nurses who died in the war.

Scholarships. Any resident of the state who served in the World War is entitled to a free scholarship in either the State University or Eastern or Western Kentucky Normal Schools, for a period required for completion of the course of study elected by them. Said scholarships include free tuition; matriculation and fees; room rent, fuel and light, and all the advantages and privileges of the university or normal school, but does not include free board.

Persons eligible for such scholarships must meet the entrance requirements prescribed by the school.

Beneficiaries who continue their studies for a consecutive school year or ten months are entitled to actual traveling expenses in going to and returning from school, once each way during said year.

LOUISIANA.

American Legion Emblem. Law passed for protection of the Legion emblem.

State Legislature appropriated $25,000 to help defray the cost of the Fourth National Convention of the Legion.

State Legislature passed a law permitting New Orleans to turn over to the American Legion the home it now occupies at the corner of Royal and Conti Streets.

Recording of Discharges. The clerk of court of each parish in the State, Orleans excepted, and the Register of Conveyances in the Parish of Orleans, shall maintain a special book, to be paid for by the several parishes, in which he shall record upon request the final discharge of any veteran of the United States for a fee not to exceed twenty-five cents.

MAINE.

Adjutant General's Office. The office of the Adjutant General of Maine has a card index of all persons in Maine who were in the service and this office took extracts from discharge certificates when they were sent in at time of application for the state bonus.

American Legion Emblem. Any person willfully wearing without authority the Legion emblem or a U. S. Discharge button, shall be punishable by imprisonment for not more than thirty days or fine not exceeding twenty dollars.


Bonus. In 1919, the Legislature in special session passed the Bonus Law whereby service persons, residents of Maine, would be paid $100 by the State. Chapter 55 of the Public Laws of 1923, extended the period for filing application to December 31, 1923.

Burial Expenses. Provision is made for defraying the burial expenses not exceeding $100 of veterans or their widows dying in destitute circumstances, burials to be in some cemetery not used exclusively for the burial of pauper dead.

Decoration of Graves. Decoration of graves of veterans with an American flag and such other federal decorations as shall be deemed advisable on
Memorial Day by every city, town and plantation, is made compulsory by state legislation.

**Discrimination against Uniforms.** There is a penalty for discrimination in public places of amusement against soldiers or sailors of the United States or the State of Maine while wearing a uniform, unless good cause is assigned therefor.

**Exemption from Taxation.** Disabled veterans of the World War receiving compensation or vocational training shall not be liable for a poll tax. Real and personal property owned by Legion Posts and used solely by them is exempt from taxation.

**Incorporation of Legion Posts.** American Legion Posts may be incorporated under the same provisions relating to corporations for literary, charitable, educational and other purposes.

**Law Students.** Any law student who enlisted or was drafted and holds an honorable discharge, and who at the time of his entry was engaged in the study of law, shall be required to pursue for only two years the study of law in an office or recognized law school prior to examination.

**Maine Military Law.** If any service man desires to read the Military Law of the State of Maine affecting the National Guard, he may go to any public library or to any law office and read chapter 174 of the Public Laws of 1923.

**Recording of Discharge Certificates.** Sec. 7 of Chapter 84 of the revised statutes provides that the Clerk of Courts in each county shall keep a book in which may be recorded the discharge certificates of soldiers and seamen of the United States Army and Navy. Copies thereof may be had. (Recording fee should not be over 25c, and if it does the clerk will advise.)

**State Aid.** Veterans of the World War, their wives, children under 16, dependent father, mother, or other members of the family incapable of self-maintenance will be furnished aid by the cities and counties of the State, provided said veterans resided in the State on April 1, 1917.

This aid shall not exceed $4 per week to the wives or dependent parents and $1.50 per week to each child under 16 or other dependent member of the family, provided the sum paid shall not exceed $10 per week for all persons dependent upon one veteran.

No soldier, sailor or marine, honorably discharged from the service, who has or may become a dependent upon any town, shall be considered a pauper or be subject to disfranchisement for that cause, and overseers of the poor shall not have authority to remove or to support in the poorhouse any such dependent veteran or his family.

MARYLAND.

**Bonus.** The State Legislature enacted a bill providing a $10 a month payment to all ex-service men. Its reference to a vote of the people was declared unconstitutional by the courts, so the referendum was not taken.

MASSACHUSETTS.

**Adjusted Compensation.**

(a) Under Chapter 911, Acts of 1917, as amended, the sum of $10 is payable to enlisted men and women for each month of service from the date of enrollment into the service of the United States from February 3, 1917, to January 15, 1918. Residence at the time of entry into service is a pre-requisite to eligibility. This sum is payable only to enlisted men.

(b) Under Chapter 283 Acts of 1919 as amended, a State Gratuity of $100 is payable to every person who was a resident of the Commonwealth for at least six months next prior to entry into the service and who upon entry gave it as his residence and whose services were credited this commonwealth. A person is deemed a resident if the father or mother was a resident of the commonwealth during the period of one year immediately prior to
entry and the person entering the service was not continually absent from the commonwealth for this period.

No person is eligible who has received a dishonorable discharge; who has sought to avoid service as a conscientious objector or on the grounds of alienage; who has violated or evaded the selective service act; who reported for active duty subsequent to November 11, 1918, or who has received or is entitled to receive a gratuity for military service under the laws of any other state.

In case a person entitled to this gratuity is deceased the heirs-at-law are entitled to make application for the gratuity. Yoemen (f) are expressly excluded, although the Legion has endeavored to have the legislature eliminate this provision from the measure. Thirty days' service is a pre-requisite to eligibility.

American Legion. Passed law for protection of The Legion emblem. Chapter 225 of the 1923 laws provides quarters at the State House for The Legion.

Armistice Day. A provision that the Governor shall issue annually a proclamation calling for proper observance of Armistice Day was enacted as Chapter 210 of the Acts of 1922.

Aviation. Ceded the state lands in East Boston to the Federal Government for a landing field. (Chapter 404, Acts of 1922.)

Bar Examinations. Amended bill allowing aliens to take bar examination provides that no person who claimed exemption from military service because of foreign citizenship shall be permitted to take these examinations. (Chapter 493, Acts of 1922.)

Burial Allowances. (a) Expenses of $60 will be paid for the burial of honorably discharged ex-service men, and their dependents, but if the total expense of the burial exceeds $135 no burial allowances can be made. Burial must not be among the pauper dead. There is no allowance when both death and burial are outside the State. (Chap. 129, Acts of 1919.)

(b) Chapter 378 of the Acts of 1922 which provided for the reimbursement of Posts up to fifty dollars for expenses incurred in the burial of overseas dead has been amended by Chapters 258 and 396 of 1923 to cover cases of Army and Navy nurses and of those who died overseas after the armistice of November 11, 1918 and before October 18, 1921.

Education. Under the provisions of Chapter 222 of the Acts of 1923, the teaching of the Constitution was made obligatory in public schools.

Employment Bureau. The Legislature has appropriated $10,500 for the maintenance of an employment bureau for ex-service people for fiscal year ending November 30, 1923.

Exemption from Poll Tax. Chapter 9, Acts of 1919, exempts service men from their poll tax during their service and the year of their discharge.

Financial Aid. (a) Military. Residents of the State on February 3, 1917, later discharged by reason of disability and in such need that they are entitled to relief under the Poor Laws, may apply to the State Aid Agency and receive military aid in any amount in accordance with their needs. Three years' continuous residence in the State, prior to application is necessary. This is applicable also to nurses. (Chap. 151, Acts of 1919.)

(b) State. In case of death in service or after honorable discharge, from injuries, disability or illness incurred during the period of war, a man's dependents may be given state aid on application to the State Aid Agent in town of residence, in amount ranging from $6 to $12 per month. Any discharged man who is in receipt of Government pension or compensation may receive $6 a month State aid if the amount paid by the Government is not sufficient for his support. Wife (married prior to her husband's discharge) is entitled to State aid if her husband applies for it when applying himself. The law also applies to nurses if they resided in the State for three years prior to their service, are receiving Government pension or compensation and

(c) Soldiers’ Relief. Any amount necessary will be paid for the support of an honorably discharged man or his dependents. His dependents may receive such relief after his death. This relief is paid by the city or town where the applicant resides. In most places the State Aid Agent is also Soldiers’ Relief Agent, and application is made to him. In Boston application should be to Soldiers’ Relief Commission, Room 60, City Hall. (Chapter 161, Acts of 1919.)

(d) Under Chapter 181 of the Acts of 1923, no almoner or overseer of the poor shall act as agent or disbursing officer of State or Military Aid except that in towns selectmen who are also overseers of the poor may act in their capacity as selectmen.

Memorials. (a) Made provision for the erection of a memorial in the State House to all Massachusetts men who were awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

(b) Chapter 14 of the Acts of 1923 names the Parkway from the Cambridge end of the West Boston Bridge to Mt. Auburn Street, Cambridge, “Memorial Drive” in honor of the men and women who lost their lives in the World War.

Memorial Day. Chapter 202 of 1923 authorized the appropriation of money for the decoration of the graves of soldiers, sailors and marines who served in time of war or insurrection, and for the proper observance of Memorial Day.

Military Records. Made appropriations for copying and perpetuating the records of Massachusetts troops in the World War. (Chapter 546, Acts of 1922 and Chapter 124, Laws 1923.)

Preference. (a) Preference is given to discharged ex-service men in employment of mechanics, teamsters and laborers in the construction of public works by the Commonwealth or by a county, city, town or district, or by persons contracting therewith for such construction.

(b) Civil Service. Gives disabled veterans who passed civil service examinations and produce evidence of continuing disabilities absolute preference in appointment and employment over all other persons including other veterans. (Chap. 463, Act of 1922.)

Soldiers’ Home. The Soldiers’ Home, Chelsea, Massachusetts, will admit an honorably discharged soldier or sailor who served during the World War and who is in need of medical care. Application should be made to the Commissioner of State Aid, Room 123, State House, Boston, who is the agent for the Home, by the local State Aid Agent, or by the veteran personally. The date of the World War, in so far as State Aid, Military Aid and Burial Allowance are concerned, is defined as having commenced on the third day of February, 1917, and ended on the eleventh day of November, 1919.

World War History. (a) Chapter 193 provides for the purpose of any history of the deeds of Massachusetts men in the World War, to be distributed to various state officials and the public libraries of all cities and towns.

(b) Chapter 408 creates a special unpaid commission to supervise the writing, compiling and editing of a fitting chronicle of Massachusetts' part in the World War. This commission is to report on or before January 1, 1927.

MICHIGAN.

American Legion Emblem. Passed law for protection of The Legion emblem.

Bonus. Michigan pays $15 for each month of service between April 6, 1917, and August, 1919.

Children’s Billet. Legislature authorized $25,000 per year for two years for children’s billet.
Civil Service Preference. State Civil Service preference for veterans is provided.

Exemption from Taxation. Under certain conditions ex-service men are exempt from various forms of taxation.

MINNESOTA.

Abatement of Penalties. Penalties, interests and costs on taxes on lands owned by persons who served during the World War are abated. Same applicable to the years 1916, 1917, and 1918.

Adjusted Compensation Bill. Joint Resolution, January 20, 1921, urges the passage of the National Adjusted Compensation Bill.

American Legion Emblem. Passed law for protection of The Legion emblem.

American Legion. Enacted law providing for incorporation of the Legion. Provision is made for use of the various National Guard Armories by Legion Posts.

Armistice Day. Armistice Day, November 11, made a State holiday.

Appointment to Office. Chapter 192, Laws of 1919, provides for the preference of honorably discharged men in appointment to office.

Aviation. Appropriations for maintenance of aviation fields provided by Legislature.

Bonus. A bonus of $15 for each month in service between April 6, 1917, and July 30, 1921.

Burials. An appropriation of $24,500 was made for the burial of soldiers and sailors and providing for the erection of suitable grave markers therefor. $100 each is allowed.

Cemeteries. Certain counties may purchase lands to be used as a cemetery for the interment of the bodies of the soldiers of all wars.

County War Records Committees. Certain counties can expend $5,000 to complete the activities of their County War Records Committees.

Development of Agricultural Resources. An act to develop the agricultural resources of the state by land colonization and providing for certain privileges to soldier settlers.

Maintenance of Historical Society. Appropriation of $40,000 was made for the maintenance of the Minnesota Historical Society and War Records Commission.

Memorials. Cities of third class may issue bonds not to exceed $50,000 to erect city memorials.

Other cities may erect and maintain memorials to their service dead.

Counties are permitted to issue bonds for the erection of memorials to the service men of that particular county.

Provision is made for the appointment by Governor of a War Memorial Commission to decide upon a suitable State war memorial.

Memorializing Congress. The Joint session of 1923 also memorialized Congress concerning the building of the 10th District Neuro-Psychiatric Hospital at St. Cloud, and the allotment of monies for the building of a proposed institution for tubercular patients in the State.

Memorial Day. Three Hundred Dollars is provided for each seventy-five thousand of population for the observance of Memorial Day in certain cities.

Peddling Without License. Chapter 41, Laws of 1919, permits honorably discharged men to peddle goods without a license, but only on their own account after application to the usual licensing authority.

Registration of Discharge Certificates. Chapter 266, Laws of 1919, provides for the recording of discharge certificates by the County Registrar of Deeds for a fee of twenty-five cents.
Relief and Rehabilitation of Disabled Veterans. Joint Resolution, 1921, urging Congress to enact The American Legion program for the relief and rehabilitation of disabled veterans.

Requirement That All Teachers in All Schools Be Citizens of the United States. The House passed a bill providing that all teachers in all schools be citizens of the United States, such bill being lost and never presented in the Senate. It will be presented at the next session.

Rest Camp for Disabled Veterans. Ten thousand dollars was appropriated for the acquisition and management of a rest camp for disabled soldiers.

Rural Credits Bureau. Provision is made for the establishment of a Rural Credits Bureau, and loans to service men under certain conditions. The Bureau can loan to soldiers up to 66⅔% of the total appraised value of the improvements on the farms of service men without regard to the appraised value of the farms.

Salaries Continued. It is provided that the salaries of Municipal, County and State employees should continue during the military service.

Soldiers' Home. By Chapter 79, Laws of 1919, the benefits of the Soldiers' Home are extended to men who served in the World War and their dependents under certain conditions.

State Soldiers' Welfare Fund. Provision is made for the establishment of a State Soldiers' Welfare fund, into which is being paid all receipts over and above actual expenditures in state institutions receiving government aid for the care of disabled veterans, and providing the expenditure of such monies for general soldier welfare.

Teaching of Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. It is required that the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States be taught in all public and private schools.

Teaching of Physical Culture. Provision is made for the teaching of physical education in all colleges and schools and educational institutions in the state, same to be under the supervision of the Commissioner of Education.

Tuition Benefits. Tuition benefits up to $200 for service men desiring further education are provided for.

MISSISSIPPI.

American Legion Emblem. Law passed for the protection of The Legion emblem.

Federal Funds for Disabled. The Mississippi State Legislature passed a law authorizing that all money received by the State from the United States for the care of ex-service men, disabled during the war, shall be paid into the general fund of the Treasury and allotted by a Board of Control to such institutions as the said Board shall deem proper.

Recording of Discharges. Chancery clerks in each county shall record the discharges, orders, citations and all other military documents referring to the military or naval service of the veterans of the World War in that county. Certified copies of such records shall be furnished by the clerks to veterans, their relatives and legal or personal representatives upon request. The recording of such copies is done and the copies are furnished without cost.

MISSOURI.

American Legion Emblem. Passed law for protection of The Legion emblem.

Armistice Day. Armistice Day, November 11th, made a State holiday.

Authorizing Officers in the Army and Navy to Take Affidavits of Soldiers and Sailors. Affidavits, depositions and acknowledgments to deeds of ex-service men (for use within the State) may be executed before and by any officer in the military service above the rank of lieutenant or before and by any officer in the Navy above the rank of ensign; such affidavits, depositions
and acknowledgments to deeds may be used in evidence or for any other purpose in the same manner as if taken before any other, authorized by law to take depositions. (S. B. 642.)

Bonus. (Now being paid.) A state adjusted compensation law paying $10 a month for each ex-service man who resided in the State for a year prior to enlistment was passed by referendum vote August 2, 1927. A bond issue was sold to cover these payments. A total of 160,000 claims was presented.

Records of Missourians in the War. The Adjutant General has been instructed to compile the records of ex-service men, together with a history of the engagements in which the Missouri organizations participated, and an account of the war activities of the State. Copies are furnished at cost price. (H. B. 583.)


Soldiers' Settlement Board. Co-operates between the State and the United States in the settlement of ex-service men on land.

MONTANA.

Admission to Soldiers' Home. Veterans of the World War will be admitted to the Soldiers' Home under the following conditions: The applicant must have been honorably discharged; must be a resident of Montana for one year and of the county for three months; must be disabled and not a criminal or drunkard. (Chapter 41 of the 16th Legislative Assembly approved February 21, 1919.)

Bonus. A bill providing $10 for each month of service was adopted by the people at the general election last November. The Supreme Court of the State declared the measure unconstitutional. The Legion immediately had a bill enacted by the State Legislature, to amend the State Constitution. This bill passed the Legislature, by a vote of 89 to 4 in the House, and 42 to 9 in the Senate. The proposed amendment to the State Constitution will be submitted to the people for vote at the next general election.

Burial for Soldiers. The body of any honorably discharged soldier, sailor or marine, shall be buried (not among the pauper dead) at the expense of the State. The expense is limited to $100 for each burial. The act also applies to men who are residents of the State, but died when temporarily absent therefrom. (Chapter 178 of the 16th Legislative Assembly approved March 17, 1919.)

Recording Certificates of Discharge. Certificates of discharge will be recorded without charge, and soldiers indicated for preference to appointments to state and county offices. (Chapter 211, Legislative 1921.)

Sol rds' Moratorium. Under penalty of double damages, the foreclosure of real estate or chattel mortgages until one year after discharge, is prohibited. (Chapter 105, 16th Legislative Assembly, approved March 4, 1919.)

Veterans' Welfare Commission. A Veterans' Welfare Commission appointed to assist men going to and returning from the war; obtaining employment; providing education, training and comforts for them. Limited to residents at the time of enlistment or who hereafter become residents. The Commission may establish employment agencies, furnish employment, provide institutions, assist the United States in reclamation or reconstruction work, make grants or loans and expend funds entirely within its discretion. (Chapter 105, 16th Legislative Assembly, approved March 4, 1919.)

NEBRASKA.

Aid to Disabled and Needy Ex-service Men. An endowment fund of $2,000,000 has been appropriated by the State, the income to aid disabled and needy ex-service men, their widows and orphans.
Armistice Day. Armistice Day, November 11, made a State holiday.

Bonus. A bill has been enacted by the recent session of the State Legislature and must be referred to referendum of the people in 1924 before it can become effective. Provisions governing its administration must then be enacted by the State Legislature.

Burial Expenses. Any veteran of the World War, who dies without sufficient means to defray his funeral expenses, will be buried at an expense not to exceed $60 by the county. Burial will not be made by any cemetery used exclusively for paupers. If the surviving relatives desire to conduct the funeral but are unable to bear the expenses, they will be allowed to do so, and the county will assume the expense to $60.

Certificates of Discharge Recorded Free of Charge. Certificates of discharge may be recorded in the office of any county clerk free of charge.

Financial Aid. A Soldiers’ Relief Commission (appointed by the county board in each county) renders assistance to the following persons if they are in financial distress:

1. Any person honorably discharged after service with the armed forces of the United States in time of war.
2. Wives, widows, and minor children of such discharged or deceased soldiers, sailors, or marines; minor boys must not be over 14 years, nor girls more than 16. Apply Soldiers’ Relief Commission of the County of residence.

Markers for Soldiers’ Graves. Upon the written petition of five reputable property owners of any township, precinct, or municipality, the County Board of Supervisors will furnish an appropriate metal marker, to be placed on the grave of every soldier, sailor or marine who has served with honor in the forces of the United States and who is buried within the limits of the township, precinct, or municipality from which the request arises. Such petition must contain the names of the men for whose graves markers are desired.

Soldiers’ and Sailors’ Home. The Nebraska Soldiers’ and Sailors’ Home at Burkett, and the branch at Molford, will admit honorably discharged veterans of the World War, residents of the State two years immediately preceding their application, and are disabled and incapable of earning a livelihood as the result of service, old age, or other causes, and who have no means of support.

The wives, widows and mothers of men who died in the service and the widows of men who died after having been honorably discharged, if residents of the State for at least two years, are 50 years of age or over, and are unable to earn a livelihood and without any other means of support.

Apply for admission through County Board of Supervisors.

Verbal Wills. Any soldier, sailor, or marine, while in actual service (on an expedition or on shipboard) can legally dispose of his wages or personal estate by verbal will, and certain restrictions which usually apply to such wills are waived.

NEVADA.

American Legion Emblem. Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem.

Civil Service Preference. Has adopted State Civil Service preference for veterans. Also assists veterans in securing employment.

Employment. State officers and contractors cannot employ aliens on state jobs and contracts; preference is given to ex-service men, but aliens who have not forfeited their right to citizenship by claiming exemption from military service may be employed as common laborers, provided citizens or wards or honorably discharged soldiers of the United States are not available as such laborers; provided, also, that such aliens must be replaced by such citizens, wards or honorably discharged soldiers applying for employment. This act is not applicable to university professors, and does not affect convict labor.
Hospitalization. Separate quarters are provided at the Nevada Hospital for Mental Diseases, for the treatment and care of World War veterans who are suffering from or afflicted by shell-shock and other mental diseases, and who, in the judgment of the superintendent of the hospital, should not be confined with other inmates thereof. Appropriation of $4,000 for carrying out the provisions of the act.

Land Settlement. Title to the bed of Einnemucca Lake is held by the state. This law has a bearing upon future land settlement by veterans.

Memorials. Provision is made for the erection of a Nevada Heroes' Memorial Building at Carson City. Two large rooms in the building will be set aside for the exclusive use of veterans.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

American Legion. All property owned by Legion posts is exempt. An office in the State Capitol is furnished for use as department headquarters of the Legion without expense.

Bonus. Whenever the National Guard of this State or any part thereof shall be called into active service under the requisition of the President of the United States, or whenever any citizen of the state shall be drafted into or shall volunteer for such service, every enlisted man of such National Guard, drafted men or volunteers so in service shall receive from the State of New Hampshire the sum of $7 a month, the same to be in addition to any pay he may receive from the Government of the United States; provided, however, that the total per month received by the soldier from the United States and under this act shall not exceed $30 and only such part of $7 per month shall be paid said soldier as will make the said total $30.

Chapter 1, Special Laws September 11, 1919, provides for the payment of an additional $70 to all persons entitled to and who have been paid the bonus mentioned.

To all those who have been paid the bonus the additional amount will be paid without application. (Chapter 213, approved April 29, 1919.)

Burial Expenses. Whenever any resident of the state dies, who served in the United States Army, Navy, or Marine Corps, during the Spanish-American War, the Philippine Insurrection or the World War, prior to November 12, 1918, who has been honorably discharged therefrom and a majority of the selectmen of the town or the mayor of the city in which such person died, shall certify under oath to the State Treasurer that such person did not leave sufficient estate to pay the expenses of his funeral, the governor shall draw a warrant in favor of the selectmen or mayor not exceeding $50 to defray such burial expenses. (Act approved April 5, 1921.)

Exemption from Payment of Hawker's and Peddler's License. Any veteran of the World War disabled by reason of his service or since discharge, or his widow, is exempt from the payment of license fee to hawk or peddle. (Chap. 24, approved March 5, 1919—amending Sec. 9, Chap. 76, of the Laws of 1897.)

Exemption from Poll Tax. The selectmen of towns and assessors of cities in their discretion may exempt any veteran who served in the World War prior to November 12, 1918, and is disabled in consequence, from paying a poll tax. (Act February 24, 1921.)

Soldiers' Home. The New Hampshire Soldiers' Home was established for the care of veterans of various wars, including the World War, who were or shall be honorably discharged and are or may become unable to earn a livelihood by reason of wounds, disease, old-age or other infirmity, and have not adequate means of support.

State aid. Whenever any veteran who served in the World War prior to November 12, 1918, and who received an honorable discharge, becomes unable to provide for himself and dependent family, they shall be supported at the public expense in the town of their abode, at their own home or any other place, other than a town or county almshouse.
NEW JERSEY.

American Legion Emblem. Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem.


Bonus. A bonus of $10 for each month in service between March 25, 1917, and date of discharge. Maximum, $100. Not payable to men enlisting after November 11, 1918. Applications closed November 30, 1921, or one year from date of discharge, provided claimant was in service on date of passage of act. In case of deceased persons, payments made to dependents.

Burial Expenses. The Board of Freeholders in each county is to appoint a person other than the person in charge of paupers and criminals, to care for the burial of all veterans of any war of the United States, who die without leaving money to pay funeral expense. The expense of this funeral shall not exceed $100. (Chapter 207.)

Civil Service. Preserves priority right to appointment of promotion of persons under civil service while engaged in the military or naval service of the United States. (Chap. 70.) No veteran holding a public position or office shall be removed from such position or office except for good cause shown after a fair and impartial hearing, nor shall he be removed for political reason.

Education. A diploma will be granted to pupils of public schools or educational institutions who enter military or naval service of United States during senior year. (Chap. 115.)

Employment Bureau. A non-salaried State employment bureau has been created to act as agent of the Federal Government, in organizing employment work for men discharged from service. The chief executive officer of every municipality is made an agent of the Federal State Municipal Employment Bureau. (Chapter 5.)

Exemptions. Any wounded or disabled veteran who has completed any of the vocational institutional courses in any college or school prescribed by the Federal Government may qualify for the study of accounting, architecture, law or nursing without taking preliminary examinations therefor.

Honorably discharged veterans or their widows during their widowhood, and all persons at present engaged in any military or naval service are exempt from poll taxes and from state, county and municipal taxation, upon real and personal property, to the value of $500. All exemptions from taxation for veterans of this war, and their widows, shall be allowed immediately upon filing a claim in writing with the assessors and collectors of taxation, in each municipality. A claim may be filed by the man himself or by any society, incorporated under the laws of the state to assist soldiers, sailors veterans and their widows to file such claims free of expense provided the society’s records are located in the state. The governing body of each municipality may return all taxes collected which would have been exempt had the proper claim been made. There is a penalty of $35 for violation of this act. (Chapters 46 and 47.)

Headstones. Graves of deceased veterans buried at public expense shall be marked by headstones to cost not more than $35, and to be of such design and materials as shall be approved by the Governor, Adjutant General and Quartermaster General of the State. (Chapter 21.)

Memorials. The governing body of each municipality is granted the power to provide for the purchase of a building already erected within the limits of such municipality together with the site, for dedication to public use as a memorial to World War veterans.

The borough council of any borough having a population of not less than 10,000 is authorized to issue certificates of indebtedness to an amount not exceeding $15,000 for the purchase of land within the municipality limits, and for the construction and erection thereon of a monument as a permanent memorial to World War veterans.
Pensions. Retirement on pension after 20 years' service in public office will be extended to honorably discharged veterans, providing the person has attained the age of 62 years, or becomes incapacitated for performing the duties of his office. (Chapter 249.)

Pensions for Blind Soldiers. A pension of $300 annually will be paid in semi-annual payments to veterans of the World War who have sustained a total loss of sight as a result of said service. (Chapter 207.)

Public Building. Any municipality is authorized to lease to a post or posts of veterans' organizations any public building or part thereof for their use except for commercial business, trade or manufacture, without expense or at a nominal rental fee, and may provide for the cost thereof for furniture and furnishings, heat, light and janitor service. This act does not apply to school buildings or buildings controlled by boards of education.

Preference in Employment. Honorably discharged veterans shall be given preference on lists of eligibles for state and municipal offices. Physical disability shall not disqualify them if they possess the necessary business capacity to discharge the duties of the position. This extends to men employed by cities, towns and villages. (Chapter 125.)

State Armories. The State Military Board may permit the use of any state armory for any recognized veterans' organization for any military, social, boxing, theatrical, musical or other affair. If no admission fee is charged or if the proceeds are to be used for any building or sick fund, only a sum covering the actual cost of heat, light and janitor's services shall be charged.

NEW MEXICO.

Exemption from Poll Tax and Property to Amount of $2,000. Veterans or their widows are exempt from payment of poll taxes and taxes on property not to exceed $2,000. This exemption applies to the property of the wife of any veteran where they are living together and occupying the same as their homestead and he has not otherwise received such benefit. (Chap. 165, Laws of 1919.)

Has a functioning State Settlement Board which is authorized by law to cooperate with the Federal Government in settling ex-service men upon the land.

NEW YORK.

Adjusted Compensation. Legislature memorialized Congress to enact the Adjusted Compensation Bill.

American Legion. Convention of New York, 1923.—An appropriation of $1,000 for the printing of the record of the 1923 Convention of The American Legion—Department of New York. (Chapter 225, Laws 1923.)

Road to Veterans Mountain Camp.—An appropriation of $150,000 for the construction of a road to the Veterans Mountain Camp of The American Legion. (Chapter 143, Laws of 1923.)

Soldiers' and Sailors' Home—Admission.—Admitting veterans of the World War, under regulations, to the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home.

Soldiers' and Sailors' Home—Trustees.—Making the Commander, Department of New York, The American Legion, an ex-officio member of the Board of Trustees of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home at Path. (Chapter 490, Laws of 1923.)

Taxes—Cancellation on Kings County Buildings.—Authorizing the cancellation of taxes, water rents and assessments now a lien on the Kings County Building of The American Legion and on the property of Woodhaven Post of The American Legion.

Taxes—Exemption of Legion Property.—Exempting the real property of Posts of the Legion used exclusively by the Posts from payment of taxes. (Chapter 679, Laws of 1923.)
**Bonus.** (Not yet payable.) A State bonus providing $10 for each month of service between the dates of the Declaration of War and the Armistice was passed by vote of the people with a majority of more than 800,000, appropriating $45,000,000 to meet the payments. The Court of Appeals, however, declared the bond issue unconstitutional. The State Legislature then provided an amendment to the Constitution to permit the sale of bonds. This question will go before the voters at the next general election. If the constitutional amendment is adopted, the Legislature in 1924, will automatically provide for the issuance and sale of the bonds, and machinery will be instituted for payment of same.

**Discharges.** Certificates of honorable discharges of veterans shall be recorded in the office of the country clerk, in any county without payment of a fee. (Chapter 283, Laws of 1922.)

**Financial Aid.** Aid for sick or disabled veterans, residents of the State of New York, and who served at least sixty days between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918. A person without dependents is allowed $30 a month, and one having dependents is allowed $10 additional for wife or widowed mother and $5 for each other dependent, the total amount for dependents not to exceed $30 per month—provided such person is not receiving aid from the United States Government. Persons receiving federal aid of a lesser amount than herein provided shall receive the difference. Except in especially needy cases, no person shall receive in excess of an aggregate of $250 and then not in excess of $500.

**Funeral Allowance Increased.** Providing that the City of New York and the Board of Supervisors in each County may appropriate funds for the burial of veterans, increasing the maximum from $75 to $100. (Chapter 484, Laws 1923.)

**Insane.** The insanity laws provide the commitment of insane veterans for a period not exceeding ten days at the Veterans' Hospital, Kingsbridge Road and Sedgwick Avenue, New York City, for observation and treatment. Veterans who have been committed to a State Hospital for the insane prior to the passage of the act may be transferred to the Veterans' Hospital.

**Leave for Reserve Members.** Granting State and Municipal employes, members of the Military, Naval and Marine Reserve, leave of absence with pay when called for active duty, not to exceed thirty days in any one year. (Chapter 458, Laws 1923.)

**License for Hawking and Peddling.** Licenses for hawking and peddling are issued to honorably discharged veterans of any war without charge. (Chapter 458, Laws 1923.)

**Literacy Test.** Providing that new voters to be eligible to vote must pass the literacy test to be given by the State Board of Regents. (Chapter 509, Laws 1923.)

**Memorials.** The State Legislature authorized the town of Waterford to issue bonds to provide a park and monument in memory of veterans. Land in Bronx County granted for a memorial to World War Veterans. (Chapter 474, Laws 1923.)

**Hospital—** An appropriation of $1,500,000 for the construction of a State Military Hospital at Kings Park to be used solely for the care and treatment of World War veterans.

**Pensions.** Blind Veterans.—Appropriating $10,000 for the payment of $500 annually to each New York State veteran totally blind as a result of service in the World War. (Chapter 244, Laws 1923.)

Peter J. Kogler—Granting a pension to Peter J. Kogler, A World War veteran injured at Sing Sing while attempting to prevent an escape.

**Preferences.** Giving the New York Police and Fire Commissioner the right to rehear charges of those who were dismissed or resigned to enter the service during the War. (Chapter 783, Laws 1923.)
Civil Service—Constitutional amendment giving preference in Civil Service to disabled ex-service men of any war. (This amendment will have to pass the Legislature of 1925, before being submitted to the people for approval.)

N. Y. City Police Department—Providing that honorable service in the armed forces of the United States during war be considered in rating members of the New York City Police Department on permanent examinations. (Chapter 623, Laws 1923.)

War Time Ratings to be Permanent—Providing that those who received Civil Service promotions and increases in salary for 1920, because of conditions caused by the War and who have served in such higher grades for three years shall, upon passing examination be given permanent positions and seniority ratings from date of entry into service.

Votes—for Soldiers and Sailors in Homes. An amendment to the Constitution to allow inmates of Soldiers and Sailors Homes the right to vote has been passed by two successive legislatures and will be voted upon by the people this fall.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Loans. The State Legislature enacted a bill last March, providing that honorably discharged veterans, who served more than sixty days between date of Declaration of War and the Armistice, may be loaned not to exceed $3,000 from the World War Veterans Loan Fund for the purpose of acquiring homes. The question of contracting a bonded indebtedness of the State up to $2,000,000 to provide funds for the loans, will be submitted to a vote of the people at the general election in 1924.

Probating Wills of Soldiers and Sailors. The will of a veteran, executed while in actual service, shall be admitted to probate upon the oath of three credible witnesses as to the genuineness of the signature. (Laws, 1919. Chapter 216, March 10, 1919.)

Soldiers' Settlement Board. Cooperates with veterans in the settlement of State lands, and the securing of useful employment and rural homes.

NORTH DAKOTA.

American Legion Emblem. Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem.


Bonus. A bonus of $25 for each month in the service has been provided for use without restrictions.

Exemption from Taxation. Under certain conditions ex-service men are exempt from State tax levies.

OHIO.

American Legion Emblem. Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem.

Armistice Day. Armistice Day, November 11 made a State holiday.

Bonus. A bonus at the rate of $10 a month, but not to exceed $250 for the full period of active service to date of separation. Applicants must have been enrolled in the forces of the United States, or being a citizen of the United States, in similar forces of any of the governments associated with the United States in the War; residing in Ohio at the time of enlistment, induction or commission; served honorably at some time between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918, with a grade not higher than captain in the Army or Marine Corps or corresponding grade (Lieutenant) in the Navy. Bonus is not payable to conscientious objectors, but is payable to heirs-at-law of deceased men who would have been entitled to it. Applications of heirs-at-law must be filed on special blanks.

Burial. Honorably discharged veterans, their mothers, wives or widows, and Army nurses dying without sufficient means to defray necessary funeral
expenses, will be buried in any cemetery or burial ground within the State, other than those used exclusively for the burial of paupers and criminals, without charge.

Free Tuition. Any citizen of the State who has resided there for one year and who was in the active service of the United States as soldier, sailor, nurse or marine, between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918, and was honorably discharged, shall be admitted to any school, college or university which receives state funds in support thereof, without being required to pay any tuition or matriculation fee, but shall not be relieved of the payment of laboratory or similar fees.

Soldiers' Relief Act. The provisions of the Soldiers Relief Act has been extended to all veterans of the war with Germany, and their wives, widows, indigent parents, minor children and wards, who have been bona fide residents of the state one year and of the county six months, who in the opinion of the Soldiers' Relief Commission are in need of relief. The Commission consists of three residents of the county. It appoints township or ward committees to receive applications for aid, investigates such applications, and reports in May of each year to the Commission. The Commission determines the amount of monthly allowance, certifies it to County Auditor, who issues warrants monthly to township treasurers. In case of sickness, accident, or great destitution, upon recommendation of township or ward committees, it may grant relief. (H. B. 508.)

OKLAHOMA.

American Legion. Granting in perpetuity to The American Legion, a memorial hall and State Headquarters in the State Capitol.

Armistice Day. Armistice Day, November 11, made a State holiday.

Bonus. An amendment to the constitution has been proposed which provides for the payment of cash compensation of $30 a month with a maximum of $250. Another option provides credit of $50 for each month of service with a maximum of $500 if applied on purchase or payments of a home or farm with an option of securing a loan of not to exceed $1,500 in addition at 5% interest to be repaid the state in 25 years or earlier if desired, with only interest accrued at date of repayment. It is believed that the constitutional amendment will pass by a heavy majority at the special election.

Burial Free of Cost. Service and ex-service men, their wives, army nurses and their husbands, and all members of the state militia may be buried free of cost in the state cemetery.

Confederate Soldiers' Home. Indigent veterans of the World War, aged wives and widows of such veterans, will be received and cared for at the Confederate Soldiers' Home. (H. B. 251.)

Disabled. An appropriation of $100,000 for ward building at Norman for veterans who are shell-shocked and mental cases, to be built by the Soldier's Relief Commission and operated by Dr. D. W. Griffin, Supt., Oklahoma State Hospital at Norman.

An appropriation of $100,000 for additional ward buildings at Soldiers' Tubercular Sanatorium at Sulphur to be built by the Soldiers' Relief Commission.

An appropriation for personnel building to be built by Soldiers' Relief Commission at Soldiers' Memorial Hospital, Muskogee, which has been leased to the Government.

Appropriation of $100,000 for relief of destitute disabled veterans, their wives, widows, and minor children, for two years beginning July 1, 1925, to be expended by the Governor on recommendation of The American Legion and the American Red Cross.

Discharge Certificates. Certified copies of discharge certificates are furnished by the County Commissioners of each County without charge. (S. S. 316.)
F. I. D. A. C. A resolution memorializing Congress in behalf of the F. I. D. A. C. declaration of principles promoting world peace adopted by the Legion New Orleans Convention.

Oklahoma Union Soldiers' Home. This home is open to aged, dependent veterans and their dependent wives, widows, and mothers, and to aged and dependent Army nurses, and to dependent and honorably discharged members of the Oklahoma National Guard who served as long as three years.

Peddling License. Peddling and hawking without a license is permitted for indigent veterans.

Tax Exemption. A $200 tax exemption for veterans is provided.

OREGON.

Admission to State Hospital. Veterans of the World War who were residents of Oregon at the time of their enrollment may enter the Roseburg Home on the same basis as veterans of other wars.

American Legion Emblem. Law passed for protection of The Legion emblem.

Armistice Day. Armistice Day, November 11, made a State holiday.

Burial Expenses. An appropriation of $15,000 to provide permanent care and improvement of the veterans' burial plot in Mt. Scott Park Cemetery, situated in the counties of Clackamas and Multnomah. Cemetery was deeded by the Cemeterial Association to a Commission representing veterans of all wars, to provide proper burial for all war veterans who have no one to care for them and such veterans who desire to be buried in the veterans' plot.

Bonus. Each person who was a resident of the State at the time of enrollment and who served honorably in the military or naval forces between the 6th day of April, 1917, and the 11th day of November, 1918, for a period of more than sixty days, is given the option of receiving a payment from the state of $15 per month for each month of service, or a loan for the purchase of farms or city and suburban homes, or for other purposes, up to a maximum of $3,000 or seventy-five per cent of the appraised valuation of the property.

Educational Aid. Payment of $25 a month is made to an honorably discharged veteran for continuing education in any institution of learning within the state and registered under the state laws, providing he attains sixty hours of instruction a month. Proportional aid is granted those taking fewer hours of instruction.

Employment. State Highway Commission was authorized February, 1919, to proceed immediately with work upon roads in order to provide necessary employment for veterans.

Employment of Aliens. Employment of certain aliens by public officials on public works is prohibited.

Illegal Wearing of Uniform. Any one not a veteran is prohibited from wearing any button, insignia or emblem issued by the United States Government on account of military service rendered; or the wearing of clothing of army issue by any one not a veteran for the purpose of impersonating a veteran.

Land Settlement Commission. Oregon Land Settlement Commission provides useful employment and opportunity to acquire farm homes with profitable livelihood on the land for veterans.

Memorials. The law as amended provides that county funds up to $10,000 may be used for erecting buildings, monuments or arches to the memory of veterans of the World War.

Relief Funds—Needy Veterans. County courts are authorized to levy an additional tax of from one-thirteenth to one-tenth of one mill upon the taxable property of the county to create a fund for the relief of indigent veterans. Law provides for indigent widows and minor children and to defray
funeral expenses and the expenses of the last sickness of such veterans. This is to be paid from the funds by the Treasurer of the county, and applied for through the nearest post of a veteran society.

**Soldiers’ and Sailors’ Commission.** In 1919 the Governor was authorized to appoint a commission of five members to provide such care and financial assistance as the commission determined to be reasonably required by veterans of the World War. An appropriation of $100,000 was made for this purpose, the commission to be discontinued whenever Congress shall have made adequate provision for the care and assistance of discharged service men.

**State Medal.** A state service medal is issued to all honorably discharged veterans and also to other persons of any allied army who at the time of entering service were and are now residents of the state.

**State History.** A history of the state’s part in the World War and a complete record of former service men and women is being compiled.

**PENNSYLVANIA.**

- **American Legion Emblem.** Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem.
- **Armistice Day.** Armistice Day, November 11, made State holiday.
- **Bonus.** (Not yet payable.) Bill passed providing bonus payment of $10 for each month in service, maximum $206. Bill must lie over for two years, be passed by next legislature, and then be submitted to referendum at an election.
- **Cemetery for War Veterans.** Created a commission to select an historic spot as a cemetery for the burial of bodies of soldiers, sailors, marines, war nurses, and members of the National Guard.
- **Funeral Expenses.** Seventy-five dollars will be paid by the county toward the funeral expenses of any honorably discharged World War veteran, or his widow, who were residents of the state at the time of death. No money will be expended by the county in cases where the total expense of the funeral exceeds $300.
- **License to Peddle.** Disabled soldiers permitted to peddle by procuring a license without charge.
- **Memorials.** Counties, incorporated towns, and boroughs are authorized to appropriate annually to each post of the American Legion and other veterans’ organizations, money to aid in defraying the expenses of Memorial Day. The county Commissioners are also authorized to make additional appropriations where more than 500 graves are decorated on Memorial Day. Providing for the erection by counties of Memorial Halls in memory of the veterans in such counties. Directing the assistance of the Forestry Department in planting memorial trees for each Pennsylvanian who died in the service in the World War. Providing a commission to investigate the battlefields of France and Belgium and select points for the erection of monuments and markers to commemorate the achievements of Pennsylvania soldiers during the World War. (Acts Nos. 309, 313, 15, 195, and 432, Laws of 1921.)
- **Placement Training.** Providing for placement training in the several departments of the State Government for disabled veterans.
- **Soldiers’ and Sailors’ Home.** Providing for World War veterans among others on commission to establish a home for disabled and indigent veterans of any war in which the United States engaged. (Act No. 317, Laws 1921.)

**RHODE ISLAND**

- **Bonus.** Lump sum bonus of $100 is paid by Rhode Island. In case of death, it is payable to dependents or heirs-at-law. Applicant must be a resident of the state six months prior to entry into service. Any person receiving bonus from another state not eligible. (Army and Navy Nurses [female] included.)
(Chapter 1486.)

Burial of Honorably Discharged Soldiers. The town council of any town and the Board of Aldermen of any city shall annually designate some proper person, other than those designated by law for the care of paupers or the custody of criminals, who shall cause to be interred the body of any honorably discharged veteran who shall die without leaving means sufficient to defray necessary funeral expenses, or his widow; and in case the deceased has relatives or friends who desire to conduct the burial and who are unable or unwilling to pay the charge thereof, they shall be allowed to conduct the funeral, and the cost of said interment shall be paid to them by the town or city treasurer.

Any such interment shall not be made in any cemetery or plot used exclusively for the pauper dead, and the grave of any deceased veteran or his widow shall be marked by a headstone containing the name of the deceased, and, if possible, the name of the organization to which he belonged.

Certificates of Honorable Discharge. A certificate of honorable discharge of any veteran may be recorded without the payment of any fee in the office of the town clerk or city clerk, and a certified copy of same shall be considered sufficient and accepted in lieu thereof, whenever required in the state.

Decorating Graves. Six hundred dollars is appropriated for decorating on Memorial Day the graves of Civil War veterans and of the veterans of any other war of the United States.

Financial Assistance. An appropriation, to be expended by the agent of the state charities, has been made to assist service and ex-service men until such time as they may secure employment. Assistance is also given to their dependent families. Applications for aid should be submitted to Red Cross Division Office.

Metallic Markers. Metallic markers are furnished for graves of service and ex-service men.

Poll Tax Remitted. Assessment for poll tax is remitted for the period in which service is performed or by reason of extreme poverty.

Soldiers' Home. Any ex-service man, unable to earn his living by reason of wounds, disease, old age, or other infirmities, and without adequate means of support, can be admitted to Soldiers' Home. Applications for admission should be sent to State Board of Soldiers' Relief, State House, Providence, R. I. (Chapter 1751, 1919, Public Laws, amendment Chapter 104, General Laws.)

State Aid. Relief for worthy ex-service men and their families. Apply to State Board of Soldiers' Relief, State House, Providence, R. I.

Use of State Armories. Any veterans' organization may, for the purpose of holding meetings or entertainments, use the state armories.

Welfare Commission. Created for the purpose of disbursing $25,000 appropriated for the assistance of honorably discharged persons who are in need in consequence of service during the war.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Exemption from Taxation. Veterans under certain conditions are exempted from state taxation.

Free Tuition in State College. Veterans shall, upon complying with the ordinary entrance requirements, be admitted to any of the state colleges or institutions without being required to pay tuition. These provisions do not apply to students being educated under the United States Government. (Acts S. C. 1920, Page 978.)

Freedom from Obligation to Teach. Beneficiaries of "Normal scholarships" who entered the service of the United States during the World war are relieved from their obligation to teach for two years in the State of South Carolina. (Acts 1923.)
SOUTH DAKOTA.

American Legion Emblem. Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem.


Bonus. South Dakota pays $15 for each month in active service between April 6, 1917, and October 1, 1919—Maximum, $400. Right to file expires 1923.

Burial Expenses. In case the estate of the deceased veteran is not sufficient to defray funeral expenses the state pays such expenses, including cost of burial lot, the whole not to exceed $100 for any honorably discharged veteran or his wife or widow.

Exemption from Taxation. Homesteads not exceeding one acre in extent if within a town plat or 60 acres if outside a town plat, and other real or personal property not exceeding $5,000 in value within the state are exempted from taxation. This last provision applies to non-resident veterans. The exemption is limited to one year after discharge and is granted by county auditors. The privileges of the act may be waived by writing filed in the office of the clerk of the court in the county of residence.

Land Settlement Board. The Land Settlement Board acquires lands suitable for cultivation, improves and sells them to approved settlers, giving preference always to soldiers.

The act applies to veterans of all wars of the United States.

The terms of purchase are a first payment of not less than 10 per cent. of price and, if there are improvements, 20 per cent. of the cost thereof, balance to be paid in monthly installments over a period not to exceed 30 years with interest at not less than one-half per cent. per annum or more than one and one-half per cent. above the rate paid by the Board.

Loans of not to exceed $3,000 may be made to approved settlers on personal security or on personal property which sum shall include the money spent by the Board on improvements and the total amount loaned to any one person shall not exceed $10,000. No loans shall be made on property purchased after July 1, 1925. (Act of March 15, 1919.)

Political Preferment. The employment by the state and municipal corporations of veterans is required.

Soldiers' Moratorium. A moratorium for one year from date of discharge is granted to all veterans of the World War "from payment of any bill of exchange or any negotiable instrument or any other payment in pursuance of any contract except those contracts contained in any life insurance policy."

Soldiers' Relief Commission. Relief is given sick or disabled veterans temporarily. Appropriation of $15,000 for this, and Board composed of five members. The relief is limited and intended only to bridge a man over until he can secure vocational training or Government compensation.

State Athletic Commission. Ten per cent. of the gross receipts for boxing or sparring exhibitions goes to the state. After the salaries of the commissioners and secretary are paid, amounting to $3,300 per year, the treasurer of the state shall pay 50 per cent. of the balance of such 10 per cent. fund to the treasurer of the beneficiary fund of The American Legion, Department of South Dakota, to become a part of such fund and 50 per cent. of the South Dakota Children's Home Society.

TENNESSEE.

American Legion Emblem. Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem.

Assistance in Securing Federal Benefits. An ex-service men's Bureau has been appointed for the purpose of assisting veterans in securing the benefits now provided for them by Federal legislation. (H. B. 1186, Public Act of 1921, Chapter 137.)

Soldiers' Settlement Act. A Soldiers' Settlement Board has been appointed for the purpose of general cooperation with the Federal Government
in providing useful employment and rural homes for veterans, including former
American citizens who served in the Allied Armies who have been repatriated
and who have been honorably discharged. This Board may undertake reclama-
tion projects, and acquire land by purchase, gift, or otherwise; sell or rent the
lands acquired or undertake any work of farm improvement.

TEXAS.

American Legion Emblem. Passed law for protection of the Legion em-
blem.


Exemption from Payment of Poll Tax. The right of franchise is granted
to veterans without payment of poll tax.

Recording of Certificates of Discharge. Discharge certificates of veterans
are recorded by county clerks without charge.

Suspension of Limitations. Providing further the suspension of all stat-
utes of limitations during the twelve months after discharge as to any debt,
right or cause of action.

UTAH.

American Legion Emblem. Passed law for protection of the Legion em-
blem.

Recording of Military Records. Every county recorder, upon presentation,
shall record free of charge, honorable discharges from the services of the
United States and all orders, citations, and decorations of honor relating to
any person while he was in the service of the United States. Every county
recorder shall furnish free of charge certified copies of any of the documents
mentioned to the person to whom they relate or to his relatives.

Use of State Armories. Under regulations of the State Armory Board,
young organization of veterans of any war shall have free use of armories owned
or leased by the state, providing this shall not interfere with the use of same
by the National Guard or the organized militia.

VERMONT.

American Legion Emblem. Passed law for protection of the Legion em-
blem.

Armistice Day. Armistice Day, November 11, made a State holiday.

Bonus. Vermont pays a bonus of $10 per month for each month in serv-
ce, but not to exceed one year, or $120, payable to men in the World War.
Provisions do not apply to commissioned officers.

VIRGINIA.

American Legion. Law passed for protection of the Legion emblem.
An appropriation of $5,000 was made in 1919 to be used in the organi-
ization of The American Legion in the state.

Armistice Day. Armistice Day, November 11, made a State holiday.

Historical Records. An appropriation of $1,000 has been made for ob-
taining data pertaining to the veterans of the World War in the state.

Memorials. County, city or town officials are authorized to appropriate
money for the erection of memorials to World War veterans. Where such
sums exceed $500 the expenditure shall be made only upon a petition of one-
fourth of the qualified voters of a county or town, or one-tenth of the voters
of a city.

WASHINGTON.

Bonus. A bonus of $15 per month for each month of service, between
the dates of April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1919, is payable to veterans and
to citizens of the United States serving with any of the Allied Govern-
ments. Widows of deceased veterans eligible; also parents of deceased veterans who can prove dependency.

Preference in Appointment and Employment. Veterans are given preference in appointment and employment in every public department and upon all public works of the state. Age, loss of limb, or other physical impairment which does not incapacitate shall not disqualify them. Veterans' Welfare Commissions or Boards have been instituted providing relief for veterans in need. Funds have been authorized by an appropriation of the State Legislature.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Burial Expense. An allowance, not to exceed $75 for burial expenses, will be paid for burial of deceased veterans.

Relief Fund. A relief fund of $100,000 has been appropriated by the state legislature for the relief of disabled veterans who receive fund on recommendation of the Legion, but no applicant may receive more than $100 at a time.

Schools. All schools within the state must give courses of instruction in the history of the United States, in civics, and the Constitution of the United States and of the State of West Virginia. Every person before being qualified to teach a term at school must take an oath to support the Constitution of the United States and of the State of Virginia.

Enacted a law making it compulsory to fly the flag of the United States at all schoolhouses.

WISCONSIN.

American Legion Emblem. Law passed for protection of the Legion emblem.

Armistice Day. Armistice Day, November 11, made a State holiday.

Bonus. Each veteran and nurse who served in our armed forces during the World War and who at the time of enrollment was a resident of Wisconsin, is entitled to a cash bonus not exceeding $10 for each month of service, with a minimum of $50.

The full time Educational Bonus is an alternative to this cash bonus. (Chapter 667, Laws of 1919, approved July 28, 1919.)

Care of Soldiers' Graves. Provision has been made that every town or village board, or the council of any city shall be held responsible for the proper care and upkeep of the graves and tombstones of all deceased veterans or their wives and widows. The expense of this care will be borne by the county in which the graves are located except where other adequate provision is made. The board is also required to report to the county clerk the location of all such graves, together with the name, rank, organization and date of death of the veteran. (Chapter 336, Laws of 1919, approved June 17, 1919.)

Civil Service Preference. Preference in civil service is given to veterans of any of the wars of the United States, providing other conditions are equal. (No. 35, S. Chapter 18, Laws of 1919, approved March 22, 1919.)

Educational Bonus. Veterans, residents of Wisconsin, honorably discharged since April 7, 1917, after 3 months' active service during the War (exclusive of time spent in the S. A. T. O. or while doing civilian work at civilian pay) and who enlisted prior to November 1, 1918, will be offered special opportunities for continuing their education in the various schools and colleges for Wisconsin. These educational opportunities include:

1) Thirty dollars per month in lieu of the cash bonus for those taking full time courses with a total of not more than $1,080 to one person.

2) Free correspondence courses secured through the State Board of Education from the Extension Division of the University of Wisconsin in addition to cash bonus and in lieu of full time courses.
(3) Special vocational or academic part time day or evening classes for those not taking full time training.

The State Board of Education is responsible for the administration of this act.

When a veteran who is desirous of entering school under the benefits of this educational bonus has drawn the cash bonus, and if financially unable to return the cash bonus, the State Board of Education will allow the benefits commencing the date of assignment to school with the further provision that the monthly benefits be withheld by the State Board of Education until the aggregate amount he or she received of the cash bonus can be returned to the Service Recognition Board by the State Board of Education. (No. 204, S. Chapter 180, Laws 1921, approved 1921.)

Financial Aid. The following persons, if in difficulty, may file application with their county judge for financial aid:

(1) Soldiers, sailors or marines who performed military or naval duty for the United States in time of war and who are in need of help.
(2) Their wives or widows.
(3) The minor and helpless children of deceased service men.
(4) The needy parents of such deceased men who have left surviving them no widow or children entitled to this relief.

Written application for this aid must be filed with the county judge on or before November 1 of each year. It must be signed by the applicant or some person legally authorized to act for him, and must contain his name, residence, general financial circumstances, estimated amount necessary for his needs for the ensuing year and any other essential facts upon which the request for relief is based.

The county judge is responsible for any investigation or examination which he deems necessary and determines the amount, if any, to which an applicant is entitled. Each person receiving aid will be required to file with the judge of his county every month an itemized statement, showing how the money has been spent. The original receipts for all such expenditures must be kept and presented with this statement. The judge may require the persons receiving assistance to do such work "as in his judgment he or she can do without detriment to health or neglect of household duties."

Memorial Hospital. A hospital to be known as the Wisconsin Memorial Hospital will be constructed, equipped, and operated for the care and treatment of discharged veterans and nurses who served in our armed forces during the World War, and who are suffering from mental diseases, and are or may become beneficiaries of the Federal War Risk Insurance Act.

When the hospital is completed it shall be managed and supervised by the State Board of Control as are other state penal, charitable, and reformatory institutions. (No. 119, S. Chapter 305, Laws of 1921.)

Recording Certificates of Discharge. Every veteran or nurse of the World War, honorably discharged, shall arrange to have his certificate of discharge or release recorded with the registrar of deeds of some county within the state. The registrar will record these certificates free of charge. The previous recording of any certificate is considered to legally fulfill this requirement. (Chapter 465, Laws of 1919, approved June 26, 1919.)

Soldiers' Relief Commission. A Soldiers' Relief Commission shall be appointed in every county for the administration of a fund to provide relief to all needy veterans, the indigent wives, widows, minor or dependent children of deceased veterans, and the indigent parents of veterans who have left no surviving widows or children entitled to such relief.

The fund for this relief shall come from a tax levied in each county sufficient to carry out the purpose of this commission. The Commission shall consist of three residents of the county, each of whom shall be an honorably discharged veteran, one to serve three years, one two years, and one to serve one year from the date of appointment. (Chapter 7, Laws of 1919, approved 1919.)

State Compensation for the Disabled. Wounded, sick or disabled veterans
who are dependent upon themselves for support may receive from the state $30 per month during their period of convalescence.

This provision applies to those who establish the following facts:
(1) That they were discharged from service with the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps during the World War.
(2) That they were bona fide residents of Wisconsin at the time of entry into Federal military or naval service.
(3) That being dependent upon their own earnings for a livelihood, they are disabled by disease or injury.
(4) That they have not sufficiently recovered to resume remunerative employment.

Temporary Assistance. Temporary financial assistance may be granted to honorably discharged veterans or their wives, widows or minor children by county or town officials responsible for the relief of the poor or by special agents appointed by the county board for this purpose. This aid will not be continued for more than three months at one time or in one year unless the town board, village trustee, city council or county board determine otherwise. (Chapter 345, Laws of 1919, approved June 12, 1919.)

Town Funds for Soldiers’ Relief. Towns are authorized to raise money by vote for the support of destitute soldiers and their families. This money must not exceed $150 for any one family and will be expended under the direction of the town board. (Chapter 551, Laws of 1919, approved June 17, 1919.)

Wisconsin State Board of Control. The Legislature has passed a law authorizing that all moneys received by the state from the United States for the care of veterans disabled during the War shall be paid into the general fund of the Treasury and allotted by a State Board of Control to such institutions in the state as the said Board shall deem proper.

WYOMING.

Armistice Day. Armistice Day, November 11, made a State holiday.

Land Settlement Act. Land Settlement Board has been appointed to cooperate with the United States in reclamation work, in providing useful employment and rural homes for veterans who have served in the armed forces of the United States, including American citizens who served in allied armies and who have been honorably discharged. The act also includes other citizens of the United States. (Act of February 28, 1919, Chapter 143.)

Tax Exemption. Veterans who are residents of Wyoming will be exempted from the payment of taxes on not exceeding $2,000 in real or personal property. The tax exemption privilege applies equally to veterans of the Civil War, of the Spanish-American War and the recent World War.

UNIVERSAL DRAFT.

During the year preceding the New Orleans Convention, the Military Affairs Committee of the Legion gave careful study to the drafting of legislation responsive to resolutions of the Kansas City Convention, which would conscript in time of war all the resources of the nation, as well as its man power. In this work the Military Affairs Committee was materially aided by your National Legislative Committee.

The results of the work of these two Legion Committees were placed before the New Orleans Convention in the form of proposed legislation, which was unanimously adopted as a policy for The American Legion, and your National Legislative Committee was instructed to present the resolutions and proposed legislation to the appropriate committees of the Congress and urge their enactment into law during the short session which terminated March 4, 1923. The law proposed by the Legion resolutions was as follows:

An Act to provide further for the National Security and Defense.

Be it enacted, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled.
That, in the event of a national emergency declared by Congress to exist, which in the judgment of the President demands the immediate increase of the military establishment, the President be, and he hereby is, authorized to draft into the service of the United States such members of the Unorganized Militia as he may deem necessary; provided, that all persons drafted into service between the ages of 21 and 30, or such other limits as the President may fix, shall be drafted without exception on account of industrial occupation.

(2) That in case of war, or when the President shall judge the same to be imminent, he is authorized and it shall be his duty when, in his opinion, such emergency requires it.

(a) To determine and proclaim the material resources, industrial organizations and services over which Government control is necessary to the successful termination of such emergency, and such control shall be exercised by him through agencies then existing or which he may create for such purposes;

(b) To take such steps as may be necessary to stabilize prices of services and of all commodities declared to be essential, whether such services and commodities are required by the Government or by the civilian population.

Accordingly, at the request of your National Legislative Committee, two pieces of legislation were introduced by Legionnaires in the Congress on December 6th, 1922. These were H. J. Res. 400, introduced by Representative John J. McSwain, of South Carolina, and H. R. 13,201, introduced by Representative Royal C. Johnson, of South Dakota. The text of this legislation follows:

H. J. Res. 400. To promote peace and to equalize the burdens and to minimize the profits of war.

Whereas it is the duty of Congress to require that the burdens and benefits of war shall be justly and fairly distributed; and

Whereas it is the duty of all citizens to contribute to our Nation's success in war according to their several capacities and resources; and

Whereas modern warfare rests increasingly upon scientific knowledge and industrial resources and must be carried on by the Nation as a whole and not merely by the young men in arms; and

Whereas to take the profits out of war and to require equal service for all, and deny special profits to any, will be conducive to peace (which is our traditional policy); and

Whereas we should employ the experience of recent wars to work out and enact into law, while we are yet at peace, such provisions and policies to be pursued when war shall come as shall empower the President immediately to mobilize all the resources of the country: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a commission is hereby created to draft and report to the President of the United States, who in turn shall transmit the same, with or without his approval, to Congress not later than the first Monday in December, 1923, proposed legislation to accomplish in fact the principles and policies expressed in this resolution.

That said Commission shall be bipartisan and nonpolitical and shall be composed of four members of the Military Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives and two members of the Military Affairs Committee of the Senate, the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, the Secretary of Commerce, and three other persons not holding official or governmental position whatever, and selected with a view to represent in a general sense the views of labor, industry, and capital, respectively.

Within thirty days after the approval of this resolution, the President shall appoint and announce the members of said Commission and
shall direct the same to meet in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, as soon thereafter as may be practicable, and shall supply from the War Department all necessary office and clerical assistance.

When said commission shall meet it shall organize by electing one of its number as chairman, and another as vice chairman, and shall appoint a secretary and proceed to draft proposed legislation to accomplish the aims and purposes of this resolution; and such proposed legislation, with any comment upon same deemed desirable, shall be transmitted to the President not later than November 1, 1923, and the President shall direct that there shall be printed not exceeding five thousand copies thereof for the use of Congress.

That the guiding principle to control the labors of said commission is that true preparedness demands our calm and careful adoption in advance of another war of a nationwide policy of service for all citizens to the end that, while young men are laying down for their country the comforts and joys of home and family, their health, their strength and time, their blood, bodies, and life itself, others not required to make these greater sacrifices may be required to lay down equitably and fairly some of their material resources and wealth, to the great end that victory for the Nation’s ideals may speedily come, and that after victory there be no need for any adjustment of compensation, and no mighty war debt piled up to sap the strength of the producing activities of the people for scores of years.

That no compensation shall be paid any member of said commission, and no expenses shall be incurred by them except the actual cost of maintenance and travel to the three members of the commission not already holding an official position.

H. R. 13,201. To provide further for the national security and defense.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in the event of a national emergency declared by Congress to exist which in the judgment of the President demands the immediate increase of the Military Establishment, the President be, and he hereby is, authorized to draft into the service of the United States such members of the unorganized militia as he may deem necessary: Provided, That all persons drafted into service between the ages of twenty-one and thirty, or such other limits as the President may fix, shall be drafted without exemption on account of industrial occupation.

Sec. 2. That in case of war, or when the President shall judge the same to be imminent, he is authorized and it shall be his duty when, in his opinion, such emergency requires it—

(a) To determine and proclaim the material resources, industrial organizations and services over which Government control is necessary to the successful termination of such emergency, and such control shall be exercised by him through agencies then existing or which he may create for such purposes;

(b) To take such steps as may be necessary to stabilize prices of services and of all commodities declared to be essential, whether such services and commodities are required by the Government or by the civilian population.

Immediately following the New Orleans Convention, your National Legislative Committee presented the Legion resolutions on the Universal Draft Legislation to the late President Harding, who gave them his unqualified approval. In his Memorial Day address, May 30th, last, the late President featured his approval of legislation of this character, not only as a matter of national defense, but as an honest effort to distribute the burdens of future wars among all elements of the population. Your National Legislative Committee looks with confidence to the enactment of legislation of this character at the coming session of Congress.

These two pieces of legislation were immediately referred to House com-
mittees, the McSwain Resolution going to the Committee on the Judiciary, and the Johnson Bill to the Military Affairs Committee. Your National Legislative Committee pressed these two Committees for hearings upon these measures. As a result of this, the Committee on the Judiciary on February 6th held a hearing on the McSwain Resolution at which time the Committee was urged to make a favorable report. It failed to do so, however, and the McSwain Resolution therefore died with the session. Although your National Legislative Committee exerted every effort to obtain hearings on the Johnson Bill from the Military Affairs Committee of the House, these efforts were unsuccessful, and this bill died with the expiration of the session, without having had a hearing in the Military Affairs Committee.

The War Department has taken cognizance of this proposed legislation, and under the Assistant Secretary of War, Dwight F. Davis, a Legionnaire, it has been developing plans along these lines for the presentation to Congress when this legislation is considered at the coming session.

WAR FRAUDS.

Due to pressure of the Legion, and especially to the series of articles on War Frauds in The Weekly by Marquis James, Congress appropriated $500,000 in the annual Appropriation Bill for the Department of State and Justice for the year ending June 30th, 1924, for the investigation and prosecution of alleged frauds in connection with the preparation and prosecution of the late war. This was in H. R. 13,232, now Public Law No. 377 of the 67th Congress. The section containing the $500,000 appropriation is as follows:

For the investigation and prosecution of alleged frauds, either civil or criminal, or other crimes or offenses against the United States, growing out of or arising in connection with the preparation for or prosecution of the late war, including the institution and prosecution of suits for the recovery of moneys which contain no element of fraud but arose incident to the investigation of alleged frauds, to be available for the employment of counsel and other assistants, rent, and all other purposes in connection therewith, whether in the District of Columbia, or elsewhere, including not to exceed $10,000 for communication service, the purchase of furniture, law books of reference, and other necessary equipment and supplies at the seat of the government; $500,000, to be expended in the discretion of the Attorney General: Provided, That this appropriation shall not be available for rent of buildings in the District of Columbia if suitable space is provided by the Public Buildings Commission; Provided further, That not more than one person shall be employed hereunder at a rate of compensation exceeding $10,000 per annum.

In addition to this, Public Law No. 465 of the 67th Congress, (H. R. 13,793), the Army Appropriation Bill for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1923, appropriated $500,000 to the Finance Department of the War Department for the auditing of World War contracts. The section of the Army Appropriation Bill providing this reads as follows:

Provided that $500,000 of this amount shall be available only for the compensation and traveling expenses of clerks and other employees engaged on work pertaining to the auditing of World War contracts, and of this amount, not to exceed $25,000 shall be available for personal services at salaries not in excess of $3,000 per annum in the office of the Chief of Finance of the War Department.

WAR TROPHIES.

The New Orleans Convention of The American Legion unanimously adopted a resolution urging the enactment of S. 674, a bill at that time before the Senate, to provide for the equitable distribution of captured and surrendered war trophies to the States and territories of the United States and to the District of Columbia. These trophies number approximately 3,000,900
and consist of airplanes, cannon, rifles, helmets, machine guns, pistols and 
other devices and implements of warfare used by the Germans during the 
World War.

The original cost of the distribution under this bill was $400,000, but 
through an amendment advocated by your National Legislative Committee, 
the cost of this legislation was reduced to $250,000. During the past year we 
obtained the passage of this bill through the Senate and its favorable report 
by the Military Affairs Committee of the House. The bill came up for 
passage in the House on February 19th, 1923, just two weeks before the end 
of the session. At this time, Mr. Stafford of Wisconsin objected to its con-
sideration on the ground that it was too important a matter to be considered 
on the calendar for unanimous consent, and stated that it would come up 
later when more time could be given to its consideration. Due to the Legis-
lative jam in the closing days of Congress, it failed to come up for action 
again, and therefore because of Stafford's objection, the bill died with the 
session.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Vice Chairman.
DIVISION IV

REPORT

OF

LEGION PUBLISHING CORPORATION

TO THE

FIFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF

THE AMERICAN LEGION

October, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 1923
San Francisco, Cal.
Report of the Legion Publishing Corporation for the Year 1923

The Legion Publishing Corporation is organized under the laws of the State of New York for the purpose of publishing The AMERICAN LEGION Weekly. Its capital stock of $50,000, fully paid up, is entirely and exclusively owned by The American Legion.

The officers of the Corporation at the present date are:

Alvin Owsley, President
James A. Drain, Vice-President
Robert H. Tyndall, Treasurer
Lemuel Bolles, Secretary

The Legion Publishing Corporation is controlled by a board of 14 directors, all Legion men, serving without pay, who are responsible for the production of The Weekly and direct its editorial policy and business management. They hold office for the following terms:

To serve until the annual meeting in February, 1924:

John G. Emery, Michigan
Milton J. Foreman, Illinois
Robert H. Tyndall, Indiana
Charles L. Darlington, Ohio
William F. Deegan, New York

To serve until the annual meeting in February, 1925:

Hanford MacNider, Iowa
James A. Drain, District of Columbia
Albert Greenlaw, Maine
Rodney S. Cohen, Georgia
Thomas A. Lee, Kansas

To serve until the annual meeting in February, 1926:

Alvin Owsley, Texas
Lemuel Bolles, Washington
C. B. Blethen, Washington
John D. Ewing, Louisiana

Regular meetings of the Board of Directors are held quarterly.

A Liaison Committee of five, composed of members of the National Executive Committee and National Finance Committee, serves to connect and correlate the interests of The Legion Publishing Corporation and the Legion. This committee represents the National Executive Committee of the Legion at meetings of the Board of Directors of The Legion Publishing Corporation and in turn represents the interests of The Legion Publishing Corporation at National Executive Committee meetings of the Legion.

The committee is composed at present of the following members:

John H. Kelly, Iowa
Wilder S. Metcalf, Kansas
John R. McQuigg, Ohio
Bennett C. Clark, Missouri
Harry C. Kramer, New Jersey

Associated with the Board of Directors is an Advisory Board, at present consisting of four members, who are called upon for recommendations, chiefly
as to problems of a technical and publishing nature. This board is composed of the following members:

C. Henry Hathaway, New York, Vice-President and General Manager of the International Magazine Company.

C. R. Baines, New York, formerly General Manager of The American Legion Weekly, now Vice-President and Business Manager of the Army and Navy Journal.

Roy Dickinson, New York, Associate Editor of Printers' Ink.

Franklin D'Olier, Pennsylvania, Past National Commander of The American Legion.

The direct business and advertising management of The Weekly is in the hands of H. D. Cushing, as General Manager and Advertising Director, who has been connected with the magazine since its start in 1919 as Advertising Solicitor, Eastern Advertising Manager and Advertising Manager.

Harold W. Ross, formerly Editor of the Stars and Stripes in France, continues as Editor of The Weekly, a position which he has held since March of 1920. Otis S. Powell, who came to The Weekly from Doubleday, Page & Co. in 1921, continues as Business Manager. A. R. Whiton, who has served as Circulation Manager of the magazine since 1919, continues in that position.

Certified report of Scovell, Wellington & Company, Accountants-Engineers, New York City, dated September 18, 1923, and including balance sheet as of August 31, 1923, and statement of income and expense for the 8 months ending August 31, 1923, follows; together with report of the General Manager.

 лечение

President
The Legion Publishing Corporation

ATTEST:

Secretary
The Legion Publishing Corporation
CONDENSED REPORT ON
EXAMINATION FOR THE EIGHT MONTHS ENDED AUGUST 31, 1923

New York, September 18, 1923.

The Legion Publishing Corporation,
627 West 43rd Street,
New York City

Gentlemen: In accordance with your instructions we have made an examination of the affairs of The Legion Publishing Corporation for the eight months ended August 31, 1923. Our conclusions are set forth in the following statements:

Exhibit A—Balance Sheet as at August 31, 1923.

Exhibit B—Statement of Surplus for the eight months ended August 31, 1923.

Exhibit C—Statement of Income and Expenses for the eight months ended August 31, 1923.

Exhibit D—Reconciliation of National Headquarters Account.

While our attention has been devoted primarily to the verification of the balance sheet as at August 31, 1923, we have also made sufficiently thorough tests of vouchers, postings, footings, expense analyses and distributions, etc., to satisfy ourselves that the records have been carefully and accurately handled.

In conclusion, we certify that, in our opinion, the accompanying statements fairly set forth the financial condition of the corporation as at August 31, 1923, and the results of its operations for the eight months ended at that date.

Respectfully submitted,

SCOVELL, WELLINGTON & COMPANY.
### Div. IV Report of Legion Publishing Corporation

#### THE LEGION PUBLISHING CORPORATION

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT AUGUST 31, 1923**

#### Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$24,236.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due from Trade Debtors—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts</td>
<td>$40,939.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes</td>
<td>2,411.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>43,351.79</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Reserves</td>
<td>5,754.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due from Others—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Headquarters</td>
<td>140,486.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry</td>
<td>2,100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>221,482.21</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>8,445.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editorial and Art (Net)</td>
<td>7,760.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundries</td>
<td>820.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>221,482.21</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and Equipment</td>
<td>55,902.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Reserve for Depreciation</td>
<td>8,466.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deferred Charges</strong></td>
<td>6,767.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>245,666.13</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Liabilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Due to Trade Creditors</td>
<td>$23,849.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due to Others—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Headquarters</td>
<td>921.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees</td>
<td>391.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry</td>
<td>804.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>25,966.46</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Credits—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions Unearned</td>
<td>157,160.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Received in Advance</td>
<td>28.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposits for Bound Volumes</td>
<td>8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>183,163.13</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Net Worth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capital Stock</td>
<td>50,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus—Exhibit B</td>
<td>12,503.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Worth</strong></td>
<td><strong>62,503.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Exhibit A**

|$245,666.13$
THE LEGION PUBLISHING CORPORATION

STATEMENT OF SURPLUS
For the Eight Months ended August 31, 1923

Surplus, December 31, 1922, per report dated February 6, 1923, $63,182.27

From which deduct:
Propportion of Surplus at December 31, 1922, paid to National Headquarters $31,591.13

Loss Refund of dividend on 2,838 names duplicated on 1922 lists by Department of Illinois $125.45 $31,465.68

Adjustments by National Headquarters for names duplicated on and omitted from 1922 lists $2,537.62

Allowance made to William Green, Inc., on 1922 advertising $193.05

Cash collections during 1922 credited to Revenue instead of to Accounts Receivable $7.75

Manuscript used in March, 1922, not charged by Editorial Department $2.50 34,206.60

Adjusted Surplus, December 31, 1922 $28,975.67

Net Loss from Operations for the Eight Months ended August 31, 1923—Exhibit C $16,472.67

Surplus, August 31, 1923—Exhibit A $12,603.00
Div. IV  Report of Legion Publishing Corporation  

Exhibit C

THE LEGION PUBLISHING CORPORATION

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

For the Eight Months ended August 31, 1923

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operating Income</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Circulation——</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions Earned</td>
<td>$331,831.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>1,847.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$333,678.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising——</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>280,930.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Cash Discounts</td>
<td>5,307.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry Sales</td>
<td>2,085.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>611,387.45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Less Operating Expenses                  |                  |
| Manufacturing                             | 308,386.08       |
| Editorial                                 | 66,019.33        |
| Advertising                               | 61,757.70        |
| Mailing                                  | 74,136.81        |
| Subscription                              | 90,580.19        |
| Administration                            | 26,466.47        |
|                                           | 626,345.60       |

| Net Loss from Regular Sources            | 14,068.15        |

| Less Other Income                        |                  |
| Interest and Discount Earned             | 1,124.64         |
| Legion Binder Profits                    | 189.84           |
| Electrotype Profits                      | 4.60             |
| Legion Library Profits                   | 1,253.15         |
|                                           | 2,572.23         |
|                                           | 12,385.92        |

| Add Other Charges                        |                  |
| Provision for Bad Debts                  | 2,808.61         |
| Hospital Free List                       | 1,278.14         |
|                                           | 4,086.75         |
|                                           |                  |
| Net Loss from All Sources—Exhibit B      | $16,472.67        |
THE LEGION PUBLISHING CORPORATION

RECONCILIATION OF NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS ACCOUNTS

Due from National Headquarters, as at August 31, 1923—Exhibit A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less Current Charges Carried in Accounts Payable—Exhibit A—</td>
<td>140,486.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August Membership Expense</td>
<td>842.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ticket for Mr. Cooper</td>
<td>75.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>921.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>139,564.63</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Charges, September 1st to 15th, by National Headquarters—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September Membership Expense</td>
<td>167.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling Expense—Judge Adams</td>
<td>107.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money Transfer</td>
<td>25,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25,275.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>114,289.56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Names Billed to Headquarters, September 1st to 15th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4,354.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>118,644.06</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Billings of Names to September 15, 1923, per books

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Names Credited by Headquarters</td>
<td>469,899.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13,328.28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Items Unpaid by Headquarters—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balloon Race Expense</td>
<td>125.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August Telegraph Charges</td>
<td>1.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>126.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13,454.39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Less Payment of August item Credited by H. Q.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>842.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12,611.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance, September 15, 1923, as reported in telegram from National Headquarters</td>
<td>106,032.12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

This report covers briefly the operations of The American Legion Weekly under the four main headings of: Business Department, Advertising Department, Editorial Department and Circulation Department.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

In compiling the statement below, actual figures as certified by our accountants, Messrs. Scovell, Wellington & Company, are used for the year 1922; also for the first eight months of 1923; figures for the balance of the year 1923 are estimated as indicated.

Due, again, to delay in the forwarding of national per capita taxes, our profit and loss statement for the first few months of the year shows a deficit which would not be the case if The Weekly record cards and national dues were remitted more promptly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>January</th>
<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>Total profit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1922</td>
<td>$30,817.17</td>
<td>1,566.92</td>
<td>19,026.84</td>
<td>19,385.50</td>
<td>12,092.02</td>
<td>13,420.38</td>
<td>6,809.07</td>
<td>3,786.76</td>
<td>$74,470.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1923</td>
<td>$35,019.98</td>
<td>8,277.30</td>
<td>3,109.14</td>
<td>6,030.38</td>
<td>5,923.85</td>
<td>2,154.29</td>
<td>16,132.74</td>
<td>$27,318.28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>Total profit</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>19,385.50</td>
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<td>3,786.76</td>
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</tr>
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<td>8,277.30</td>
<td>3,109.14</td>
<td>6,030.38</td>
<td>5,923.85</td>
<td>2,154.29</td>
<td>16,132.74</td>
<td>$27,318.28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It will be seen from the above that The Weekly, after paying up a deficit of $23,423.27 existing on January 1, ended the year 1922 with a net profit of $63,182.27.

In accordance with the vote of the Third National Convention at Kansas City one-half of this amount, or $31,591.13, was turned over by The Weekly to the National Treasurer for distribution to the State Departments pro rata as to their paid membership as of December 31, 1922.

It is interesting to note that several of the State Departments, in acknowledging their appreciation for the amounts sent them, nevertheless expressed the opinion that they believed it would have been better policy had this money been devoted to the improvement of the magazine.

At the meeting of the Board of Directors held on October 30, 1922, and at the annual meeting held on February 5, 1923, very serious consideration...
was given to the policy of The Weekly, both business and editorial, for the year 1923. In this connection the following resolutions as passed by the Fourth National Convention at New Orleans were considered.

"Finance Committee Report No. 9. We recommend that any and all profits earned by The American Legion Weekly during the ensuing year shall be disposed of by the National Finance Committee as follows: Fifty per cent (50%) of said profits to be placed at the disposal of the Board of Directors of The American Legion Weekly for the improvement of the magazine; the remaining fifty per cent (50%) of said profits to be paid to National Headquarters of The American Legion, first, for the retirement of its obligations, and thereafter, to be paid into the general fund."

"Committee on Internal Organization. This Committee having been directed to receive the report of The Legion Publishing Corporation as presented by the Business Manager thereof, and for the purpose of recommending any changes in the financial and editorial policies of such publication, respectfully submits:

"That The Legion Publishing Corporation in pursuance of the editorial and financial policies, as carried on by the General Manager and Board of Directors, has been able not only to publish a magazine of exceptional merit but has been able to wipe out the deficit existing in January, 1922, and has been able to accumulate a profit of over fifteen thousand dollars in August of the same year, with the assurance of a profit for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1922, of approximately fifty thousand dollars. Your committee highly approves the report of the General Manager and Board of Directors of The Legion Publishing Corporation and we heartily commend them for the excellent service in behalf of The Legion.

"We recommend, however, that The American Legion Weekly discontinue its policy as a publication strictly of Legion affairs; that it be published as a magazine of more general interest, and we further recommend that the profits from the publication be used for the purpose of further improving the magazine, as above suggested, both mechanically and editorially, as rapidly as may be deemed practicable by the Board of Directors of The Legion Publishing Corporation and we heartily commend them for the excellent service in behalf of The Legion.

"We further recommend that it be the sense of this convention that all members of the Legion co-operate with dealers who sell The American Legion Weekly, and who display the Chevron of Service, to the end that such dealers further promote the sale of the official magazine, and that every member of The American Legion be urged to secure at least one subscription from such persons as are not members of The American Legion.

Both of these resolutions seemed to be indicative of the feeling of the Legion at large that the magazine should be improved, mechanically and editorially, to the maximum extent possible from available revenue and, briefly, this was the policy outlined and adopted by the Board, which has been followed during the year as far as funds have permitted. It was felt by the Board that the logical steps in the development of the magazine, as suggested by the Management, might be as follows:

First—The publication of a 32-page magazine regularly.
Second—An increase to 48-page issues, with the use of fiction.
Third—The use of a heavier paper stock for the cover.
Fourth—An ultimate increase to possibly 64 pages and cover.

It was realized that, in outlining this tentative program, it might take some years to realize its ultimate aim and purpose, the length of time depending entirely upon how fast the revenue necessary to pay the cost of these improvements could be secured.

Thirty-two-page issues have been published regularly, with the exception of a few weeks during the summer months. This increase in the number of pages together with a lessened proportion of advertising carried during the period, has enabled us to increase our editorial space by about 25 per cent.
Div. IV  Report of Legion Publishing Corporation

1922

- Misc. Revenue 8 or 1%
- Profit 6c of 1%

1923

- Misc. Revenue 1%
- Profit 8c of 1%
The charts reproduced on page 11 show, graphically, the expenditure connected with the publication of The Weekly and how the revenue is secured which covers these expenditures; together with a comparison for the year 1922.

Many members, apparently, still do not realize that the proportion of national dues received by the magazine does not cover half its actual cost of production, and that its advertising revenue practically pays the other half. In other words—every member gets for his 75c a magazine costing approximately, at present, $1.50 per year or 3 cents per copy to produce. His subscription money does not cover the bare cost of paper and printing of the magazine.

There are only two main sources of revenue for The Weekly, its membership subscription revenue and its advertising revenue—and the latter is to some extent dependent upon the former.

Such increases in the manufacturing and editorial costs as have been incurred have been those necessarily contingent upon the production of a larger and improved publication. All other departments already do, or will by the end of the year, show a decrease in their cost figures in comparison with 1922.

Every possible effort has been made, and is still being made, to effect still further economy in publication costs. Our accountants, Messrs. Scovell, Wellington & Company, state in their report dated May 31, 1923: "The Subscription Department general salaries and wages in the first quarter of 1923 continued to show very satisfactory decreases from the corresponding period in 1922. * * * Manufacturing costs show an increase * * * due mainly to the increased size of the magazine. * * * The increases in the editorial expenses are mainly in the art and manuscript items, with a considerable increase in salaries, all of which are caused primarily by the increased size of the magazine. * * * We inspected the pay rolls and believe that the salaries of employees are in general reasonably consistent with the rates of compensation paid for similar services elsewhere."

**ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT**

In 1921 our net advertising revenue was $387,037.74, an increase of 43% over 1920. For 1922 it was $490,253.50, an increase of 26% over 1921. For 1923, based on actual figures to date and estimating as accurately as possible for the balance of the year, our net advertising revenue will be about $425,000. This decrease, representing a loss of approximately one-and-a-half pages of advertising per issue or $66,000, is due almost wholly to a decrease in circulation of the magazine.

A decrease in membership subscriptions not only means a lessened subscription revenue but it is inevitably bound to carry with it a lessened advertising revenue as well. No large national advertiser is favorably inclined to spend his money in a magazine which is showing a decreasing circulation. He wants to buy on a rising, not a falling, market.

The decrease in membership is a serious condition for The Legion in many ways. It is a particularly serious condition for The Weekly to face.

In connection with the Advertising Department there has been installed this year the Post Printing Service, through which we furnish Posts with cuts, drawings and copy suggestions for literature to be produced by their local printers or, where desired, furnish the complete printed material. This Department is operated on the principle of service rather than profit and it is not expected to do more than cover its cost of operation.

The plan of co-operating with local Legion and State publications on certain advertising accounts has been continued and is still working successfully in those places where the local publications have taken hold with us.

**CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT**

The continued decrease in Legion membership has cut steadily into our circulation revenue for the past two years. For 1921 our membership sub-
subscription revenue was $591,203.76. For 1922 our membership subscription revenue was $550,007.65. For 1923 our membership subscription revenue, as nearly as can be estimated from present conditions, will be approximately $505,000.

The work of the Circulation Department of The Weekly is divided into two main fields:

1. Distribution of the magazine to members of The American Legion.
2. Promotion of circulation through increased membership, and through increased non-membership circulation from other sources.

Distribution of the Magazine. The highest point reached in circulation so far during the current fiscal year was for the issue of February 23, when the circulation was 805,829. The lowest point reached was for the June 1 issue, when the circulation was 627,609. This fluctuation in circulation is not a healthy or necessary condition but is caused by the fact that, although the national per capita tax for every member in good standing in The American Legion is due and payable on January 1 of each calendar year, the delinquency of certain members in the payment of their dues, and the delay on the part of some Posts in promptly forwarding their membership dues and Weekly Record Cards, causes the circulation to show wide fluctuation.

Due to a ruling of the national Executive Committee, The Weekly was obliged to carry the names of all members for two months from January 1 to allow time for the collection of dues, but it was actually necessary to carry some names for a much longer period.

The system which was in effect in 1923 for handling subscriptions of members of the Legion provided for the sending in of a card known as The American Legion Weekly Record Card by the individual to whom the card was issued by the Post when that member paid his dues. Immediately upon receipt of this record card at the office of The Weekly the subscription for that member was either commenced or renewed, as the case might be, depending upon whether he was a new member or a renewed member. Every card received at the office of The Weekly was handled within 48 hours after its receipt, and little or no complaint has been received this year on account of failure of members to receive the magazine either regularly or promptly.

All Posts should follow carefully the instructions printed on the inside cover of the books of membership blanks which are supplied by National Headquarters. This will help reduce the cost of handling subscriptions and will expedite the delivery of the magazine to members.

After two years' trial, although there are probably some defects in this present system, it is still proving to be by far the most satisfactory method that has been devised for handling the membership subscription work.

The cost of maintaining our Circulation Department compares favorably with similar work of other magazines, and is less than many.

Promotion of Circulation. The efforts being made by The Weekly in the direction of increasing circulation outside of members of The American Legion are based primarily on the idea that this will help ultimately to increase membership in the Legion. These Departments, therefore, are operated on a basis of service rather than profit and about all that is expected is that they will pay their own expenses, which is in itself no small accomplishment. All these Departments are now at least self-sustaining and some will even show a small profit this year.

Newstand and Single Copy Sales. It is desirable to have as great a single copy sale of any magazine as is possible, and particularly so in the case of The Weekly because of the favorable publicity gained for the Legion through this increased circulation among the public. A wider knowledge and appreciation of the accomplishments and ideals of the Legion is bound to bring greater public support to the local Posts and help increase membership.

Most magazines spend a great deal more money to make a single copy sale of their publication than they actually receive for it. Due to limited
The Weekly has not been able to conduct extensive advertising campaigns such as enable other magazines to increase their sales, and has been forced to develop this Department on a pay-as-you-go basis. Its growth, therefore, under these peculiar conditions, must naturally be slow.

All Posts and Departments are being continually urged to use The Weekly as a membership aid in bringing to the attention of the service men who are not members of the Legion the things which they should know about it, and thereby arouse their interest and desire for membership.

**Non-Membership Subscriptions.** For practically the same reasons as outlined in the preceding paragraph it is desirable to have an increased circulation outside of the membership circulation of the Legion through annual subscriptions to the magazine. It will readily be seen that if the majority of citizens of any community are readers of The American Legion Weekly they will have a more comprehensive idea of just what the Legion is trying to accomplish both for the service men and for the community. This will naturally result in increased support from the public and also in increased membership.

In order to obtain such subscriptions by the same means employed by other magazines it would be necessary for us to have a magazine much improved in appearance, size, and in character of contents, over our present publication. In order to overcome these conditions, and obtain this circulation in spite of them, we have worked out in our Circulation Department a plan which is known as the Educational Plan, which is apparently meeting with considerable success where it has been placed in operation.

It is the desire of our Circulation Department to appoint a man in each State who will be virtually an organizer of the highest type. His duties are to visit and work with the local Posts, with the idea of putting The Weekly in every home in the community. This plan has been in effect less than six months but has accomplished excellent results in many cases. The active co-operation of every Post and every State Department is needed to make it still more effective. Already more than 7,500 readers who are not members of the Legion have been obtained.

Complete plans and schedules are available for the use of all Posts where the officials care to put on a campaign in connection with this work.

**The Legion Subscription Service.** One of the most serious handicaps to many Posts has been the lack of adequate finances. A survey has shown that many Posts would be in a position to accomplish more in the way of activities, and increase their membership, if they only had sufficient funds. The Legion Subscription Service has been organized to help the Posts obtain such funds, and is another Department that The Weekly operates primarily for service rather than for profit:

Through this Legion Subscription Service every member of The American Legion should send all his subscriptions to any magazine which he or his family read. If each man in the Legion will do this his Post treasury will benefit greatly through the generous commissions which are allowed by the publishers, and which are refunded to the Posts by the Legion Subscription Service. There is no necessity for canvassing in connection with this proposition. Every member of the Legion and his family already read certain magazines, and it is simply a matter of sending his subscriptions through the Legion Subscription Service in order to have his Post treasury get the benefit.

The Legion Subscription Service has arranged with the publishers of all magazines so that these commissions will be received by the Posts provided these subscriptions are sent through the Legion Subscription Service's central office at 627 West 43d Street, New York, N. Y.

Some Posts, in addition to securing all of the magazine subscriptions of all their members, have extended the service to the public in their particular communities, with the result that their income has been doubled and trebled. This activity is an excellent way for the public to support the local Post without any additional expense to the public, and many citizens are glad to help
the local Post in this way. Subscriptions to any magazine published can be accepted by every Post and forwarded to The Legion Subscription Service. Price-lists and special offers are available upon request.

The Legion Subscription Service has been in operation since January 1 and the volume of business has already reached more than $3,000 per month. Commissions paid to Posts have amounted to as much as $1,890 in one month.

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

The Editorial Department has always believed that The Weekly could be made a considerably greater asset to the Legion than it now is—with additional space it could print more matter pertaining to the Legion and, therefore, be more of a stimulus to Legion activities, and also publish more matter of general interest which would greatly enhance its readability and interest.

It has always felt very strongly the need of additional space and additional funds to produce a magazine thoroughly satisfactory to the needs of the Legion, but has been forced to do the best it could under existing conditions.

The editorial policy of the magazine, as defined and approved by the Board of Directors last year, has been continued during 1923 and, as far as space and funds have been available, an attempt has been made to conform to the recommendation of the Fourth National Convention that a part of the contents be of a more general nature. An increase in the editorial budget was made for this year and it helped toward this end, although it was not sufficient to carry out the intended program to the complete satisfaction of the editors.

The Editorial Department has long felt that the use of good fiction would greatly improve the magazine, but it has been unable to begin the use of this, first, because funds have not been available to purchase it; and second, because the size of the magazine would not admit of its use. It is felt that a publication of 48 pages would be necessary to carry fiction without detriment to the other essential features of the magazine.

At the suggestion of the management, the Board of Directors in February approved the plan of opening an Editorial office or bureau at National Headquarters in Indianapolis to handle copy having to do with Legion activity and accomplishment.

Respectfully submitted,

September 20, 1923. General Manager and Advertising Director.
DIVISION V

REPORT

OF THE

NATIONAL REHABILITATION COMMITTEE

TO THE

FIFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF

THE AMERICAN LEGION

October 15-19, 1923
San Francisco
THE NATIONAL REHABILITATION COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN
Joe Sparks, Columbia, S. C.

SECRETARY
L. H. Horton, Washington, D. C.

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C. J. Halligan, Jr., Boston, Mass.
Dr. James T. Harrington, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Joseph H. Thompson, Pittsburgh, Pa.
James A. Drain, Washington, D. C.
G. Heyward Mahon, Jr., Greenville, S. C.
Rudolph J. Weinmann, New Orleans, La.
Roger K. Rogan, Cincinnati, Ohio.
H. D. McBride, St. Louis, Mo.
Charles E. Pew, Helena, Montana.
John C. Vivian, Denver, Colorado.
Adolphus E. Graupner, San Francisco, Calif.
George R. Drever, Seattle, Wash.
O. E. Freeman, Dallas, Texas.

ADVISORY MEMBERS
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Dr. T. Victor Keene, Indianapolis, Ind.
Burton E. Sweet, Waverly, Iowa.
Dr. Thomas W. Salmon, Larchmont, N. Y.
Robert E. Bondy, Washington, D. C.
Dr. Hugh Young, Baltimore, Md.
D. J. Callahan, Washington, D. C.
FOREWORD

Practical co-operation with the United States Veterans' Bureau and other governmental agencies has marked the work of the National Rehabilitation Committee of The American Legion during the year, in its efforts to assist intelligently and effectively in forwarding the government's general program for the physical, mental and vocational rehabilitation of the disabled veterans of the World War.

The present Director of the Veterans' Bureau early recognized that this problem was one common to his Bureau, The American Legion and the American people, and experience has shown conclusively that a policy by both the Bureau and Legion of "laying all the cards on the table" is the one policy that will secure complete success. The giving and taking of constructive criticism by both has been of inestimable value and resulted in many needed reforms.

At times it has become necessary to make strong demands upon the Bureau. When such situations have developed, it has been the policy of the National Rehabilitation Committee first to secure the best advice of the entire Legion, and then to make its recommendations, conscious of the united support and backing of the National Organization. And this plan has met with gratifying success.

The Rehabilitation program is far from complete. Further liberalization of the War Risk Insurance Act is absolutely necessary. The activities of the United States Veterans' Bureau must be decentralized to the very limit. The hospital program must be carried forward until there is a government bed provided for every disabled veteran needing hospital treatment. The American Legion must oppose strenuously any effort on the part of the Congress to economize at the expense of the disabled.

The National Rehabilitation Committee has made an honest effort to carry out the mandates of The American Legion as expressed through its National Convention, its National Executive Committee and its State Departments. The field of endeavor has been wide and embracing many subjects, and the task has been arduous and trying at times. The brunt of the work has fallen upon the District Rehabilitation Committees, and these men, together with their expert medical advisers and their State and Post service officers, have given unselfishly of their time and money. I want to thank them heartily for their fine support and to congratulate them upon the wonderful results they have accomplished within their respective districts. I also want to express my sincere appreciation to the other thousands of loyal Legion men and women throughout the country who have actively supported and assisted in this work.

Much time and effort has been spent in perfecting the present rehabilitation organization of the Legion, which is almost world-wide in its scope, and it is my hope that the personnel of this great piece of human machinery may remain in active service until every phase of the job is completed.

JOE SPARKS, Chairman,
National Rehabilitation Committee.
MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

1. Practically completed national hospital program.
2. Brought about complete decentralization of Veterans’ Bureau activities, including the adoption of a budget system for District Offices.
3. Eliminated use of word “Pulmonary” in tuberculosis section of the War Risk Law, affecting some 5,000 men.
4. Secured fifteen days sick leave for vocational trainees.
5. Secured promulgation of order instituting permanent ratings.
6. Secured increased personnel for Central Office Board of Appeals.
7. Organized Co-operation Section in Central, District and Sub-District Offices.
8. Secured admission of ex-service women to National Soldiers’ Homes.
9. Secured decision on eligibility for training under Section 2 for Section 3 trainees.
10. Secured special appropriation for additional hospital facilities.
12. Decentralized the service work of The American Legion.
13. Settled approximately $3,500,000 worth of claims of various kinds.
15. Conducted compensation clean-up campaign in hospitals.
16. Conducted compensation clean-up campaign in penal institutions.
17. Established practical bulletin service by the National and District Rehabilitation Committees for the information of Departments and Posts.
18. Secured legislation for burial of all world war service women.
19. Secured extension of time limit for service connection on tuberculosis and neuro-psychiatric diseases.
20. Secured funds from the American Red Cross to continue Liaison Service.
21. Secured funds from the Knights of Columbus for non-compensable tubercular ex-service men in the Southwest.
22. Rendered practical assistance in reorganizing the Veterans’ Bureau and bringing about a business administration.
23. Gathered information as to maladministration of Veterans’ Bureau for submission to the Senate Investigating Committee.
24. Worked out with Auxiliary the reorganization of their rehabilitation activities along lines similar to those of the Legion.
25. Handled several thousand routine matters of general service nature for District Committees and state Departments.
26. Co-operated with Veterans’ Bureau in conducting insurance reinstatement campaign.
27. Assisted Veterans’ Bureau in employment drive for rehabilitated trainees.
28. Surveyed hospitals and prisons to determine fire hazards and had corrective measures applied where needed.
29. Surveyed situation relative to sale of liquors and narcotics to patients in hospitals and co-operated with Veterans’ Bureau and Federal agencies in stamping out such practices.
30. Secured issuance of special instructions by The Adjutant General of the Army relative to the furnishing of evidence by persons in the service in support of Veterans’ Bureau claims filed by ex-service men.
Mr. Joe Sparks, Chairman,
National Rehabilitation Committee,
The American Legion,
417 Bond Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Sparks:

I want to take this opportunity to express the appreciation of the American Red Cross for the co-operation and accomplishments of the National and District Rehabilitation Committees of The American Legion during the past year.

The American Legion and the American Red Cross have, as their primary concern, the care of America's disabled veterans. In continuing its services to these veterans in chapters, hospitals, and offices, the American Red Cross has enjoyed the hearty support of the National Rehabilitation Committee. The nation-wide district organization of that Committee has given it the strength that comes from the advice and experiences of community leaders in various parts of the country. These district committees have worked untiringly in meeting their own problems and in assisting in the national program.

The National Rehabilitation Committee and particularly its Chairman, has first of all fostered close Legion and Red Cross co-operation in the interest of the disabled. It has helped to bring order into the hospital construction program. It has assisted in making effective the benefits of legislation for ex-service men. Complete and successful rehabilitation has been its goal.

I am pleased, therefore, to express to you, the Chairman of the Committee, our warm appreciation for what you have done for the disabled and for the assistance you have rendered the American Red Cross.

Very sincerely,

ROBERT E. BONDY,
Director of War Service.
REPORT OF NATIONAL REHABILITATION COMMITTEE

CLAIMS SERVICE WORK OF NATIONAL REHABILITATION COMMITTEE

September, 1922, to September, 1923.

Handled by Indianapolis Office

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Grand Totals: Cases Handled, 40,093; Settlements Secured, $3,413,086.51.

INTRODUCTION.

The chief thought of the National Rehabilitation Committee has been to secure proper care and compensation for all persons disabled by reason of their service during the World War. In its efforts to do this, careful attention was given to the selection of the Committee's membership. Immediately after the appointment of the present Chairman, the Committee was reorganized along the same general plan heretofore followed. Because of their particular fitness and familiarity with the work that had gone before, many members with previous service on the committee were induced to continue another year. The committee numbers among its advisory members men prominent throughout the entire country for their experience and ability in hospital and rehabilitation matters.

The fourteen District Rehabilitation Committees are headed by Legionnaires who are leaders in their communities and well known for their interest and activities in all matters affecting the welfare of the disabled. Their committees are composed of experts in mental and nervous diseases, tuberculosis, general medical and surgical practice, vocational training, compensation and insurance. The Liaison Representative acts as secretary to the District Committee, and one of his principal duties is to coordinate the activities of his committee with those of the State Departments within his district, as well as to co-operate in every way possible with his State Departments and Posts in the handling of all matters requiring attention by the
District Rehabilitation Committee and the District Office of the Veterans' Bureau.

The District Rehabilitation Committees, through their secretaries, are constantly in receipt of a flow of bulletins of instructions and information from the National Rehabilitation Committee, and they in turn keep their Departments and Posts continually advised of all matters of interest by means of a twice-a-month bulletin.

Through this system of close cooperation and constant communication, the National Rehabilitation Committee, during the year, has been able to handle innumerable routine matters for the Departments and Posts throughout the country. Liaison Representatives are required to make periodical inspections of the hospitals within their districts, and as a result the National Committee, by presenting the proper information to the Director of the Veterans' Bureau, has been able to secure many reforms and corrective measures in the matter of additional medical personnel, nurses, better food and sanitation, and generally improving the class of treatment and living conditions of the patients, and in some instances has caused the removal of certain commanding officers where their services had not been satisfactory.

It is through such a system of organization that the satisfactory results secured during the year have been attained.

HOSPITALIZATION.

Realizing that the securing of a government bed for every man and woman injured through their service during the World War is the first and foremost concern of The American Legion, the National Rehabilitation Committee, during the year, has devoted much time and attention to this important phase of the rehabilitation program. A complete survey of the country convinces the committee that very satisfactory progress has been made in completing the hospital building program as provided for under the First and Second Langley Bills, which carried appropriations totaling about $35,000,000 for this work.

Practically all projects provided for under the First Langley Bill, as administered by the White Committee, have been completed and are now in use. Contracts have been awarded for practically all of the projects provided under the Second Langley Bill, administered by the U. S. Veterans' Bureau, and the work is under way upon many of these.

A careful study of the national situation indicates that about $5,000,000 will be necessary to complete the hospital program of the government satisfactorily. Some of this money will have to be used in the erection of new buildings to replace certain facilities that have deteriorated to such an extent that they are no longer suitable for use. This appropriation should be given serious consideration by the National Committee in San Francisco, and a strong resolution of endorsement should be adopted by the National Convention.

Practically all districts in the country have been amply provided for in the matter of hospital facilities. However, there are still a few that should have additional beds. The National Committee fully realizes that there are several thousand vacant beds in government hospitals at the present time. However, this is an old story, because a great many of these beds by reason of their location and general inaccessibility can never be used with any degree of satisfaction. To fill them to capacity it would be necessary to bring men thousands of miles from home, a procedure that would inevitably result in great hardship to the disabled men affected and would otherwise be very deplorable, and also directly contrary to the established policy sponsored by The American Legion of hospitalizing these veterans as near as possible to their homes. The National Committee has constantly urged that hospital beds be made available as close as possible to the homes of the men themselves, although in fairness it must be realized that hospitals can not be
erected in every state, and the state line should have no effect upon this situation.

After thoroughly studying the entire hospital situation as it exists at the present time, the National Rehabilitation Committee desires to strongly recommend the following additional facilities:

1. One 300-bed tuberculosis hospital for the Ninth District.
2. One 250-bed tuberculosis hospital for the Tenth District.
3. One 250-bed tuberculosis hospital for the Third District, to be located in the Eastern part of the State of Pennsylvania.

The Chairman of the National Rehabilitation Committee has attended practically all sessions of the Federal Board of Hospitalization and has constantly urged that the hospital program be speeded up. Many personal interviews have also been had with the Director of the Veterans' Bureau and the Chairman of the Federal Board of Hospitalization.

The National Committee is at the present time carrying on negotiations with the Bureau, looking to the procurement of additional beds for mental cases in the Eighth District, and while no announcement can be made at this time it is believed that a satisfactory arrangement will be worked out by utilizing and improving certain existing facilities located at the Great Lakes Training Center.

Concerning the general hospital situation, on June 20, 1922, from funds provided by the First Langley Bill, there were in operation 892 beds. On June 30, 1923, this number had been increased to 5,094.

On June 30, 1922, from funds appropriated by the Second Langley Bill, there were 172 beds in use. On June 30, 1923, this number had been increased to 337. Under the appropriation provided by the Second Langley Bill, a total of 4,611 beds are contemplated.

The general progress of the program covered by the First Langley Bill, from June 20, 1922 to June 30, 1923, is shown by the following statements by Districts:

**DISTRICT ONE.**

**Rutland, Massachusetts.** Tuberculosis type; purchase of property, new construction and remodeling; 220 beds contemplated; 123 beds in operation on June 30, 1923; project 84 per cent completed June 30, 1922; 100 per cent completed on June 30, 1923; transferred to U. S. Veterans' Bureau on September 26, 1922.

**DISTRICT TWO.**

**Bronx, New York.** Neuro-psychiatric type; purchase of property, new construction and remodeling; 1,011 beds contemplated; 452 beds in operation on June 30, 1922; 627 beds in operation on June 30, 1923; Buildings 1 and 3 transferred to U. S. Veterans' Bureau on May 19, 1922; Buildings 2 and 4 transferred on July 26, 1922.

**Chelsea, New York.** Tuberculosis type; new construction, complete hospital; 400 beds contemplated; no beds in operation at present time; project 30 per cent complete; final contracts call for completion in May, 1924.

**DISTRICT FOUR.**

**Perryville, Maryland.** Neuro-psychiatric type; new construction at existing site; 300 beds contemplated; no beds in operation on June 30, 1922; 300 beds in operation on June 30, 1923; hospital 90 per cent complete on June 30, 1922; 100 per cent complete on June 30, 1923; completed and transferred to U. S. Veterans' Bureau on July 11, 1922.
DISTRICT FIVE.

Lake City, Florida. Tuberculosis type; new construction, remodeling and repairs at existing site; 100 beds contemplated; no beds in operation on June 30, 1922; 100 beds in operation on June 30, 1923; 90 per cent complete on June 30, 1923; 100 per cent complete on June 30, 1923; all but building 7 complete and transferred to U. S. Veterans' Bureau May 19, 1922; building 7 on August 25, 1922.

Augusta, Georgia. Neuro-psychiatric type; purchase of site of existing hospital and new construction; 265 beds contemplated; no beds in operation on June 30, 1922; 265 beds in operation on June 30, 1923; 70 per cent complete on June 30, 1922; 100 per cent complete on June 30, 1923; completed and transferred to U. S. Veterans' Bureau on October 10, 1922.

Oteen, North Carolina. Tuberculosis type; purchase of site of existing hospital and new construction; 200 beds contemplated; no beds in operation on June 30, 1922; 200 beds in operation on June 30, 1923; 38 per cent completed June 30, 1922; 100 per cent completed on June 30, 1923; completed and transferred to U. S. Veterans' Bureau on February 20, 1923.

DISTRICT SIX.

Tuskegee, Alabama. Tuberculosis and Neuro-psychiatric type; new construction, complete hospital; 566 beds contemplated; no beds in operation on June 30, 1922; 100 beds in operation on June 30, 1923; project 16 per cent complete June 30, 1922; 100 per cent completed on June 30, 1923; completed and transferred to U. S. Veterans' Bureau on February 12, 1923.

DISTRICT SEVEN.

Dayton, Ohio, (National Home Disabled Volunteer Soldiers). Tuberculosis type; new construction; complete hospital; 306 beds contemplated; no beds in operation on June 30, 1922; 306 beds in operation June 30, 1923; project 60 per cent complete June 30, 1922; 100 per cent complete on June 30, 1923; completed and opened for reception of patients on January 23, 1923.

Marion, Indiana (National Home Disabled Volunteer Soldiers). Neuro-psychiatric type; new construction; 80 beds contemplated; no beds in operation June 30, 1922; 80 beds in operation June 30, 1923; project 50 per cent complete June 30, 1922; 100 per cent complete on June 30, 1923; completed and opened for reception of patients on February 10, 1923.

DISTRICT EIGHT.

Milwaukee, Wisconsin (National Home Disabled Volunteer Soldiers). Tuberculosis type; new construction; 700 beds contemplated; no beds in operation on June 30, 1922; 700 beds in operation June 30, 1923; project 57 per cent complete June 30, 1922; 100 per cent complete on June 30, 1923; completed and opened for reception of patients on February 20, 1923.

DISTRICT NINE.

St. Louis, Missouri. General type; new construction; complete hospital; 389 beds contemplated; no beds in operation on June 30, 1922; 303 beds in operation on June 30, 1923; project not started on June 30, 1922; 100 per cent complete on June 30, 1923; completed and opened for reception of patients on March 16, 1923.

DISTRICT ELEVEN.

Ft. McKenzie, Sheridan, Wyoming. Neuro-psychiatric type; remodeling and repairs; 245 beds contemplated; 100 beds in operation on June 30, 1922; 300 beds in operation on June 30, 1923; project 80 per cent complete June 30, 1922; 100 per cent complete June 30, 1923; five buildings completed and transferred to U. S. Veterans' Bureau on June 7, 1922; rehabilitated personnel quarters December 30, 1922.
Ft. Bayard, New Mexico. Tuberculosis type; new construction and extensions; 250 beds contemplated; no beds in operation on June 30, 1922; 250 beds in operation June 30, 1923; project not started on June 30, 1922; 100 per cent complete on June 30, 1923; all but personnel quarters completed and transferred to U. S. Veterans' Bureau on July 11, 1922.

DISTRICT TWELVE.

Prescott, Arizona. Tuberculosis type; new construction, extensions and remodeling; 422 beds contemplated; no beds in operation on June 30, 1922; 422 beds in operation on June 30, 1923; project 99 per cent complete June 30, 1922; 100 per cent complete on June 30, 1923; three ambulant buildings completed and transferred to U. S. Veterans' Bureau on June 5, 1922; balance of project transferred on July 12, 1922.

Palo Alto, California. Neuro-Psychiatric type; new construction, about 23 buildings; 515 beds contemplated; no beds in operation on June 30, 1922; 515 beds in operation on June 30, 1923; 30 per cent complete on June 30, 1922; 100 per cent complete on June 30, 1923; completed and transferred to U. S. Veterans' Bureau on February 7, 1923.

DISTRICT THIRTEEN.

Ft. Walla Walla, Washington. Tuberculosis type; new construction and remodeling; 166 beds contemplated; 100 beds in operation on June 30, 1922; 210 beds in operation on June 30, 1923; 100 per cent completed June 30, 1922; completed and transferred to U. S. Veterans' Bureau on June 13, 1922.

DISTRICT FOURTEEN.

North Little Rock, Arkansas. Neuro-psychiatric type; new construction, remodeling and repairs; 270 beds contemplated; 240 beds in operation on June 30, 1922; 293 beds in operation on June 30, 1923; 100 per cent complete June 30, 1922; completed and transferred to U. S. Veterans' Bureau on June 6, 1922.

The total number of beds contemplated under the First Langley Bill were 6,334; 892 of these beds were in operation on June 30, 1922; and 5,094 were in operation on June 30, 1923. The different types of beds are:

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(Tuskegee Hospital for Colored Cases.)

The progress of the hospital program provided for by appropriations under the Second Langley Bill, from June 30, 1922, to August 31, 1923, was as follows:

DISTRICT ONE.

Northampton, Massachusetts. Neuro-psychiatric type; 462 beds contemplated; no beds in operation on June 30, 1922; on August 31, 1923, project 54 per cent complete.

DISTRICT TWO.

Tupper Lake, New York. Tuberculosis type; new construction; 500 beds contemplated; project 54 per cent complete on August 31, 1923.

DISTRICT THREE.

Aspinwall, Pennsylvania. Tuberculosis type; new construction; 250 beds contemplated; requirements being studied.
DISTRICT FIVE.

Memphis, Tennessee. General type; purchase of complete hospital; 165 beds which were opened for reception of patients on August 14, 1922.

DISTRICT SIX.

Gulfport, Mississippi. Neuro-psychiatric type; purchase and new construction; 255 beds contemplated; project 50 per cent completed on August 31, 1923.

DISTRICT SEVEN.

Chillicothe, Ohio; Neuro-psychiatric type; new construction; 452 beds contemplated; project 51 per cent complete on August 31, 1923.

Pikeville, Kentucky. General type; new construction; 60 beds contemplated; requirements being studied; it is planned to have this hospital especially equipped for the treatment of trachoma.

DISTRICT EIGHT.

Camp Custer, Michigan. Neuro-psychiatric type; new construction; 527 beds contemplated; project 22.9 per cent complete on August 31, 1923.

Dwight, Illinois. Neuro-psychiatric type; purchase and alterations; 232 beds contemplated; 20 per cent completed on August 31, 1923; formerly leased and operated as a general hospital; to be opened about October 1, 1923.

DISTRICT NINE.

Knoxville, Iowa. Neuro-psychiatric type; purchase, alterations and new construction; 456 beds contemplated; 172 beds in operation June 30, 1922, which were acquired at purchase; ultimate capacity 456 beds; project 49 per cent complete on August 31, 1923.

Excelsior Springs, Missouri. Tuberculosis type; purchase and new construction; 125 beds contemplated; bids opened August 29, 1923.

DISTRICT TEN.

St. Cloud, Minnesota. Neuro-psychiatric type; new construction; 272 beds contemplated; project 12 per cent complete on August 31, 1923.

DISTRICT TWELVE.

Livermore, California. Tuberculosis type; new construction; 250 beds contemplated; plans being prepared.

Southern California. Tuberculosis type; new construction; 200 beds contemplated; requirements being studied.

DISTRICT THIRTEEN.

American Lake, Washington. Neuro-psychiatric type; new construction; 306 beds contemplated; 70 per cent complete on August 31, 1923.

The total number of beds contemplated under the Second Langley Bill were 4,611; 172 of these beds were in operation on June 30, 1922, and 337 were in operation on August 31, 1923. The different types of beds provided for are:

Tuberculosis ------------------------------- 1,325
Neuro-psychiatric -------------------------- 2,961
General ------------------------------- 225

Acting upon the recommendations of the National Rehabilitation Committee, the Director of the Veterans' Bureau, early in the year, appointed a special hospital commission composed of Bureau specialists to study the needs
of the country at large, in the matter of additional hospital facilities, and to
make their recommendations to him by districts. The report of this commis-
sion has not yet been filed with the Director. It will be upon the report of
this commission that the Director will frame his recommendations to Congress,
together with the recommendations received from members of the National
Rehabilitation Committee in the several districts.

Anticipating an increase in the hospital population upon the passage of the
last Sweet Bill, the National Committee filed a protest with the Director of
the Bureau against the closing of any more existing hospitals. This protest
was made at the time when a strong movement was on foot to close Hospital
No. 28, at Greenville, S. C., and Hospital No. 66, at Ft. McHenry, Maryland.
The Director stopped this movement at once and these institutions are still
in operation.

Director Hines' general views on the hospital situation have been com-
municated to the National Committee in a letter dated September 4, 1923,
which in part reads as follows:

"You asked me to give you a statement regarding the hospitalization work
of the Veterans' Bureau. I am pleased to do this. It will be the policy of the
Bureau to make its hospitals the finest in the world, and administered by those
who have the care of the bureau's beneficiaries uppermost in their minds.

"The institutions now under construction are designed to meet all modern
conveniences and improvements in hospital construction and the work is being
pushed as expeditiously as good administration will permit. A large number
of vacant beds now exist in government institutions, and we have over six
thousand patients in contract hospitals. Wherever it can conveniently be
done, having in mind the wishes of the beneficiary, it will be the Bureau's
policy to utilize, first, its government institutions to capacity, then the better
class of State Institutions, and avoid the use of private contract hospitals
wherever conditions have not been satisfactory to either the Bureau or its
beneficiaries.

"It will further be the policy of the Bureau to take account of the
necessity of having beneficiaries in hospitals conveniently located to the homes
of the patients wherever possible; but having the care of the beneficiary first
in mind, it would not be good policy to have imaginary State and District lines
interfere with the placing of a beneficiary in a government institution, if the
facilities of such institution are available and suitable to his care.

"In my judgment the time is not far distant when it will be possible

to recommend to Congress the use of government institutions for the care of
all veterans when such hospitalization is needed by them."

On July 1, 1922, there were 46 hospitals under the jurisdiction of the Vet-
erans' Bureau in operation. These hospitals furnished a total of 17,508 beds,
classified as follows: Tuberculosis, 8,652; Neuro-Psychiatric, 3,895; and Gen-
eral, 4,961. On July 1, 1923, there were 45 hospitals under the jurisdiction of
the Veterans' Bureau in operation, furnishing 15,425 beds, classified as follows:
Tuberculosis, 8,055; Neuro-Psychiatric, 4,623, and General, 2,747. The follow-
ing table shows these bed figures and the utilization made of the beds:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>T. B.</th>
<th>N. P.</th>
<th>Gen.</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 1, 1922</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>8,652</td>
<td>5,847</td>
<td>3,895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 1, 1923</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>8,055</td>
<td>4,017</td>
<td>4,623</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above figures indicate a decrease in tuberculosis and general beds
throughout the year. The decrease in tuberculosis beds, however, is more ap-
parent than real, since two hospitals in operation on July 1, 1923, were not
operating at their ultimate capacity, and when these two hospitals, namely,
U. S. Veterans' Hospital No. 91, Tuskegee, Alabama, and No. 93, Kerrville,
Texas, are in full operation, they will furnish 650 more tuberculosis beds and
244 more neuro-psychiatric beds, so that the number of tuberculosis beds actu-
ally available or to be available under existing construction at operating hospitals will be slightly in excess of tuberculosis beds available on July 1, 1922, and considerably in excess of neuro-psychiatric beds available on July 1, 1922.

The reduction in beds for general medical and surgical cases is justifiable in view of the material decrease in general patients hospitalized over the fiscal year, and even at the present time with less than 600 general patients in contract hospitals, there are approximately 900 vacant general beds in Veterans' Bureau hospitals and approximately 3,600 vacant general beds in all government hospitals, according to a Bureau statement.

During the fiscal year 1923, eight Veterans' Bureau hospitals were closed as follows: No. 36, Boston, Mass., December 1, 1922; No. 45, Biltmore, N. C., December 1, 1922; No. 53, Dwight, Illinois, January 31, 1923; to be reopened: No. 75, Colfax, Iowa, February 7, 1923; No. 35, St. Louis, Missouri, June 1, 1923; No. 25, Houston, Texas, June 30, 1923; (main hospital), Chicago, Illinois, June 30, 1923, and No. 83, Mobile, Alabama, June 30, 1923. All of the foregoing named hospitals were leased, and their relinquishment by the Veterans' Bureau for hospitalization purposes served to save to the government approximately $414,600 in annual rentals.

During the fiscal year 1923, including July 1, 1923, six new Veterans' Bureau hospitals were opened for the reception of patients as follows: No. 88, Memphis, Tenn., August 14, 1922; No. 92, Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, March 16, 1923; No. 89, Rutland, Mass., May 15, 1923; No. 90, Muskogee, Oklahoma, June 14, 1923; No. 91, Tuskegee, Alabama, June 15, 1923 and No. 93 Kerrville Texas, July 1, 1923.

With reference to all government hospitals including hospitals under the jurisdiction of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau, the War Department, the Navy Department, the U. S. Public Health Service, the National Home for Volunteer Disabled Soldiers, and the Interior Department (St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington, D. C.), on July 1, 1922, there were 95 in use by the Veterans' Bureau, furnishing a total of 27,494 beds. On July 1, 1923, there were 90 governmental hospitals used by the Veterans' Bureau, furnishing a total of 26,719 beds. There is shown in the table below these available government beds, classified by general class of disease and further showing their utilization by the Veterans' Bureau as of the dates indicated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>T. B.</th>
<th>N. P.</th>
<th>Gen.</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 1, 1922</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>11,486</td>
<td>8,106</td>
<td>5,781</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 1, 1923</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>11,648</td>
<td>7,481</td>
<td>6,605</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During the fiscal year 1923, continuous effort was made to utilize government facilities to the greatest possible extent with a corresponding reduction in the use of contract or other civil hospitals. The success of this policy is indicated by the fact that over this period there occurred a reduction of 2,128 patients hospitalized in civil and state hospitals, and in the number of such hospitals in use at any one time was reduced from 752 to 600. There is shown in the table below patients in hospitals as of July 1, 1922, and July 1, 1923, showing by class of disease the number in government and the number in civil hospitals and the per cent. of the total in civil hospitals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>Government</th>
<th>Contract</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Per Cent. Contract</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuberculosis</td>
<td>8,106</td>
<td>7,481</td>
<td>15,587</td>
<td>58.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neuro-Psychiatric</td>
<td>4,737</td>
<td>5,630</td>
<td>10,367</td>
<td>54.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

July 1, 1922. July 1, 1923.
July 1, 1922. July 1, 1923.

General

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>July 1, 1922</th>
<th>July 1, 1923</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>5,392</td>
<td>3,634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract</td>
<td>1,411</td>
<td>595</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6,713</td>
<td>4,229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per Cent.</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>14.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>July 1, 1922</th>
<th>July 1, 1923</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>18,145</td>
<td>16,745</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract</td>
<td>8,692</td>
<td>6,565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>26,838</td>
<td>23,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per Cent.</td>
<td>32.4</td>
<td>28.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It will be seen from the above data that the percentage of patients in contract hospitals over the fiscal period reduced from approximately 32.4 to 28.5 per cent., with the largest percentage of reduction obtaining among patients suffering from neuro-psychiatric disabilities where the percentage in civil and state hospitals was reduced from 48.7 to 39.8 per cent.

It will be noted from Bureau data that even on July 1, 1923 there were sufficient available government tuberculosis beds to care for all tuberculosis patients being hospitalized at that time, the exact figures being 11,648 available tuberculosis beds as opposed to a total of 10,880 patients. Similarly, in the instance of general medical and surgical cases, there were reported 7,266 available general beds as opposed to 4,229 general patients, according to the Bureau's statements.

Under the Act making appropriations to the Executive Office and Sundry Independent Executive Bureaus, etc., for the fiscal year 1924, there was appropriated to the U. S. Veterans' Bureau a total of $5,781,000 for alterations and repairs, approach work, and new construction at existing U. S. Veterans' Hospitals. Under these funds considerable miscellaneous work is contemplated. So far as this work at present has been studied, increased hospital beds are planned as follows: U. S. Veterans' Hospital No. 42, Federal Park, Maryland, 290 additional neuro-psychiatric beds; U. S. Veterans' Hospital No. 32, Augusta, Georgia, 270 additional neuro-psychiatric beds; U. S. Veterans' Hospital No. 78, North Little Rock, Arkansas, 250 additional neuro-psychiatric beds, and U. S. Veterans' Hospital No. 89, Rutland, Massachusetts, 160 additional beds, furnishing approximately 969 additional beds at Veterans' Hospitals. The National Rehabilitation Committee supported the measure for these funds in Congress.

The State Convention of the American Legion of Oklahoma, at its recent meeting, adopted the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, the legislature of the State of Oklahoma appropriated the sum of $555,000 for the erection of the Soldiers' Memorial Hospital located at Muskogee, Oklahoma, and whereas that hospital has been completed under the direction of the Soldiers' Relief Commission, and whereas that Commission has been authorized by the proper authorities to sell said building to the Federal Government, and whereas the Federal Government is now occupying said building under a lease contract with the Soldiers' Relief Commission, and whereas the building is being used by the National Government for the hospitalization of not only the soldiers who served from the State of Oklahoma, but for soldiers who served from other States in the Union, and whereas the question of hospitalization and rehabilitation is a problem and responsibility of the National Government.

"Now, therefore, BE IT RESOLVED by The American Legion of the Department of Oklahoma in Convention assembled at Lawton, Oklahoma, that the Director of the Veterans' Bureau is urgently requested to purchase from the Soldiers' Relief Commission at once, the Soldiers' Memorial Hospital at Muskogee, Oklahoma, out of any funds which may be available out of any amounts appropriated by Congress for such purpose, and if there are no funds available, that it is the sense of this convention that the Oklahoma delegation in Congress be directed to use every possible effort to have this money so appropriated and to urgently request that the Director of the Veterans' Bureau
enter into negotiations with and purchase from the Soldiers’ Relief Commission the Soldiers’ Memorial Hospital located at Muskogee, Oklahoma."

White Committee. The White Committee, a board of consultants of the United States Treasury Department, was appointed to carry out the provisions of Public Act 384, approved March 4, 1921, appropriating $18,600,000 for the erection and purchase of hospitals to care for disabled ex-service men. The final report of that Committee was submitted to the Secretary of the Treasury on February 28, 1923. More than two years have elapsed since the money was appropriated and some of the projects have not yet been completed. Criticism at this stage can do little good; the least said about the situation the better. The White Committee, according to its report, has spent all of the $18,600,000, and there have been provided, including those now in process of construction, some 6,334 beds, at an average cost per bed of about $2,936.

At the beginning of the year, the National Rehabilitation Committee, after a complete survey of the country and many conferences with its consultants, found that the most pressing needs for hospitals were to be found in the Second and Third Districts. The situation was handled through the District Rehabilitation Committees in these two districts. In New York State, under the personal direction of Albert S. Callan, State Commander and a very active member of the Rehabilitation Committee, a comprehensive study of hospital needs was made, and recommendations submitted.

The White Committee had withheld decision on the projects for the care of tuberculosis patients in the Second and Third Districts, taking no definite action until after all other sections of the country had been cared for. In an attempt to explain the delay in construction for these two districts, the White Committee said:

“There is a difference of opinion as to the wisdom of these two reservations, but in the opinion of your consultants it was the wise choice, taking into consideration the problems of the entire country. While New York and Pennsylvania, the two most populous districts in the country are most poorly equipped with government beds, yet they have, as the wealthiest states in the Union, the best hospital facilities for their civil population, and for this reason at the time the decision was made the emergencies did not seem as urgent there as in other sections of the country. Owing to the decline in the use of contract hospitals, these two districts became more urgent, but, having been reserved for the purpose of retaining the work under Public Act 384 within the limits of the money, no change could be made in the program as made.”

The National Rehabilitation Committee, facing this problem, determined to secure the necessary hospital facilities for these two districts without further undue delay. Strong pressure was brought to bear on the White Committee. Strong protests were also filed with the White House.

Commander Callan, of New York, had made it plain that nothing short of 1,000 beds for the care of tubercular cases would be acceptable to his department. There were two projects under consideration for the Second District, one at Chelsea, New York, and another at Tupper Lake, New York, each of a 500-bed capacity. After much unnecessary delay in the matter of selecting sites, the White Committee finally picked the Chelsea property and the purchase was consummated on June 27, 1923.

It was at first decided to erect a 250-bed hospital on the Chelsea site, but when this decision was made the Director of the Veterans’ Bureau, Colonel Charles R. Forbes, expressed a desire to combine with the Treasury Department and erect a 500-bed hospital, the Bureau agreeing to provide half the funds necessary for the 500-bed project out of money appropriated under the Second Langley Bill. This proposal was submitted in a letter to the Secretary of the Treasury on July 17, 1922. Shortly thereafter the consultants advised that plans would accordingly be prepared for a 500-bed hospital and bids were advertised for to be opened October 16, 1922. On October 3rd word was received by the White Committee from the Director of the Veterans’ Bureau advising that he had decided to withdraw his offer.
to co-operate, and that it would be necessary for the Treasury Department
to follow its original plan for a 250-bed hospital. He gave as his reason
for withdrawing from the combined project his desire to purchase a site at
Arcadia Farms, New York, for the development of a community training
center.

This action by the Director brought forth a strong protest from Com-
mander Callan. The National Rehabilitation Committee demanded an imme-
diate hearing before the Federal Board of Hospitalization and registered a
strong protest against the plan of the Director. Director Forbes was present,
and promptly withdrew the Arcadia Farms plan.

After a conference, on December 8, 1922, with the President, Secretary
of the Treasury, the hospital consultants and the U. S. Veterans’ Bureau, it
was finally decided that under the First Langley Bill there should be con-
structed a 400-bed hospital at Chelsea, New York, by the Treasury Depart-
ment, and that the site at Aspinwall, Pennsylvania, which had been pur-
chased should be turned over to the Veterans’ Bureau, which should provide
there a hospital from the funds of the Second Langley Bill. In pursuing this
course, further delay, which would have been involved in transferring funds
was avoided.

Throughout the year the National Rehabilitation Committee continued
its efforts in behalf of additional hospital facilities for the Third District,
and recently Director Hines announced his decision to erect a 250-bed hos-
pital on the Aspinwall site. This hospital, it is planned, will cost $1,000,000,
and the funds will be provided from the Second Langley Bill.

The two hospitals in New York are now well under way and should
be completed and available for the reception of patients early in 1924. It is
planned to complete the construction at Aspinwall, Pennsylvania, within one
year from the present time.

Removal of Patients from Contract Hospitals. During the year the Legion
Liaison Representatives were instructed by the National Committee to make
a survey of their districts to determine the number of men in private hos-
pitals and sanitariums who might be satisfactorily transferred to government
hospitals. This survey was effected and a considerable number of men have
been transferred to Veterans’ Bureau institutions. A section of the bulletin
of instructions in this connection, which was sent to the field, reads as follows:

“It has been suggested that there are many disabled service men who
should be in Veterans’ Bureau Hospitals, who are now in private sanitariums
or civil hospitals. Many of these men do not know that they should be taken
care of by the Bureau. It may be that some of these men are effected men-
tally, yet the fact that they have not been hospitalized by the Bureau makes it
difficult for them to secure adjudication of their claims when presented. I
feel that it would be a real service to the disabled if you could work out a
plan in your district whereby reports may be secured from private institutions
as to the number of former service men hospitalized.”

A recommendation by the American Legion which has been carried out
by the Veterans’ Bureau during the year was to specially train a number of
qualified physicians in courses of psychiatry, for subsequent service in those
hospitals under the direction of the Veterans’ Bureau handling mental cases.
In October, 1922, the Bureau opened such a course at St. Elizabeth’s Hospital,
Washington, D. C., and more than 200 doctors were enrolled. Following the
announcement that such a course of instruction would be made available by
the Bureau, the National Rehabilitation Committee sent a general appeal to
the field urging that young physicians enlist for this service. The only pro-
vision stipulated was that upon the completion of the course the physicians
having the benefits thereof must remain in the Bureau service for at least
two years. The Legion based its appeal upon the idea that trained personnel
should be available immediately upon the completion of the hospitals under
construction.
The course was very successful; the teaching staff was the best ever assembled in the history of the country; and the results obtained have been very gratifying. The course has been completed and this trained personnel assigned to hospitals all over the country. It is highly probable that another such course will be opened during the year by the Bureau, to continue for four months.

The National Committee has at all times urged a greater degree of co-operation by patients, particularly tubercular patients, with the Veterans' Bureau in order that proper diagnosis may be made and suitable and adequate treatment given. This to a large measure has been accomplished in all districts of the country. Several bulletins to the field bearing on this important subject were issued during the year.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION.

Training. The training program of the Veterans' Bureau for the rehabilitation of its disabled beneficiaries progressed rapidly during the fall of 1922, and by the first of the new year the Bureau agencies handling this work were functioning so successfully that since that time little complaining has been heard, either from the trainees themselves or from other sources. The general training program was going forward in such good shape that even the loss of Colonel R. I. Rees, Chief of the Rehabilitation Division, who was ordered back to War Department duty by the President last March, had no serious effect upon this work, although his loss was a severe blow to all those familiar with his knowledge and ability of the general rehabilitation program and with his deep understanding and sympathy for the disabled men and women beneficiaries of the Veterans' Bureau. Throughout the summer the Rehabilitation Division has functioned smoothly and with little criticism from the field.

The latest figures show that 41,765 trainees have completed their courses and have been declared rehabilitated for the pursuit of useful vocations in civil life. Slightly over 80,000 men are still in training, divided almost equally among those in schools, colleges and other institutions and those engaged in placement training with large corporations and manufacturing concerns. During July of this year 2,963 men were declared rehabilitated, in August the figures run to 3,469. Estimates for September are, 3,971; October, 2,847; November, 2,289; and December, 4,252. At this rate, which averages well over 3,000 men rehabilitated each month, it will readily be seen that practically all men in training at the present time will have been rehabilitated by the end of 1924. Up to August 1, 1923, the vocational rehabilitation program of the Government had necessitated the expenditure of over $460,000,000—nearly a half a billion dollars.

Probably the most important developments that have occurred in connection with the training program during the year are the practical completion of the tuberculosis and neuropsychiatric training centers, the further development of the land settlement project plan of training, and the co-ordination of capital and labor with the efforts of the Veterans' Bureau to find jobs for rehabilitated trainees.

The idea of training centers in each district for men suffering from tuberculosis and neuro-psychiatric disabilities has been carried out sufficiently far to show that while such a system for the training of neuro-psychiatrics has met with real success, it has on the other hand worked out very unsatisfactorily in so far as the tubercular trainees are concerned. Many such men sent from hospitals to undergo courses of instruction at these training centers have broken down physically and been forced to return to the hospitals, in many instances much worse off than they were prior to entering training. The Bureau has tried sincerely to overcome this situation by instituting carefully arranged training programs in such cases, in many cases making special studies of the individual and surrounding circumstances, and calling for part time training under close medical supervision. It has
been the aim of the Bureau, where training has been given in such cases, to regulate the training of the man to such an extent that his physical strength may not be overtaxed, and all District Managers have been cautioned as to the need for using the greatest precautions in determining the feasibility of this type of patient for training. However, in spite of all their efforts the plan has not proven successful. This matter has been receiving the most serious consideration of the tuberculosis experts of the National Rehabilitation Committee and it is probable that the Director of the Veterans' Bureau will be asked to abolish this kind of training and substitute therefor some equitable system of compensation. This is a matter that should receive thorough study and careful consideration by the National Rehabilitation Committee at its sessions prior to the meeting of the National Convention in San Francisco.

The development during the year of the so-called Land Settlement Training Projects, and the success that has been attained in this character of training by many of the men who have tried it, has shown beyond a doubt the possibilities of this plan for instruction in farming, poultry raising, bee husbandry and small fruit growing.

These projects, or Soldier Colonies, as they are sometimes called, have been started in several sections of the country. Among those which the committee has followed more closely throughout the year are the projects located in Minnesota, South Dakota and Mississippi. The better known projects are probably those that have been established at Veteransville, Silver Star, Moose Lake, Bomidji and Orchard Gardens, Minnesota, where real progress has been reported. The land upon which these settlements have been established is usually immediately adjoining or close by the colleges where the men are undergoing their courses of vocational training, and have been secured by the men themselves through option or outright purchase, oftentimes assisted by the various state land settlement laws and other state legislation beneficial to the ex-service man, as well as by financial aid furnished by the American Legion posts and departments, and other outside organizations and agencies.

In the matter of these land settlement projects, the policy of the Veterans' Bureau is essentially the same, whether the trainee goes on a state project, a school project, a realty development project, an individual farm project or otherwise; that is, the Bureau will arrange for instruction and will provide supervision, if the project is considered advisable. It will also act in an advisory capacity and aid trainees in making arrangements for securing land settlement opportunities, etc.

The matter is generally handled in this manner: The trainee while pursuing a practical agricultural course in school, draws up a proposed project program, assisted by his instructors and the Bureau supervisor, this program including a sketch of the farmstead, showing size, arrangement and location of buildings, fields, orchards, etc., a brief report on each principal crop or project of the enterprise proposed, and a financial budget showing assets, liabilities, proposed receipts, expenditures, etc.

The Bureau then considers the feasibility of the proposed plan, taking into consideration not only the written plan as drawn up by the man, but also the suitability of the trainee and his family for farming. If the proposed project training is approved by the Bureau the trainee is transferred to project training at a suitable time, which is usually in early Spring. Here, he is given instruction and supervision over such a period of time as his needs require. This varies with individual cases, but usually includes one complete cycle of crop production.

There are at the present time more than 3,000 Bureau trainees in project training on land which, in most instances, is leased with the option of buying. These men are distributed over the entire United States, and while all are on individual farms, yet in probably a score of instances these farms are grouped closely enough to provide opportunity for co-operation and group instruction.
The Rehabilitation Division of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau is authorized to function only in a training and advisory capacity and therefore the activities of the Bureau in aiding these trainees to become established on the land are rather limited. If, however, Congress should see fit to act favorably on some plan whereby these men being trained as farmers, poultry raisers, fruit growers, etc., would be given an opportunity to secure the proper kind of land and other necessary facilities it is felt that the new plan now being used would be much more effective and would meet the needs of several thousand additional deserving men who need only a reasonable amount of aid and encouragement to enable them to be trained into independent vocations along this line. There would be twice the present number of men in this type of training if this aid could be offered to them.

The National Rehabilitation Committee has been able to materially assist the progress of the general training program and to add to the contentment of the trainees themselves by securing certain changes and modifications in the Bureau regulations which have resulted in bettering conditions generally and overcoming much complaint and dissatisfaction. As a direct result of our recommendations and arguments a regulation was issued permitting fifteen days sick leave for trainees before action could be taken to remove them from the training rolls and place them on a hospital status. Under the old regulations, if a man was absent from his instruction for one day or more, he immediately was taken from the training rolls and placed upon a compensation status.

This was the cause of great hardships, financial loss, and innumerable delays in receipt of checks, through no fault of the men themselves in the majority of instances. The new order has eliminated all this and is working out very satisfactorily.

A decision was also secured from the Bureau under which many men who had been declared eligible for Section 3 training, have been permitted to enter training under Section 2 upon submission of evidence showing that since the time when they were declared eligible for Section 3 training, their physical condition had become worse, involving a higher disability rating which would make them eligible for the Section 2 training. This decision let in a large class of men that had heretofore been barred from training with maintenance allowance.

The Bureau also agreed to consider individual cases of men, eligible for training, who had failed to file application for training prior to the expiration of the time limit fixed by law, ill-advised counsel, or for other competent reasons. It is not known how many men this will affect, but several cases have been handled under this ruling since its promulgation.

On recommendation from the Committee the Director has issued definite instructions to the field directing that the practice of advising trainees to go to other districts with the idea of receiving training, prior to the time the transfer has been authorized by the receiving district, be discontinued. This has relieved a situation which has caused much complaint where trainees were frequently reporting to offices of the Bureau in one district for assignment to training, without any tangible authority or proper transfer procedure, giving as their reasons for leaving their training in their former districts, that they had done so upon the advice and counsel of representatives of the Bureau in the district where they had formerly been undergoing training. Naturally, many of these men became burdens upon the Bureau and the community in the new district, until their regular transfers could be arranged, or until they could be returned to their old districts.

A very important statement of policy was secured from the Bureau on the matter of whether or not in some cases the training period should be extended over the regular four-year time limit. In setting forth his position on this matter, the Director said:

"If it should be found in an exceptional case that a trainee's physical condition has been such as to preclude the possibility of his overcoming his
handicap within the prescribed period, provision is made in our procedure for such extensions as may be found necessary and advisable, and should such unfavorable conditions continue until the expiration of the maximum or four-year period and rehabilitation not be attained, it is ordered that the case with all particulars including prewar and postwar occupations, physical condition, etc., covering the entire period be submitted to me for such consideration as the case merits."

This ruling has afforded relief in many exceptional cases where it is shown that through no fault of the man himself it was impossible for him to become rehabilitated within the time limit set.

In other words, the National Rehabilitation Committee has at all times insisted that every man admitted to training be given a square deal. Because a man happened to be placed in a wrong objective in the beginning is no reason why his whole hope of proper training should be jeopardized. This was a mistake of the Bureau and the National Committee has insisted that all trainees be put in an objective where they could be able to succeed. In other words, it has been the policy of the committee that men in training should not be made to suffer because of the ill-advised action on the part of any inefficient or unqualified training officer.

In an effort to improve general training conditions throughout the country, the committee through its field representatives prior to the end of the last fiscal year when the Bureau was considering the renewal of contracts with colleges, schools, etc., conducted a thorough search and investigation of these institutions and in cases where they were found to be of the so-called "mushroom" type, neither equipped for or sincerely interested in, providing proper courses of instruction to Bureau trainees, recommendations were made to the Director that the contracts in such instances be cancelled and the men transferred to other and more suitable institutions. Consequently, the use of many of these unfitted institutions was discontinued, this action resulting in the saving of much government money which has since been expended to the better advantage of the trainees in other directions.

While it is true that much criticism has been directed at the Bureau's general program for the vocational rehabilitation of the veteran, the National Rehabilitation Committee is convinced that great good is being accomplished. Thousands of men are having their future lives actually revamped and every day many of them are entering useful and gainful vocations. A most striking instance as to how some of these boys are improving their opportunities is shown by the report of the Georgia School of Technology, at Atlanta, Georgia, which states that of the ten honor graduates of that university this year, five were trainees of the United States Veterans' Bureau. Similar instances have been reported from many other sections of the country, and certainly bears out the belief that this work is in the final analysis well justified.

Any effort on the part of Congress to unnecessarily curtail appropriations for the training program of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau should be opposed strenuously by The American Legion and every other American citizen who has the future welfare of these World War Veterans at heart. The Government owes a duty to these disabled men that can not be computed in dollars and cents.

Employment of Trainees. During the past year the program of the Veterans' Bureau for the vocational rehabilitation of the disabled has rapidly resolved itself into a problem of finding profitable employment for these men upon the completion of their training courses. The National Rehabilitation Committee has given much thought and attention to this important part of the program, which the present Director of the Bureau considers as one of the biggest that has confronted him since his appointment.

Shortly after assuming office as Director of the Veterans' Bureau, General Hines, realized that one of the really big problems dealing with the successful rehabilitation of disabled men and women, was the placing of these men and women in gainful employment. To do this, it was necessary to secure
the active co-operation of the two organized factors dealing with industry, namely the employers and the representatives of the trade unions. Some employers had contended that they were unable to give the rehabilitated men and women employment, owing to the possible labor difficulty. This suggestion was found to be mythical, as the Veterans' Bureau, through the work of General Hines, soon secured pledges of support from the labor unions of their fullest co-operation. In fact, many of the labor unions went further, and at the suggestion of General Hines, reduced the apprenticeship requirements, and in some cases, substantially reduced the membership or admission fee, these privileges to apply only to men with a certificate from the Rehabilitation Division of the Veterans' Bureau.

During the last few years many of the large and more responsible employers of labor have brought into existence, as a requirement for employment, the passing of a physical test by the applicant for work. It is unnecessary to point out that this requirement would bar a very large percentage of the vocationally trained men and women of the Veterans' Bureau. This has been, in a large measure, overcome by a direct appeal on the part of General Hines and The American Legion to employers of labor, and arrangements have now been perfected, whereby most of the employers who require physical examinations for prospective employes, have waived this examination so far as the ex-service men and women are concerned, especially wherein the disability is the loss of an arm or a leg, but where there is no organic trouble. With the active support and cooperation of The American Legion, the Veterans' Bureau is now making an attempt to have the employers waive this physical examination in so far as it would apply to all vocationally trained ex-service men and women. If this can be accomplished, it will be of tremendous value to many of our comrades who are discriminated against at the present time, due to disabilities received in service. Attention is called to the attitude of agents of casual insurance companies. Prior to last March, employers in many states were hesitant to give employment to rehabilitated men and women, especially those who had been crippled, due to their beliefs, or, as they claimed, due to statements made to them by casual insurance agents, that the employment of these men and women would mean increased cost of insurance. This situation became acute, especially in District No. 2, last April. During the early part of May, General Hines, through some of his assistants, succeeded in getting together a group of officials of the leading casual companies, and after a lengthy discussion of the subject, and of the compensation laws, the casual companies agreed that no employer would be or could be penalized by an increase in the cost of his compensation insurance, through the employment of rehabilitated men and women, even those who had lost an arm, a leg, etc.

Attention is also called to the necessity of having rehabilitated men in placement training, placed on the payroll of the employer. At the present time a man or woman in placement training, who meets with severe injury, due to the hazards of that employment, and whose name is not on the employer's payroll, receives no compensation for the injury received. Were persons in placement training on the employers' payrolls, and they met with injury in the course of employment, they would be compensated in most of the states, under the Workmen's Compensation Act. It is a question, at the present time, as to whether or not the Veterans' Bureau is empowered to extend the time of training due to an accident or injury received in employment. There is no case on record, so far as it has been able to find, wherein any of the rehabilitated men and women in placement training have met with severe injury, such as the loss of an arm, a leg, etc., who were not on the employer's payroll, but this is called to your attention to show the need of some legislation to perfect and protect those in placement training, or possibly a requirement or order to be issued by the Veterans' Bureau, calling upon all employers to pay rehabilitated men and women in placement training wages of some kind, in order that they would be protected in case of injury.
The more responsible and practical employers, whether he employs five persons of fifty thousand persons, have hesitated in some districts to give the Veterans' Bureau the cooperation they sought, due to a policy which permitted the exploitation of the service men and women. The average American employer, desiring to maintain his standing in the community, hesitates to place in the hands of agitator or demagogue the opportunity of going before the people of that community and claiming that the employer has exploited or profiteered on the work of the vocationally trained and disabled ex-service men and women. In most districts, today, this policy of no wages to the trainee has been discontinued and the present policy is such that every employer whether he be large or small, cooperates with the Veterans' Bureau in giving gainful training and gainful employment to ex-service men without fear of criticism on the part of the demagogue or disappointed office seeker.

The American Legion, through its National and District Rehabilitation Committees, its various departments and its liaison representatives, has given its wholehearted active support to this campaign carried on by Director Dines to insure employment for this rapidly growing army of rehabilitated veterans. His efforts to place these men in gainful occupations took a really practical turn when the Director addressed the letter heretofore mentioned to the heads of the larger industrial concerns throughout the country, inviting their attention to the prospective need of employment for a considerable number of men shortly to be declared rehabilitated. The letter pointed that some 100,000 veterans are completing training which will fit them in every way for occupations which will not involve their war disabilities, even where that disability has not entirely disappeared.

Copies of this letter were sent to all Legion Liaison Representatives directing that they confer with their respective district committees and carry out a similar program in helping place these men in positions. The District Committees were also urged to write personal letters to the heads of the larger business concerns in their districts, to prepare articles for the newspapers and to push this program through their local Chambers of Commerce and other civic organizations.

Up to the present time over 40,000 of these men have successfully completed their courses of training in the various vocations and the majority of these places in lucrative employment. There are still enrolled in the different courses of instruction upwards of 80,000 who will be ready for employment at the rate of over 3,000 each month from now on until completion of the training program. It is desired that employers keep in mind that among these men are qualified candidates for practically every kind of position and profession. These former disabled veterans are not maimed or disfigured nor have they suffered major operations. More than 90% are normal in appearance, as they are in other respects, and are physically and vocationally rehabilitated for their employment objectives. Vocational training is not given to men who are physically unfit for the duties that would be required of men in perfect physical condition in the same occupations.

Non-Feasible for Training. Early in the program of the government for rehabilitating vocationally the disabled veterans of the World War, it became apparent that it would be useless to even attempt the training for useful and gainful occupations of a certain class of beneficiaries whose physical and mental disabilities, coupled with their natural disinclination or ability to apply themselves successfully to any form of training made them unfeasible for any course of instruction. Among these are the epileptics, certain classes of tuberculars and neuropsychiatrics, morons, or those who have since birth been subnormal mentally, to more or less degree, and the general group of incorrigibles. An extensive survey throughout the country conducted by the National Rehabilitation Committee showed that there were probably 29,000 of these men. They are the responsibility of the government, and something should be done for them.
The general sentiment of the District Rehabilitation Committees of the Legion on this question is similar to that expressed by the 4th District Committee, when it offered the following recommendation for the consideration of the Veterans' Bureau:

"It is recommended that men rated permanently non-feasible for training be successfully and profitably trained or given an opportunity for special training by a bureau organization created for the purpose of making them feasible, and if unsuccessful, it is recommended that they be placed in an institution or given a sufficient allowance upon which to live."

This recommendation was placed before the Director of the Veterans' Bureau with the endorsement of the National Committee, and brought forth the following statement from General Hines, under date of March 20, 1923:

"It is my belief that the existing facilities of the Bureau are sufficient to allow every claimant to receive any treatment he may need. Where the actual Government facilities are inadequate, the Bureau is able to go outside of the Government service and arrange for such treatment as may be necessary, and this has been done wherever sufficient reason exists. It would appear, therefore, to be unnecessary to create any special organization within the Bureau for the purpose of making these non-feasible beneficiaries feasible for training, inasmuch as they may receive any treatment needed that would tend to overcome their disabilities or cure the disease which results in non-feasibility under the present Bureau organization. The propriety of placing these patients in an institution if they are found to be permanently non-feasible must, of course, be determined by the facts of the case. If the claimant is non-feasible for training by reason of his physical condition, or if training is terminated because of failure to profit by training, or to cooperate with the Bureau by following the course, the propriety of custodial care would have to be decided in accordance with the condition of the claimant. If he is in need of custodial care for the treatment of a mental or physical disability traceable to service, he may receive such treatment. However, if such care is not needed, or if residence is not required for the purpose of treatment but is only sought for domicile, the Bureau is without authority under the existing law to provide such domicile. Domiciliary care is, however, provided by the Government in the National Homes for Disabled Volunteers, and the Bureau will cooperate to the fullest extent in obtaining admission to a hospital for a claimant of this Bureau who desires admission to a Soldiers' Home for domicile, or is desirous of being placed in the Home for treatment if the treatment is disallowed by this Bureau because the disability is not connected with service.

"The compensation payable under the present law is dependent upon reduction in earning capacity and if a claimant is but partially disabled and is able to follow with partial success, some substantially gainful occupation, the amount of compensation that can be paid is dependent upon the extent of interference with pursuance of a substantially gainful occupation, resulting from disability incurred in or aggravated by service. It is impossible under the terms of the present law, to hold that compensation is payable upon the basis of feasibility or non-feasibility for training. In this connection you are advised that the Bureau has abandoned its previous practice of holding that a claimant is permanently non-feasible for training, and has at present three types of cases: (1) Persons feasible for training, (2) Persons for whom training is temporarily non-feasible, and (3) Persons for whom training is indefinitely non-feasible.

"Those cases of indefinite non-feasibility are subject to review from time to time, and at any time that claimant is able to take up training such course may be provided if he is properly entitled to same.

"In all discussions of rating of claimants where the question of non-feasibility arises, it must be remembered that the non-feasibility may result from disabilities other than those incurred in or aggravated by service, and under such circumstances the Bureau, of course, would be unable to pay in-
creased compensation by reason of non-feasibility, but would be required to authorize compensation in accordance with the reduction in earning capacity, resulting from service connected disabilities.

"I am convinced that it is not necessary to set up additional machinery in the Bureau for the rating of those cases where training is found to be non-feasible and that the present Bureau organization granting the right of appeal in every case where the claimant feels that his disability has been rated too low, will safeguard such cases against injustice."

Nevertheless, since the foregoing statement, and after the Bureau has made many fruitless efforts to satisfactorily handle this class of beneficiaries, it has become very plain that some special plan must be worked out for their disposition. It is believed that the Bureau has done everything possible for these men under their present system of organization and equipment, and has failed to make any appreciable amount of progress with the great bulk of such cases. At the insistence of the National Rehabilitation Committee the Director is having a special study made of this situation by the Rehabilitation Division of the Bureau in an effort to evolve some plan, within the existing laws, that will improve conditions. The National Rehabilitation Committee will welcome suggestions from any source that might help to solve this problem.

**REINSTATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT INSURANCE.**

In the fall of 1922, shortly following the Fourth National Convention of The American Legion, the Veterans’ Bureau inaugurated a nation-wide campaign for the reinstatement of Government Insurance, actively assisted by the District Rehabilitation Committee and the State Departments of the Legion, as well as the local Legion Posts. In several Districts itineraries were mapped out, advance publicity secured, meetings called by the local posts and many towns in the district of any size were visited by an insurance squad. In order to give this work further impetus, the Legion again brought it to the front when at the January meeting of the National Executive Committee it was directed that the National Organization of the Legion institute a further campaign for the reinstatement of insurance and directed the National Rehabilitation Committee to take proper steps to prosecute this work as effectively as possible. This was done through the District Committees by lining up the State Departments and local Posts and coordinating their efforts with those of the Veterans’ Bureau offices throughout their respective districts. The liaison Representatives were instructed to bring up the subject at all Legion meetings and other gatherings where an opportunity would be afforded to disseminate as much insurance information as possible, and to secure as much newspaper publicity as possible to boost this work.

**VETERANS’ PREFERENCE IN FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT.**

Probably one of the most troublesome questions that has yet confronted the Legion has been that relative to the treatment of former service persons now employed in the government service. Complaints have been received almost daily from former service men and women who have been ousted from their positions or reduced in rank or salary, or who have been denied the preference to which they are so justly entitled in applying for appointments under the Civil Service.

And directly coupled with this general situation was the fact that in the U. S. Veterans’ Bureau—a government agency having to do exclusively with matters affecting former service persons—the number of non-service employees was disgracefully large, and many of the key positions in the Bureau organization were held by persons without military records, without sympathy for the service man or woman, and with little interest in or knowledge of the great problem of rehabilitating and preparing for useful civil life the thousands
of disabled veterans and their families entirely dependent upon their government for their future welfare.

The National Executive Committee at its meeting in Indianapolis in January took cognizance of the seriousness of this situation and showed its sentiment in the following resolution:

"Whereas, it is alleged that, The Chief of the Legal Division The Veterans' Bureau, has in the past, and now is opposing the transfer to, and appointment in, that Division of former service men trained in the law.

"And, Whereas, executive orders from the President of the United States, as well as legislative enactments, provide that former service men and women shall be given preference over their non-service competitors in such appointments and transfers,

"And, Whereas, it is believed that, Such opposition in the face of such law is inimical to the best interests of the public service, and the former service men and women in particular.

"And, in view of the fact that, The opposition to such transfers and appointments is initiated by, and insisted upon by, a man who has never worn the uniform of his country in time of war,

"And, Whereas, it is believed that, Such opposition on the part of that official is not only detrimental to the proper functioning of the Veterans' Bureau and the administrative authorities thereof, but is inimical to the best interests of The American Legion in its efforts in behalf of former service men and women,

"Now, Therefore, be it Resolved, by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion, that Chairman Sparks of the Rehabilitation Committee be directed to present the matter to the Director of the Veterans' Bureau and request that such official be removed and that ex-service men of recognized qualification be appointed to replace non-service men in such Division and Bureau."

This resolution was merely in accord with the general sentiment of the Legion that the Veterans' Bureau should be administered by persons with war records and manned by ex-service personnel as far as possible.

In accordance with the instructions of the National Executive Committee the Director of the Bureau was advised directly of this action, and shortly thereafter the General Counsel of the Bureau submitted his resignation, and a service man and Legionnaire was appointed as his successor. Beginning with the administration of the present Director, other changes were effected and recently culminated in the issuance of an order by him, which reads as follows:

"In connection with a letter from the Chief of Personnel, dated June 21, 1923, setting forth the policy of the Bureau to be followed in the application of reductions of force, I desire that full observance shall be paid to that portion of the Executive Order of March 3, 1923, which provides that:

"'In harmony with statutory provisions, when reductions are being made in the force, in any part of the classified service, no employe entitled to military preference in appointment shall be discharged or dropped or reduced in rank or salary if his record is good.'

"In amplification of the statement made by the Chief of Personnel, in his letter that 'In making reduction in personnel, employees having the best efficiency record will be retained,' the idea meant to be conveyed was that no employe entitled to military preference would be dropped as surplus unless he were incompetent.

"Therefore, superseding the Chief of Personnel's letter, you will be guided in effecting reductions by the following considerations:

"1. Ex-service men and women and all other employees entitled to military preference will be retained, provided their records are good; that is, provided they are not incompetent.

"2. With respect to other employees, preference in retention will be ex-
corded on the basis of efficiency. In the case of two such employees of equal standing but engaged upon different duties, the one less necessary to the work of the Bureau should be dispensed with.

“(signed) FRANK T. HINES,
“Director.”

This order makes it necessary, before the status of any ex-service man or woman employed in the Bureau can be affected, that they must be proved incompetent, and goes further towards carrying out what we believe and contend to be the actual intent of the law itself than has been done by the head of any other branch of the Federal Government. Not only has he done this, but the facts show that in all new appointments that have been made since his own appointment as head of the Veterans' Bureau, General Hines has without exception given favorable consideration to ex-service persons.

So far as concerns other departments of the government service, the situation is still deplorable, and no efforts have been made by the Departments heads to protect ex-service persons. This is particularly true of postmastership appointments, where political considerations almost invariably prove the deciding factors and there seems to be little hope for improvement in this situation without specific legislation by Congress, which is very improbable.

RED CROSS SUPPORT OF LIAISON SERVICE.

In April of this year the National Committee prepared and submitted to the Red Cross an estimated budget covering the expense of continuing the Liaison service of The American Legion in operation until June 30th, 1924. This budget was promptly approved by their Executive Committee and the money made immediately available.

The Red Cross has, at all times, been thoroughly conversant with the progress of rehabilitation work of the Legion through Mr. Robert E. Bondy, Director of War Service, American Red Cross, who has served as an Advisory member of the National Committee. With the cooperation of Mr. Bondy and through many conferences with the national and field representatives of the two organizations, better understanding and closer cooperation between the Red Cross and the Legion has been secured. Constructive suggestions and criticisms relative to the work of both have been especially valuable and a community of spirit and harmonious relation in the work have been established that nothing in the future can disturb.

DECENTRALIZATION.

All during the year the National Rehabilitation Committee has used its strongest efforts to bring about further decentralization of the Bureau's activities, and especially those activities requiring contact with the claimant, whether it be by actual contact, correspondence or otherwise.

Steadily and surely Director Hines has granted to his District Managers more and more authority in administrative matters, at the same time impressing upon them the fact that he will hold them strictly responsible for the efficient functioning of their respective offices. He has given them almost carte blanche authority in the hiring and firing of personnel in the district and sub-district offices, he has followed absolutely their recommendations relative to the recent reductions in the number of sub-district offices, he has placed under their control the Bureau contact men in the hospitals who in the past have been responsible to their hospital commanding officers, he has given them authority and directed them to furnish information and statistics of all kinds to responsible representatives of The American Legion which formerly had to be requested of and furnished by the Central Office at Washington, and in so far as concerns matters directly affecting the claimant in the field, the Director has delegated to his District Managers complete authority to act upon their own decisions except in cases where insurance claims and permanent total
ratings are involved. His most recent step toward this decentralization was
the issuance of the general order relative to permanent partial ratings, which
is explained in another section of this report, and his own thoughts on the
general question of decentralization are very clearly outlined in a statement
made by him to the National Rehabilitation Committee which reads as follows:

"My dear Mr. Sparks:

"I appreciate your calling to my attention the apparent misapprehension
that is growing up in the field with reference to the policy of the Central
Office on the question of centralization or decentralization.

"It is rather difficult for me to understand why the impression exists
that it is the intention of the Bureau to centralize. As a matter of fact
the most important steps yet taken in the direction of decentralizing the
activities of the Veterans' Bureau were accomplished on July 1st, the begin-
ning of the present fiscal year, when a thorough-going budget system was
established for all districts, hospitals, and training centers of the Bureau.
Responsibility for the conduct of the Bureau's principal activities had pre-
viously been decentralized and the budget system fixes like responsibility
for good administration as regards the overhead costs of the Bureau.

"The basic policy followed has been to fix responsibilities in the field
offices and only to check the results of their work in the Central Office.
Unfortunately, there appears to be a widespread misunderstanding and mis-
interpretation of the Bureau's efforts in the direction of checking results and
and many reports have come to me that the progress now being made by the
Bureau is not in the direction of decentralizing its work, but in the opposite
direction, namely, recentralization in Washington. Nothing could be farther
from the facts. Decentralization has but one inherent danger and that is
lack of uniformity and equality in the character of services rendered to
disabled veterans. It will stand or fall, dependent upon the ability of those
in charge of the Bureau's affairs to overcome this danger.

"To receive continued approval by Congress, the disabled men themselves,
and the public, charges of discrimination, contradiction and lack of standards
must be reduced to a minimum. With this fact in mind the Central Office in
Washington has been on the alert to check and compare the costs, benefits
and character of services as between the various districts, hospitals, and
schools. A conscientious check of this kind is essential to the success of
decentralization. These checks it appears have been misconstrued by many
who thought that they were steps in the direction of withdrawing the work
now performed in the field and centering it again in Washington. On the
other hand they have enabled the Bureau to proceed with the work on a
decentralized basis with the criticism of discrimination, lack of uniformity
and system growing less and less each day.

"It is apparent from the above that charges of effort to recentralize on
the part of the Bureau are unfounded, and that friends of decentralization
will realize that what has been done by the Central Office had for its purpose
overcoming defects that had been detected in the Bureau's procedure.

"Very truly yours,

"FRANK T. HINES, Director."

REDUCTION IN SUB-DISTRICT OFFICE.

Early in the year the Veterans' Bureau began systematically to discon-
tinue the activities of certain of its sub-district offices where the work had
fallen off in volume until it was not sufficient to warrant the overhead expense
necessary to keep the offices open. Before these reductions were made there
were approximately 140 sub-offices throughout the country. Up to the present
time 33 of these have been closed down or their activities transferred to and
consolidated with the remaining sub-offices.

When these reductions were first proposed we realized the importance of
the changes contemplated, and with a view to seeing that the interests of
all beneficiaries were protected a survey of the situation was directed through
the District Rehabilitation Committees in which they were advised that cer-
tain sub-district offices were scheduled for discontinuance within their juris-
dictions, and their comments and recommendations were requested, in order
that no Bureau facilities might be abolished in localities where they were
actually needed. It was also pointed out that the closing of these sub-offices
would take place gradually and over a period of time that would eliminate
any possibility of a violent disruption of the regular Bureau service to benefi-
ciaries. Also that in some localities where the offices were to be discontinued
certain medical and other personnel would be retained to insure that all
local needs would be met with.

It was also pointed out that the Director, in accordance with his policy
of decentralization of authority to his District Managers, would very probably
follow their recommendations in cutting down the number of sub-offices, and
that the District Committee should therefore confer with their respective
District Managers and try to work out the situation satisfactorily between
themselves.

BUREAU ORDERS AND REGULATIONS.

The Director of the Veterans' Bureau has frequently sought the opinion
and comment of the Legion in connection with the issuance of many orders
and regulations, and on each occasion the National Rehabilitation Committee
has consulted its District Rehabilitation Committees and its advisory mem-
bers before making its recommendations.

Regulation 20-B issued on January 5, 1923, was one of the most humane
and far-reaching regulations ever secured from the Bureau in that it had the
effect of bringing thousands of men suffering from various forms and degrees
of tuberculosis within the law providing that service connection on diseases
of this kind must be shown within two years after discharge from service.
The regulation in question permitted the exercise of professional judgment
by the Bureau doctors in determining, by the degree of advancement of the
disease, whether a claimant was affected within the two-year period even
though the diagnosis was made at any time within three years after the
man's discharge. Specifically, the regulation provided that:

"Active pulmonary tuberculosis, minimal state, diagnosed by approved
methods as outlined hereinafter, shown by competent proof as existing within
30 months from the date of separation from active service, shall be con-
sidered as having been active and of 10 per cent degree within two years
after discharge.

"Active pulmonary tuberculosis, moderately advanced, shown by approved
diagnostic methods as outlined hereinafter and proper examination as existing
within 33 months from date of separation from active service, shall be con-
sidered as having been active and of 10 per cent degree within two years
from discharge.

"Active pulmonary tuberculosis with cavity formation or involvent to
the extent of two entire lobes or more (in this connection the right upper and
middle lobe to be considered as one) shown by approved diagnostic methods
as outlined hereinafter and proper examination as existing 36 months from
date of separation from active service, shall be considered as having been
active and of 10 per cent degree within two years from discharge."

This regulation, of course, operated to make thousands of men eligible
to Veterans' Bureau aid who would have been barred under a strict applica-
tion of the law itself, and resulted in the immediate hospitalization of thou-
sands of men who might otherwise have died for want of proper treatment.

However, shortly thereafter Congress passed the 3rd Sweet Bill which,
although it included many badly needed reforms, and although it extended
the actual time limit for service connection on tuberculosis and neuro-psychia-
tric diseases from two to three years, it at the same time was worded so
specifically in stating what should be considered competent evidence of the
existence of these diseases within the time set, that it more than set aside
all the good effects of Regulation 20-B, and actually rendered ineligible for Bureau benefits many of those men who had been hospitalized under the old two-year limit as applied under Regulation 20-B.

The passage of the new Sweet Bill resulted in the immediate issuance, on March 31, 1923, of Regulation 33 which cancelled those provisions of Regulation 20-B heretofore quoted and provided that:

"The showing of active tuberculosis disease of 10 per cent degree within three years from discharge is contingent upon the submission of report of examination made within the three-year period by a U. S. Veterans' Bureau physician or a legally qualified physician, citing the facts disclosed by such examination made within three years from discharge that would demonstrate that existence of active tuberculosis disease of 10 per cent degree \* \* \*.*"

In other words, evidence submitted by laymen in support of the fact that a man was suffering from tuberculosis is no longer admitted as competent, the law making it necessary that the Bureau insist upon the kind of evidence specified in Regulation 33. In commenting upon this situation, the Chairman of the National Rehabilitation Committee, at the meeting of the National Executive Committee in Indianapolis, Indiana, in May, 1923, stated:

"One of the most important effects of this bill was to extend the time limit for service connection on tuberculosis and neuro-psychiatric diseases to three years. As an example of the tremendous importance of this provision, in one district, the 8th, approximately 1,200 neuro-psychiatric cases are reported to have been adjusted. The same effect, so far as neuro-psychiatric cases are concerned, has been experienced in all districts.

"Unfortunately, such satisfactory results have not been secured in connection with those suffering with tuberculosis. As a matter of fact, the new time limit of three years for service connection on tuberculosis cases has proven nothing short of disastrous, because of the specific wording of the law as passed, which lays down hard and fast specifications as to what shall be considered competent evidence of the existence of the disease within the required time and prevents the application of some liberalizing regulation of the Bureau similar to Regulation 20-B which was issued in connection with the old two-year limit and which virtually extended that time for certain cases under special conditions to three years.

"Acting in the belief that it was the intention of the writers of the last act to extend the spirit of the old law one year more, and thereby granting relief to the thousands of deserving cases which could not be taken care of under the two-year limit plus Regulation 20-B, your Committee is now engaged in preparing an argument to be presented to the Director of the Bureau in favor of some liberalizing regulation. As the matter now stands, the new time limit, required such specific proof as to the existence of the disease that it offers practically no relief. As a matter of fact, in many cases, it is not so liberal as was the former time limit provision of two years with the regulation applied, permitting the use of professional judgment by the Bureau doctors in establishing the existence of the disease within the required time for service connection.

"In support of its contention, your Committee has called upon each Department and District Rehabilitation Committee, for their criticisms of the new law and recommendations for some liberalizing action by the Bureau; we have secured expressions of opinion on the matter from the leading tuberculosis experts in the United States; we have solicited and secured the support of the American Red Cross of our position; we have called upon Judge Burton E. Sweet, author of the law, for as statement of his intention when writing the bill; and we have secured the support, in the form of a resolution, of the National Tuberculosis Association of our stand on this question. With this support we hope to prevail.

"If we can secure the effect of what we believe to be the intent of the law it will take care of approximately 15,000 men throughout the country who are now suffering with tuberculosis and without government assistance.
If the law, under its present legal interpretation, is allowed to stand, it will require further action by Congress to grant relief to these men, thousands, perhaps, of whom will die before such action can be secured. The Committee calls upon the entire Legion to back it up in its fight on this question."

However, at the present time, in spite of the efforts of the National Rehabilitation Committee, heartily supported by all individual District Committees and State Departments, the status of this important matter remains unchanged, on account of a final decision of the Comptroller General of the United States that the law itself was worded so specifically as to preclude, and actually make illegal, any other construction than that placed thereon at the present time. It would appear, therefore, that our only hope for relief in this connection rests with the Congress.

On February 8, 1923, after numerous conferences with the Chairman of the National Rehabilitation Committee, the Director issued General Order No. 83-A, providing for the establishment of a Co-operation Section in the Central, District and Sub-District Offices of the Veterans’ Bureau. This order sets out the duties of the Co-operation Section at Central Office as follows:

"Maintenance of contact with national officers of ex-service men’s organizations, the American Red Cross and other organizations, with reference to the activities of the District Offices.

"Preparation of orders, letters, bulletins affecting co-operation work in District and Sub-District Offices.

"Supervision of co-operation activities of District and Sub-District Offices.

"Direction of hospital clean-up and other field campaigns.

"Liaison with outside agencies upon results of investigations on complaints regarding the administration of District and Sub-District Offices."

The order specifies that the Co-operation Section of the Sub-District Offices shall be responsible for the following functions:

"Reception and interviewing of claimants and beneficiaries, furnishing them assistance in the execution of forms, etc.

"Contact with ex-service welfare organizations on matters under their jurisdiction.

"Such personal service work as the Bureau may be responsible for. Personal service work not authorized is to be handled in co-operation with the welfare agencies.

"Dissemination of information and general publicity under the direction of the District Chief of Co-operation, through channels.

"Investigation of complaints made at the request of the District Office in connection with the handling of individual cases."

The District Chief of Co-operation is directed to:

"Maintain contact with ex-service men’s organizations, the American Red Cross and other organizations throughout the respective districts.

"Direct hospital clean-up, insurance and other field campaigns throughout the respective districts.

"Supervise co-operation, and contact work in the Sub-District Offices.

"Handle special delivery, congressional and all other letters requiring special attention.

"Handle urgent communication received from Central Office, District and Sub-District Offices, marked for the attention of the Chief of Co-operation, District Office, requesting action on cases where previous communications have received no attention.

"Disseminate information and publicity to co-operating agencies, newspapers, magazines, etc., throughout the respective districts."

The promulgation of General Order 83-A marked the termination of a long fight by the National Rehabilitation Committee for a system of real co-operation between the Veterans’ Bureau and outside organizations having to do with the general problem of rehabilitation, and it is considered that
this action was one of the biggest steps forward taken by the Bureau since its organization.

Immediately upon the issuance of this order the Chairman of the National Committee addressed the following personal letter to every Chief of Co-operation down to and including the Sub-District Offices, offering them the hearty co-operation of The American Legion in carrying on their new duties:

“In my opinion General Order No. 83-A recently issued from Central Office, is one of the most important steps recently taken by the Veterans’ Bureau. I am writing personally to offer you the co-operation of The American Legion in carrying out the important work before you. You are assigned to a very important part of the general program and let me assure you that the Legion Posts throughout the country stand ready to co-operate with you in every way possible.

“A great many of the posts have appointed service officers, and these men can be of vast assistance to you. If you have not already done so, let me suggest that you get a list of the post service officers in your territory and put them on your general mailing list. Let me suggest also that you prepare at frequent intervals bulletins containing general Bureau news to be sent to this list of post service officers.

“I, of course, realize that all matters sent out must have the approval of your Chief of Co-operation in the District Office.

“Let me urge that you visit as many of the Legion Posts in your territory as possible and speak to them on Bureau subjects.”

These officials came back with the finest kind of letters, pledging themselves to give their best efforts to bring about a more cordial relation, a better understanding, and better service between our organizations and the Bureau in the interest of the disabled.

It is undoubtedly largely through the operations of this Co-operation Section of the Bureau that at the present time there exists practically no friction or misunderstanding between The American Legion and the U. S. Veterans’ Bureau.

Following a nation-wide survey conducted by the National Committee through its District Committees to ascertain the exact situation relative to the fire hazards at government and contract hospitals wherein Veterans’ Bureau beneficiaries were confined, General Order No. 119, was issued charging that:

“Officers in charge of District Offices, Sub-District Offices, Vocational Schools, Hospitals or other activities occupying buildings under the supervision and direction of the U. S. Veterans’ Bureau, shall prepare and publish suitable fire regulations for the prevention and control of fires and the safeguarding of occupants and property. Copies of such fire regulations shall be posted in conspicuous places throughout the premises and one copy will be forwarded to Central Office through channels,” and that

“Fire drills shall be held at irregular intervals and as often as necessary in the judgment of the officer in charge of the station. Reports will be forwarded to Central Office after each drill, showing time required to vacate the buildings and calling attention to pertinent facts. The officer in charge of each station shall appoint and instruct assistants in their duties relative to safeguarding the lives of occupants and property during drill or actual fire.”

Since the issuance of the above reports received from the field indicate that the situation is much improved and that in all cases which have been subject to investigation the fire risk has been reduced to the lowest possible degree.

The promulgation of General Order No. 169, establishing an Inspection Division in Central Office marked another step forward in the direction of more efficient administration by the Veterans’ Bureau and brought under one directing head many functions that had formerly been scattered in several departments of the Central Office, and has improved the service and curtailed the overhead expense of this phase of the Bureau’s activities.
General Order No. 160 assures the more expeditious handling of emergency appeals cases and has operated successfully.

Regulation No. 41 provides for reimbursement for loss of wages incurred by claimants reporting for physical examination, computed to the actual extent thereof, for the period of absence from employment from the time of departure to that of return, at the rate of the fixed daily wage or weekly salary for which the claimant was employed at that time, but limits the reimbursement to not more than $80 in any one month.

Regulation No. 36 provides for emergency treatment for patients who have been discharged from hospitals for disciplinary reasons, and effectively covers the situation about which many complaints had been received from the field where cases had come to the attention of the Legion in which hospitalization for such men was really a matter of life and death, and should be taken care of regardless of the fact that the man might have committed acts deserving punishment.

General Order No. 72-A, relative to the reduction of compensation after physical examination, had tended to eliminate much complaint on the part of men drawing compensation that their compensation had been cut without proper notification for the reasons therefor, etc.

Regulation No. 35, issued April 20, 1923, made it obligatory upon the District to forward to Central Office for review and approval certain types of cases involving the payment of back awards of compensation, and its operations have been the cause of much protest on the part of the Districts who complain that the promulgation of this order has made the action of the Districts practically a "rubber stamp" matter, and decentralizing the authority for making final decisions in this class of cases in the Central Office. Comment from every District and many Departments on this regulation has been received by the National Rehabilitation Committee and laid before the Director with a strong recommendation that the regulation in question be repealed. Up to the present time, however, the Director has continued the regulation in force, justifying his position in doing so by presenting for the consideration of the Chairman of the Committee information resulting from careful investigation that would indicate that several of the districts had paid out large amounts of money on these back awards where such awards were not actually merited. It is believed that the regulation will only continue in force until this situation is equalized and brought within proper bounds. The delay in the adjudication of these cases, caused by having to send them into the Central Office, has become almost negligible, as our survey has proven that their number has been so conservative that the Central Office agencies handling them are usually current on them. Some districts, our survey shows, have been only slightly affected by this regulation, while in others considerable cases have been brought in under its provisions.

On June 27, 1923, General Hines completed the reorganization of the Central Office Medical Division and issued Regulation No. 43, establishing a Medical Rating Section, replacing the old Central Office Medical Board of Review, under which regulation protested claims coming up for action by the Central Office Board of Appeals will no longer have to pass through the Medical Rating Section. The reorganization of the Medical Division resulted in the elimination of ten units by the concentration of identical functions, making an appreciable reduction in the overhead and considerably expediting the business of the Division.

When Regulation 43 reached the field and was put into operation, vigorous protests were voiced from the District Rehabilitation Committees concerning its provision requiring the return to Central Office of all cases where permanent partial ratings were contemplated. The National Rehabilitation Committee thereupon made a systematic canvass of the opinion of the Legion throughout the country and as a result of reports received presented a recommendation to the Director that the objectionable provision be stricken out of the Regulation. This was immediately done by telegraphic orders from the
Director to all District Managers, which action was extremely satisfactory to the Legion all over the country.

Following the issuance of Regulation 43, Director Hines, after many conferences with the Chairman of the National Rehabilitation Committee, prepared a tentative form of General Order 47, which he proposed to issue under which all cases where the claimant's physical condition indicated that it might remain unchanged indefinitely would be immediately considered for a permanent partial rating. It was estimated that such an order would affect approximately 150,000 partially disabled men. One of the principal reasons for this order was the fact that so long as these men remained on a temporary compensation status they would be compelled to report for periodical examinations which in thousands of cases were actually wearing these disabled men out. Under the proposed order they would be required to undergo examinations only once every two years, except upon their own request.

A copy of this proposed order was submitted to the National Rehabilitation Committee by the Director about thirty days prior to its issuance, with a request for the Legion's full and frank criticism. The National Committee in turn sent copies to all District Rehabilitation Committees and State Departments requesting their comment thereon. Based upon the returns from the Districts and Departments the National Committee made its recommendations to the Director, the principal one being that these cases be permitted to remain in the District, and not necessitating their return to Central Office as was originally proposed. Other recommendations made to the Director were that as many cases as possible be rated on a permanent basis, that all cases considered for permanent partial ratings be rated in the respective districts on the findings of the next regular physical examination, that no authority now vested in the several districts relative to the examination of claimants, rating of cases and the handling of claims be disturbed by the proposed order, and that any and all provisions contained in the proposed order that might have the effect of decentralizing any activity of the Bureau now being carried on in the district be eliminated.

Acting upon these recommendations the Director caused the issuance of the order in a form that is entirely satisfactory to the Committee, and agreed to permit the case folders to remain in the district and sub-district offices. It is estimated that this order will make necessary an annual outlay of about $75,000,000 in monthly checks varying from $8 to $75 a man. It eliminates the quarterly examinations formerly required of these claimants affected, thus effecting a saving of millions of dollars annually in cutting down the Bureau personnel heretofore necessary to handle the enormous number of physical examinations.

**PRISON SURVEY.**

For a long time it has been common knowledge to those interested in the rehabilitation of the veterans of the World War, that there must be thousands of former service men who were discharged from the army with mental disabilities which have caused them to commit irresponsible acts, for which they have been tried and sentenced to imprisonment in the jails, prisons, and penitentiaries throughout the United States, when as a matter of simple justice these men should have been committed for proper hospitalization and treatment by government agencies.

That this situation existed to a noticeable extent was brought out strongly by the result of the survey of former service men in prisons conducted in the Department of Wisconsin under the supervision of Dr. William F. Lorenz, famous expert on neuro-psychiatric diseases, and an adviser of the National Rehabilitation Committee. This survey showed that of the total number of service men confined in the penal institutions of that state, sixty per cent were mentally abnormal and that over twenty per cent of them were suffering from mental disabilities directly traceable to their military service.
The Director of the Veterans' Bureau, realizing what a serious situation really existed throughout the country, immediately ordered a nation-wide survey of the situation to ascertain the total number of ex-service men in the penal institutions of the United States. This survey indicated that there were about 26,000 of these men in the prisons the first of the present year. However, the Bureau was powerless to help except to see that each case was contacted and offered an opportunity to file a claim for compensation.

The American Legion took official cognizance of this situation when, at the meeting of its Executive Committee in May, when a resolution suggesting a like survey in each state was adopted. -

Through its Liaison Representatives, the National Rehabilitation Committee has investigated this situation in every state, and has found that many of these men should be in hospitals instead of jails, so bad is their condition, and the jail life has not helped them. When these reports first came to us they were hard to believe, but the work done by Dr. Lorenz in the State of Wisconsin proves that the reports were not exaggerated, and that many of the men were not themselves when they performed the criminal acts for which they have been imprisoned. Those in the Middle Western states seem to have suffered more in this respect than in other parts of the country. A careful study of conditions in the state of Colorado indicated that over twenty-five per cent of the service men in prisons were suffering from mental affections claimed to have resulted from their service during the late war. In other states the percentage does not run so high.

On the whole, however, the study made of this question convinces the Committee that there must be thousands who are now serving prison sentences who should be in hospitals, undergoing proper care and treatment. If these men are not assisted in some way to secure this treatment, their condition will rapidly become worse, or indeed hopeless. Prompt action might be the means of rehabilitating many of them mentally and physically and encouraging them to again become useful citizens.

The conclusion reached is that the Legion should, through its National Rehabilitation Committee, immediately work out a plan whereby the needed relief might be obtained. A special commission of this Committee, composed of neuro-psychiatric experts, properly financed, could work out a practical solution, it is believed, through securing the appointment of Veterans' Boards in each state, composed of Legionnaires and other former service men serving gratis, cooperating with the Governor and State Board of Pardons, could go a long way toward solving the situation. These Veterans' Boards, through proper arrangement, could have the privilege of investigating the case of every former service man arrested on a criminal charge within their respective jurisdictions, and of ascertaining, on the advice of their expert members, the true mental condition of the men, and make their recommendations to the Governor and State Pardon Board. In this manner it is believed that each case would receive proper disposition.

It is believed that a special commission of the National Rehabilitation Committee, operating under proper authorization from National Headquarters, could within a very short time secure the appointment of active Veterans' Boards, in each state, and go far toward solving this serious situation.

Dr. Wm. F. Lorenz, who is perhaps better qualified to offer a suggestion along this line than any other man in the country, says:

"The part that The American Legion could take in a survey of ex-service men confined in penal institutions would, in my judgment, be the following: Through each District Rehabilitation Committee, have a committee of one or two first make contact with the penal institutions and there learn and list the number of men who are serving sentences of three or more years. When such list is obtained one suitably qualified psychiatrist, one social service worker and stenographer would be sufficient to make the direct contact with the patient and examine. Each case record would then be written up and all cases found to be mentally abnormal could then be listed and appropriate
disposition asked of the State authorities. The cost of this would depend upon whether one might get a volunteer service on the part of the psychiatrist. The social service worker and stenographer would, of course, need to be compensated. The number that could be handled by such a unit would be approximately fifteen a day, so that between two and three hundred could easily be handled in a month. There would be only a few prisons that would have this large a number at the present time.

"The Veterans' Bureau could do the same job at a very little extra cost, possibly none at all. At the present time their personnel is not being overly crowded and they could readily detail one or two physicians from each district to do this special work and also the necessary clerical help. The important point, however, is that if Bureau personnel is to do this work, they should make a thorough job, and of all things, be sufficiently qualified to make a proper mental examination.

"I would be very glad indeed to outline the type of examination and procedure that should be followed in each individual case. If that could be taken as a standard and applied throughout, the results would be uniform and to my mind meet the situation.

"I would, therefore, recommend that the Bureau be first approached and asked to detail a group from each district. If the Bureau concedes to this arrangement, I would then outline the type of examination and submit blanks that will serve to unify the work.

"However, on the other hand, if the Bureau will not undertake this work, the only other avenue would be from the National Rehabilitation Committee to the District Rehabilitation Committees."

ADMISSION OF EX-SERVICE WOMEN TO NATIONAL SOLDIERS' HOMES.

Following a series of conferences with the Director of the Veterans' Bureau and officials of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, an arrangement was secured whereby former service women, not eligible for Veterans' Bureau aid, may be admitted to the different branches of the National Home for domiciliary care and treatment. This action marked the successful termination of a long effort by the National Rehabilitation Committee to effect some workable plan for taking care of these destitute women who served with the armed forces of their country during the World War.

It was brought out during these conferences that the number of prospective applicants would probably never exceed three or four hundred. As a matter of fact a survey conducted through the fourteen liaison representatives disclosed less than one hundred women desiring such domiciliary care and treatment. For this reason it was not considered advisable to recommend the erection or establishment of a separate home to take care of this problem, but instead, it was brought out that vacancies were constantly and increasingly occurring among the present membership of the Homes and that these unused facilities might very well be allocated to these deserving former service women. There was no doubt that under the law service women were eligible for the benefits of the Homes, but the main difficulty to be overcome was that the present institutions are not fitted for the care of both sexes. In this connection Gen. George H. Wood, President of the Board of Managers of the Home has stated:

"The right of ex-service women to admission comes under our organic law which provides that any honorably discharged officer, soldier, sailor, or marine, who served in any war in which the same has been engaged, and is disabled temporarily or permanently, is entitled to admission. Therefore no general order is necessary and each application will have to be handled individually. As I wrote to National Headquarters some weeks ago in a letter to Mr. Bolles, I feel that we will be able to properly handle hospital cases, although I doubt very much whether, with the present facilities, we could handle domiciliary cases as they should be handled, but of course, we will do the best we can when applications come to us."
Under the present arrangement women desiring admission to the Homes must forward their applications direct to the President of the Board of Managers, at Dayton, Ohio, who will pass upon the application, survey the facilities available, and advise the applicant of the location of the branch home to which she is assigned.

It is thought probable that as the present male membership of the Home decreases, one of the branches might be set aside for the care and treatment of ex-service women exclusively and the male inmates transferred to other branches. This would be the ideal arrangement and the one which we hope will eventually develop. These women certainly are entitled to every consideration and care that the government can furnish them.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MIGRATORY FUND.**

At the Kansas City Convention in 1921, the attention of the Legion was directed to the situation then obtaining in the southwestern section of the United States relative to migratory non-compensable former service men suffering with tuberculosis. It was believed that such some relief funds be secured and expended locally to aid these men it would help the situation greatly, and the Legion immediately began casting about for some special funds that might be used for this purpose. The American Red Cross was appealed to, but that organization found themselves unable to do anything. Then Commander MacNider suggested that the matter be presented to the Knights of Columbus in the hope that an appropriation might be secured from their war chest which could be used to relieve matters. The National Commander instructed Mr. Claude J. Harris, to attend the Convention of the K. C., which occurred late in 1922, at Atlantic City, and to place before their Supreme Board the Legion's wishes. This was done, and William J. McGinley, Supreme Secretary of the K. of C., was elected to conduct a complete survey of the situation in company with Mr. Harris. This subject is more fully covered in the National Adjutant's Report.

**FOREIGN DEPARTMENTS.**

Throughout the year the National Rehabilitation Committee has established and maintained liaison with all foreign departments of the Legion requiring service through the Committee at Washington. Liaison with the Alaska Department was conducted through the 13th District Rehabilitation Committee at Seattle. If possible it is planned to send the Liaison Representative from that District to make a tour of the Department of Alaska next spring, to survey conditions, settle troublesome claims and render any other services the Commander of that Department may desire.

Similarly, the National Committee has laid its lines of communication with the Department of Mexico through the 6th District Rehabilitation Committee, the Philippines and Hawaii through the 12th District Rehabilitation Committee, and has handled its communications with other foreign Legion organizations, such as Porto Rico, South American countries, etc., direct. Matters affecting Continental Europe, have been handled through their representative in New York City and by direct correspondence with the Paris Post.

In this manner the National Committee has been able to maintain a fairly correct check upon the activities of the Veterans' Bureau in these outlying localities and to render service in the way of personal matters, better and more efficient service to the disabled and many other questions requiring action by Central Office of the Veterans Bureau in Washington. A survey of general conditions among these departments conducted recently was very encouraging. Some complaints have been received from Mexico and Porto Rico, and your Committee has recommended to the Director of the Veterans Bureau the establishment of sub-district offices in those countries until the conditions complained of have been eliminated. Decision on this is being held up pending surveys and investigations in each country involved in
determine the exact condition of the Bureau service and the number of ex-service men who might be affected.

There has developed an unsatisfactory situation concerning former service men now living in Soviet Russia who are prosecuting claims with the Veterans' Bureau, on account of the fact that the United States government will not recognize legal instruments executed before notary officials of the Soviet Government. The National Committee has recommended to the Director of the Veterans' Bureau that foreign correspondents of American newspapers might be designated and empowered to take acknowledgments, on applications, affidavits, etc. This suggestion has been accepted and a study is now being made of the legality of such an arrangement.

Early in the year a resolution was received from the Paris Post recommending the appointment of a medical representative of the Veterans' Bureau in Paris to handle physical examinations of prospective Bureau beneficiaries. Apparently much trouble was being experienced over the matter of securing prompt and satisfactory medical examinations. The Paris Post suggested the name of a physician, a member of that Post, as being well qualified to handle this work for the Bureau and who was familiar with all phases of the Bureau's operations in Europe. The Committee took this matter up with the Director and recently received notification that the recommended appointment had been made.

The National Rehabilitation Committee has urged at every opportunity the appointment of active service officers in all foreign departments and posts of the Legion, men who will familiarize themselves with the laws and Bureau procedure and make their knowledge and advice available to all resident former service men. The Committee is glad to report that the officials of these departments and posts have been very prompt in replying to requests for information and reports on conditions, and have in all instances offered their fullest co-operation to the Committee in its efforts to help the general situation.

COMPENSATION ADJUSTMENT CAMPAIGN.

Claims Adjustment Squads and Traveling Board of Appeals. At its Fourth National Convention, held in New Orleans, La., in October, 1922, The American Legion adopted a resolution calling upon the Director of the Veterans' Bureau to inaugurate an extensive campaign for the adjustment of compensation, to be carried on through a completely organized Claims Adjustment Squad in each District. The general plan recommended was for these squads, operating on a well thought out schedule decided upon sufficiently in advance so that all interested might be informed, to visit all sub-district offices in the district and hear all claims that had been scheduled for appeal by the local sub-District Manager prior to the arrival of the squad, and that each week the squad should dispatch back to the District Office by messenger all folders considered during the week so that the District Office might immediately hospitalize, place in training, and draw back compensation checks in accordance with the recommendations and decisions of the squad. In other words, instead of having the sub-district offices send into the District Office for adjudication those cases calling for appeal action, and thus necessitate much delay and correspondence back and forth, under the proposed plan a fully equipped District Appeal Board was sent out into the field, bringing that service to the claimant.

This plan was placed before the Director of the Veterans' Bureau and he readily consented to give it a trial in all of the districts, specifying, however, that it must be clearly understood that such squads would not be legally qualified to render final decisions without reference to the District Office.

Upon the approval of this plan by the Director, the National Rehabilitation Committee through its Liaison Representatives and through other avenues of publicity, lined up the local Legion organizations, advised them of the
dates upon which the squads would arrive in their localities, and urged that all cases needing attention by the squads be prepared for presentation at the proper time.

The success with which the operations of these Claims Adjustment Squads met was almost immediately apparent and the National Committee received such glowing reports of the fine work accomplished that it was decided to carry the plan a little further and request the Director to authorize the appointment of a completely organized Traveling Board of Appeals in each of the fourteen districts to operate along lines similar to those followed by the Claims Adjustment Squads. The Director accordingly gave the suggested plan a tryout and during the months of March and April, 1923, a Board of Appeals from the Third District Office visited the Pittsburgh sub-office and its work during that time is well described by a report submitted by the Chief of Co-operation of the Pittsburgh Office, which reads in part as follows:

"I am submitting herewith a tentative report covering the work of the Board of Appeals from the District Office, which was in this office from March 19 to April 7 inclusive, for the purpose of personally contacting claimants who desired to appeal their cases to it. It is only possible at this writing to give a tentative report for the reason that there are many cases on which no definite decisions have been rendered on account of the fact that action is pending receipt of reports of examinations, additional evidence of other data.

"The total number of cases heard by the Board was 209. Out of this number favorable action toward granting service connection or increased compensation or both was taken in 128 cases and denied in 132 cases. There are now pending 39 cases, which makes a total of 299. Section 2 training was granted in 15 cases and denied in 21 cases. These cases are included in the above mentioned total, as action was necessary with respect to service connection and compensation in all these cases.

"It will be of interest to note that 193 examinations were conducted while the Board was in session, 14 of these being General Medicals, 189 Specials, of which latter total 55 were Special Chest, 44 N. P., 35 Orthopedics, 12 X-rays, 11 E. W. T’s, 9 Neuro-Surgicals, 8 Special Heart. 8 Eye, the balance being G. I. Studies, Gastric Analyses, Skin, Blood Count, Wassermann and Spinal Fluid Tests.

"Commenting on the work of the Board generally, I feel that the experiment was very successful and an important forward movement taken in allowing the Board to remain for the period that it was here, as it gave us an opportunity to have cases adjusted, some of which have been in a state of controversy for over a year at least to the writer's knowledge, and although additional evidence had been presented from time to time, favorable action was not forthcoming and the fact that personal contact with the man by the Board enabled them to make favorable decision in his case, is I believe, ample demonstration in favor of having such a Board visit Sub-Districts at stated intervals.

"One of the outstanding features was the fact that many of the orthopedic cases were put on a permanent basis instead of a temporary one, on which they had been rated since discharge. It was also demonstrated that lack of time in preparation of cases prior to arrival of the Board is a handicap to the more efficient conducting of the hearings, as is evidenced by the large number of examinations which it was necessary for the Board to have conducted while they were in session, on which account it was not possible to give the man a decision at his first hearing and necessitating his return in many cases for the examinations and to ascertain the decision of the Board. In my opinion at least thirty days ought to be allowed Sub-District Office to prepare its cases, acting in conjunction with the Board of Appeals who should advise in so far as possible the examinations that will ordinarily be necessary in the cases to come before them, so that same
could be made and the reports read at the time the man was interviewed, this applying also to additional evidence.

"I feel that it was the general opinion of these people from their expressions of approval and commendation of the general conduct of the work, that it was highly satisfactory and all expressed themselves as heartily in favor of further visits by the Board and hoped that arrangements could be made to insure this being done.

"As for the Local Office, we feel it is the only satisfactory manner in which many of the claims can be satisfactorily adjusted."

The National Rehabilitation Committee has strongly recommended that the Bureau make such Traveling Boards of Appeal a part of the permanent organization of the Districts, which recommendation is now under consideration by the Director of the Veterans' Bureau.

PRISON COMPENSATION CLEAN-UP.

Realizing that many disabled men, confined in the state and federal penal institutions of the United States, are entitled to the benefits of the War Risk Insurance Act, the National Rehabilitation Committee conferred with the Director of the Veterans' Bureau and secured from him an order to contact all men held in these institutions and give them an examination. This survey has been completed and practically all disabled ex-service men have been contacted by the Veterans' Bureau. The Veterans' Bureau, after a conference with the National Rehabilitation Committee, instituted a campaign to clean up the penal institutions of the country.

The representative of the Co-operation Section of the Bureau conferred with officials of organizations planning similar campaigns, for the purpose of co-ordinating the various campaigns and to insure the receipt by the claimants of the Bureau of the maximum benefits to which they are entitled, and to prevent confusion from delaying action on their cases. A Bureau representative visited each District, and in conjunction with an official of each District Office, a representative of the Red Cross, the Legion and other veterans' organizations, made a survey of conditions within the Districts.

Although this work has been progressing with the greatest satisfaction and although the results obtained thus far have been most gratifying, it is felt that there is much work to be done. It is the aim of the National Rehabilitation Committee to secure for every ex-service man confined in penal institutions, who is suffering from disabilities traceable to war service, an opportunity for full participation in the benefits of the various legislative measures, and particularly hospitalization. It will be understood, however, that no attempt has been made to release men from confinement in penal institutions simply on account of their military service.

CHAPLAINS' CORPS.

The American Legion and its Auxiliary have for a long time recognized the need for the organization of a corps of chaplains for service in Veterans' Bureau hospitals. Early in the year conferences were held with Mrs. Lowell F. Hobart, National Chairman of the Auxiliary Hospitalization Committee, and resulted in the National Rehabilitation Committee filing with the Director of the Veterans' Bureau a strong statement of the situation and a recommendation that such a service be organized and made available to the patients in all Bureau hospitals. The position of the Director in explaining his inability to act favorably in this matter was fully set forth in a statement to the National Committee which reads, in part, as follows:

"Your letter dated April 13, 1923, refers to your conference with Mrs. Lowell F. Hobart, Chairman of the Hospitalization Committee of the Legion Auxiliary, and concerns the question of the appointment of chaplains to serve in the hospitals over the country.

"The appointment of chaplains in hospitals of this Bureau and the establishment of a corps of chaplains whose services might be utilized at
hospitals and training centers under the jurisdiction of the Bureau has from time to time received careful consideration by this Bureau. Prior to the enactment of the amendment approved August 9, 1921, the subject was considered by the Secretary of the Treasury, both in connection with Public Health Service hospitals and hospitals of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance.

"Under the statutes as they have heretofore existed, and as now in effect, there is no appropriation available for the payment of salaries of such officers even though authority might exist for their appointment, which is doubtful. Consequently in June, 1922, the Bureau recommended to the Congress the adoption of legislation to care for the situation. This recommendation stated that the desirability of the employment of chaplains, particularly in hospitals and training centers not readily accessible to large cities where ministers may be secured, is obvious and that the decided advantage to the service by thus improving the morale of the patients and trainees is apparent.

"On April 20, 1922, the Hon. Porter J. McCumber introduced a bill in the language submitted by this Bureau. The bill proposed added a Section 9a to the act approved August 9, 1921, in the following language:

"Section 9a. As an incident to the medical and hospital care and treatment, vocational training, and other service provided by this Act, the director is authorized to organize and maintain a corps of chaplains and to utilize their services at hospitals, training centers, and such other places as he may select, in such manner and at such times as he may deem advisable for carrying out the provisions of this Act."

"The bill was referred to the Committee on Finance of the Senate; but no further action was taken by the 67th Congress.

"The question of submitting a similar measure to the next Congress will receive the careful consideration of the Bureau at the time any recommendations with relation to amendatory legislation are transmitted."

It therefore appears that legislative action by Congress will be necessary to afford relief in this connection.

As an emergency measure a plan was then put forth by the National Chaplain of The American Legion to request the various Departments of the Legion throughout the country to secure volunteer chaplains for this duty, and the National Rehabilitation Committee has put forth every possible effort through its District Committees to make this plan a success. The Commander of the Department of Arizona has advised the Committee that he is proceeding with the organization of a volunteer corps of chaplains for service at Hospital No. 50, Prescott, and Hospital No. 51, at Tucson, Arizona.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY.

Many conferences during the year with the national officials of the Auxiliary have shown that organization to be ever ready and eager to assist the program in any way possible. With the co-operation of the National President, the Chairman of the Auxiliary Hospital and Welfare Relief Committee, and the Chairman of the Auxiliary Reconstruction Committee, plans were worked out and put into effect under which there are being appointed in each Veterans' Bureau district a Liaison Representative of the Legion Auxiliary, whose duties it will be to maintain contact and co-operate with the Liaison Representatives of the Legion. These Auxiliary Liaison Representatives will undoubtedly do much valuable work in the future, particularly along the lines of welfare work in the hospitals, assisting in the locating and settlement of unadjudicated claims for compensation, etc.

CONDUCT OF GUARDIANS.

A plan of practical co-operation has been worked out between the Rehabilitation Committees and the Veterans' Bureau in the several districts in an effort to prevent abuse of guardianship authority. The Director has asked that the local Legion organizations bring to the attention of the Bureau all
instances wherein guardians of mentally-incompetent beneficiaries have not been discharging their duties properly, and has assured us that in all such cases corrective measures will be taken promptly.

**OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY INSTRUCTION.**

Strong representations have been made to the Bureau that its present system of occupational therapy instruction in the hospitals be extended so that all patients now confined in contract institutions may also have this instruction made available to them. Under the present policy of the Bureau no instructors are assigned to those institutions wherein less than forty Bureau patients are receiving treatment.

**FUNERAL EXPENSES.**

The matter of the payment of funeral expenses of deceased veterans as provided for under the last Sweet Bill, has been giving much trouble and causing many complaints and criticisms from all over the country.

The law provides that a sum not exceeding $100 should be allowed for actual burial expenses, and in addition, an amount not to exceed $5.00 for furnishing a flag to drape the casket; also the actual and necessary cost of transporting the body of the deceased to the place of burial within the continental limits of the United States. The present method of administration takes care of those cases of men who die while undergoing training or hospitalization by the Veterans' Bureau, but has created a deplorable situation concerning the veteran who dies outside of training or the hospital. Under the construction that has been placed upon the law by the Comptroller General in these cases it must be conclusively established that the man died a pauper and that no relative, fraternity or other charitable organization or agency will bear the expenses of the burial, before the Bureau can be made to accept the responsibility. In other words, before the Bureau will act the situation will have to be canvassed to see whether or not some charitably disposed individual or organization will pay the expense. This is an insult to the dead veteran, and this condition must be corrected promptly. The Bureau is powerless and therefore the responsibility belongs to Congress.

The National Committee has been able to improve the situation to some extent by securing a ruling that permits the obtaining of bids from undertakers on the basis of how much service they would provide for the maximum amount of $100, and not upon the basis of how cheap they could provide the funeral. Under the old competitive bidding system funerals were often auctioned off at as low as forty or fifty dollars, for which amounts it would be almost impossible to provide a decent funeral.

There is also pending before the Bureau for action by the Director a recommendation of the National Committee that the several District Managers be permitted to authorize the payment of funeral expenses, without having to first secure the approval of the Central Office of the Bureau. Were this authority granted, it would expedite these matters a great deal, and eliminate one cause for much complaint.

**SALE OF LIQUOR AT THE HOSPITALS.**

Throughout the year the National Rehabilitation Committee has carried on an extensive campaign, in cooperation with the Veterans' Bureau and other agencies, to put an end to "bootlegging" activities in the vicinity of hospitals throughout the country where Veterans' Bureau beneficiaries have been undergoing treatment. Early in the year a survey conducted through the District Rehabilitation Committees indicated that the situation in several localities was very bad and that liquor was being sold to hospital patients in large quantities, particularly at several of the largest tubercular institutions, with the result that many breaches of discipline were being committed and many
patients were receiving severe setbacks physically on account of excessive indulgence in alcoholic beverages.

Our procedure in handling this situation has been to carry on continuous investigations around the hospitals where conditions were known to be bad, report all cases where it was found that liquor had been sold to patients, and acting in conjunction with the hospital authorities of the Veterans' Bureau secure the assignment of sufficient Prohibition Enforcement agents to clear up the situation. How much good has resulted from this campaign is well set forth in a letter received by Mr. John C. Keene, Liaison Representative in the 11th District, from Dr. W. R. Leverton, in charge of Hospital No. 55, Fort Bayard, New Mexico, who has been particularly energetic in this fight against the sale of liquor to Bureau patients. In this letter to Mr. Keene, Dr. Leverton says:

"I assure you that I appreciate your interest in the hospital at Ft. Bayard. It is indeed a pleasure to receive such co-operation as you and your Committee have rendered. It gives me a great deal of encouragement, because I feel it is the best evidence I can submit that the Hospital is operating in a satisfactory manner. . . . I saw a copy of a letter Mr. Sparks had written the Director, so I am sure he understands the situation, and is doing everything he can to assist us in our fight. I had an opportunity to talk to the Director and also the Medical Director, Dr. Rogers, with reference to conditions at Fort Bayard, especially around Central. I received the assurance of both these gentlemen that we would receive the backing of Central Office. It is pleasing to note the improvement in conditions that has taken place during the past month. Mr. Blank, the Prohibition Enforcement Officer is still on the job and has evidently got them on the run. During my absence I understand he made several more arrests. The facts are the bunch at Central are very shy at present. I am informed it is very difficult to buy whisky from any of them. I believe this is true because I have noted a great improvement in conditions generally. A few patients are drinking but we have had no real drunks and everyone tells me that we have every reason to be proud of the results that have been obtained. Apparently the fellows who were raising so much complaint have about decided they were butting against a stone wall. Since my return from Washington I have not heard a rumor which would indicate that they expected to continue their fight. The leader of the gang down there is at present serving a sixty-day sentence in the county jail for contempt of court. Before I left for Washington, I received about 25 letters from responsible business men and citizens of Silver City and vicinity, so I believe that I am safe in saying that the only thing needed was for somebody to start the ball rolling, because I feel that the majority of the business people in this community are behind me, and they will assist in every way possible to clean up this illicit business. When the people find out that The American Legion is standing heart and soul for a proposition it is not very difficult to get them to support it, so I want to say to you again that your Committee support in this proposition has amounted to more than any one thing. Without it we could not have succeeded. I trust that you and Mr. Vivian may find an opportunity to visit the hospital again in the near future, and observe for yourselves as to whether conditions have improved. I assure you that you will be welcome at any time."

Reports from other districts would indicate that conditions are rapidly improving as the work of the Prohibition Enforcement Agents becomes more and more effective.

SALE OF NARCOTICS AT HOSPITALS.

The National Rehabilitation Committee handled the situation relative to the sale of narcotics to patients in government hospitals in practically the same manner as the liquor situation was attacked, and though the survey carried out indicated that there was little traffic in drugs, it is believed that the
Comitee's efforts in this direction were productive of good results. Liaison Representatives have standing orders to watch this situation closely and report all cases promptly to the proper authorities.

REGULAR ARMY AND NAVY OFFICERS IN BUREAU.

Since the very beginning of the consolidation of all government agencies having to do with the disabled, into one Veterans' Bureau, and up until January 7th, 1923, there had always been more or less complaint and criticism on the part of the Legion and other service organizations arising out of the fact that so many officers of the regular army and navy were detailed for duty in the higher administrative offices of the Veterans' Bureau. On that date the long fight of the Legion to have these officials removed and succeeded by others having a better understanding of the general rehabilitation problem culminated in the issuance of an order signed by the Secretary of War and approved by the President, recalling all regular army and navy officers on duty with the Bureau. This whole situation was brought to a head by the arbitrary and "hard-boiled" attitude and actions of the Chief of the Medical Division, who, it was very apparent, had little sympathy for the disabled former service men and was responsible for the issuance of many orders and regulations which in effect were retarding the rehabilitation program. This was not the case generally with all those officers of the regular army who were on duty with the Bureau, many of whom were efficient, highly satisfactory, and their loss greatly regretted.

CHRISTMAS HOSPITAL HOLIDAY PROGRAM.

During the Christmas Holidays, 1922, The American Legion, co-operating with other veterans and welfare organizations, put on an entertainment program in each of the veterans bureau hospitals throughout the country which met with remarkable success. Congratulatory letters were received from all sections of the country by the National Committee setting forth in glowing terms the extreme appreciation expressed by the patients in these hospitals of the work that was done to make their holidays happier. A systematic program was worked out beforehand and specific work assigned to the posts and auxiliary units, the result of which was that Christmas trees were provided in each ward and each patient received a Christmas box containing candies and other sweet-meats, as well as small pieces of useful clothing, etc. Entertainment programs were worked up and put on at the hospital recreation halls, and where the men could not leave their wards the entertainment was taken to them. In some sections the newspapers were persuaded to print lists of the names of the hospital patients with requests that letters be written to them by the general public.

COMMISSIONED PERSONNEL OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE.

Periodically each year there is a strenuous movement inaugurated to place on the retired list the commissioned personnel in the Public Health Service and replace them with civil service employees. Last year such a plan was proposed and was effectively blocked because of the united protest received from all departments of The American Legion and from citizens and organizations throughout the country. A similar effort was attempted early this year, but was very promptly squelched by concerted action from the field crystallized by the National Rehabilitation Committee. The Public Health Service is beginning to work effectively, most of the rough spots having been ironed out. The greater percentage of the personnel are ex-service men thoroughly familiar with war time conditions, and so conversant with present conditions that they are in a position to render the best service to the government and to give the best care to the disabled. Many of them are unselfishly continuing their work at some financial sacrifices, and in spite of the fact that by remaining in Public Service they are losing a great deal because of their
failure to build up private practices. We must be on the alert at all times to combat any movement of this nature which if successful cannot but result in affecting adversely the efficiency of the present medical service available to the disabled.

FURNISHING OF EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF CLAIMS BY PERSONS IN THE MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT.

Actuated by the fact that numerous complaints were being received from claimants all over the country that difficulty was being experienced in securing from persons still in the military service evidence in proper form to support claims filed with the Veterans' Bureau, the National Rehabilitation Committee conferred at length with the Adjutant General of the Army, explained the situation fully, and finally secured the issuance of a circular to the general service by the Adjutant General, who, in notifying the Committee of his action, clearly evidenced his hearty co-operation in the following statement:

"The regulations on the subject are explicit and it would appear, therefore, that any individual now in the service having knowledge of facts material to the adjudication of a claim, who refuses, except upon specific direction from the Department, to comply with the request of a claimant that a statement be forwarded for the use of the Veterans' Bureau, is either not conversant with the regulations or he misinterprets them. To overcome this difficulty a circular will be promulgated setting forth the difficulties being experienced by claimants and calling to the specific attention of the service, the provisions of the regulations in this regard and of General Orders on the subject.

"Should any case come to the attention of your Committee where the regulation is not being complied with it will be appreciated if you will notify this office. It is thought that the action indicated will remove any difficulty being experienced by ex-service men in obtaining information desired by them. I shall be glad to be of further assistance to you in this matter or in any of the many other matters you handle pertaining to ex-service men."

INDUSTRIAL REHABILITATION.

At the January, 1923, meeting of the National Executive Committee, C. T. Busha, Jr., Committeeman from Montana, suggested for the consideration of the Committee the matter of developing the general idea of industrial rehabilitation among the several states with the end in view of taking care of the thousands of veterans not eligible for benefits under the Federal law. The importance of this question was set forth at greater length by Mr. Busha in a letter to the National Commander, written subsequent to the Executive Committee meeting, which reads as follows:

"In presenting this to the Executive Committee I appreciated that the idea was perhaps too far advanced in order for them to have any full appreciation of what could be done along this line, so I did not attempt to press it at that time. However, I do think that the Rehabilitation Committee should commence to survey all those cases which have been declared closed from a Bureau standpoint, and see that these service men have an opportunity to regain a status in civil life, rather than being paupers or objects of charity. I am endeavoring to carry out such a program in Montana, and with the consent of the Bureau will submit the names of those men to the Industrial Rehabilitation Board, and in addition give the Industrial Board the hearty support of the Legion in carrying out their good motives."

In line with this, the National Executive Committee adopted a resolution which reads as follows:

"Resolved, that the Rehabilitation Committee immediately prepare a program of co-operation of the Legion with all states of the Union for the rehabilitation of those veterans who are injured industrially or who have disabilities presumed incurred during the service but for which service connection cannot be substantiated."
Div. V  Report of National Rehabilitation Committee

and which was forwarded to the Chairman of the National Rehabilitation Committee for action.

The first act of the National Rehabilitation Committee upon receipt of these instructions was to attempt to secure all available information concerning the industrial rehabilitation program in each state, through the District Committees and Liaison Representatives. This is being received from time to time and filed for future reference.

This general question is a tremendous one, and will necessarily have to be worked out with each state separately. To handle the matter properly it will be necessary to review carefully the folder on file with the Veterans’ Bureau of every man who has filed unsuccessfully a claim with the Bureau, and to locate and investigate the cases of the thousands of men who have never even attempted to file a claim, but who might be given substantial relief under the existing state laws and regulations.

It will be readily seen that to accomplish the carrying out of this idea successfully certain machinery will have to be set up, and adequately financed. It will require the organization and financing of boards of review in each state to handle the cases and see that they are properly presented to the state authorities. The personnel of such boards could undoubtedly be secured from Legion volunteers qualified to handle the work efficiently.

Could this be done, there is no doubt but that many thousands of men now in need of assistance could be given practical relief and started on their way toward useful and gainful futures. The United States’ Veterans’ Bureau will offer every help and co-operation possible in the furtherance of this plan. With its present organization and facilities the National Rehabilitation Committee would be powerless to prosecute the proposed plan systematically, although it has already been the means of helping in many individual cases that have come to the attention of its representatives in the field.

EVERGREEN SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND.

Contact with the Evergreen School for the Blind, at Baltimore, Maryland, has been established and maintained during the year through the Liaison Representative in the Fourth District, who has been directed to make periodical visits to that institution and place his services at the disposal of those blind veterans who are now undergoing treatment and training in an effort to overcome the terrible handicap resulting from the loss of their sight during their World War service. The efforts of the National Committee to assist them have brought forth expressions of appreciation from these men, every one of whom is so justly entitled to every consideration and assistance possible from their government.

CONTACT MEN IN HOSPITALS.

In the belief that it would improve their effectiveness, the Committee has strongly recommended to the Bureau that their contact men assigned to the Bureau hospitals throughout the country be placed under the direct authority of their respective district managers, instead of being subject to the orders of the Commanding Officers of the Hospitals, in which they are stationed. An order to cover this matter satisfactorily has been prepared for issuance by the Director at an early date.

ADDITIONAL HOSPITAL PERSONNEL.

Acting upon the recommendations of the several District Rehabilitation Committees the National Committee from time to time has been instrumental in having additional personnel assigned to hospitals to overcome complaints of shortages of doctors, nurses, orderlies, etc. Central Office has nearly always been willing to grant such requests when these matters have been properly presented.
SALARIES OF MEDICAL PERSONNEL.

Strong recommendations have been made from time to time to the Director to establish a more liberal scale of compensation for medical personnel, and especially for tuberculosis and neuro-psychiatric doctors. It is becoming increasingly more difficult to secure competent physicians for the Veterans' Bureau service, on account of the personal sacrifices entailed. Director Hines has expressed himself in accord with our ideas on this subject and has promised that the situation will receive careful study and corrective measures taken.

RADIO OUTFITS FOR HOSPITALS.

On recommendation of the Committee, supported by the American Red Cross, the Director has promised to purchase and place in the Bureau hospitals complete radio outfits for the benefit and entertainment of the patients.

HOSPITAL LIBRARIANS.

The National Hospitalization Committee of The American Legion Auxiliary has presented for consideration the very apparent need for the appointment of properly qualified librarians to take charge of the libraries in Veterans' Bureau hospitals throughout the country, to the end that there will be some one in each hospital who will make it their business to see that the patients have available the proper kind of books and literature and that the best possible use shall be made of the present library facilities. The National Rehabilitation Committee heartily concurs in this suggestion and has made a formal request that the Director of the Veterans' Bureau create such positions and make appointments in all hospitals.

In response to a rumor that the Bureau contemplated the abolishment of this hospital library service the Director has advised this Committee that he believes "that the hospitals and the patients therein have been satisfied with this service and no change that will interfere with it being continued to them is contemplated."

The National Rehabilitation Committee was recently instrumental in securing for the tuberculosis annex at the National Soldiers' Home at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, a library unit of 3,152 books, in accordance with a strong recommendation by the Service Officer of the Wisconsin Department of the Legion.

HOSTESS HOUSE AT HOSPITALS.

Acting in co-operation with the American Legion Auxiliary Hospitalization Committee, the National Rehabilitation Committee has given careful study to, and held several conferences with the Director of the Veterans' Bureau on the matter of providing accommodations at the various Veterans' Bureau hospitals for the housing and feeding of visiting friends and relatives of patients in the hospitals.

At Dawson Springs, Kentucky, the need for accommodations of this nature has been shown to be especially pressing, and the Committee is using its efforts to assist the National Hospitalization Committee of the Auxiliary in its efforts to have a hostess house established at that place.

Conferences with Director Hines resulted in his ordering a complete survey of this situation, with particular reference to tuberculosis hospitals, and as a result of this survey the Director is preparing an order that will require the Commanding Officer of each hospital to keep a certain number of rooms available for the use of visiting relatives and friends of patients. This plan has already been put into effect in some of the hospitals and has worked out with especial satisfaction at Hospital No. 26, Greenville, S. C., where an arrangement has been worked out with the American Red Cross at that place to furnish these visitors with food when their circumstances are such that they are unable to pay.
HOSPITAL TRUSTEE PLAN.

The National Committee has made a study during the year of several proposed plans for the establishment of hospital trustees. Comment from the District Committees has been collected and other information on this subject secured. This material, at the request of the special Senate Committee now engaged in the Bureau investigation, has been turned over to that committee for use in working up a possible recommendation to Congress for legislation covering this subject. The special committee has this matter under consideration at this time, but no information is yet available as to what action they intend to take.

LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS.

It is absolutely imperative that certain amendments to the present War Risk Insurance Act be secured at the earliest possible moment in order that many very serious conditions may be corrected. The National Rehabilitation Committee has received literally hundreds of suggestions and recommendations for new legislation from the Legion's many Department Conventions and District Rehabilitation Committees. Naturally it will be impossible to enumerate them all in this report. However, they will be taken up at the meeting of the National Rehabilitation Committee in San Francisco, prior to the meeting of the National Convention, together with the recommendations from those State Departments that have not at the present writing held their annual conventions.

However, the experience of this Committee during the year has proven beyond a shadow of a doubt that there are some reforms urgently needed, if the National program is to be carried on to an ultimately successful conclusion, and the Committee takes the liberty at this time ofsetting out briefly some of the principal points on which it is hoped the National Convention will formulate demands of Congress.

Five-year Time Limit for Service Connection on Tuberculosis and Neuropsychiatric Diseases: This was a recommendation of the Fourth National Convention of The American Legion, and needs no further support. Legislation covering this recommendation is all the more necessary at this time, because of the unsatisfactory effects of the last amendment to the act extending the time limit for service connection on tuberculosis diseases from two to three years, but at the same time calling for such specific evidence from the claimant in support of his claim that no relief has been secured. So far as concerns neuro-psychiatric diseases, the following is the statement of Dr. Thomas W. Salmon, one of the foremost experts on mental and nervous diseases in the country:

"From personal study of condition of insane ex-service men in Government, State and local hospitals extending over four years, I am deeply convinced that present situation requires, as an act of simple justice, an amendment extending period in which service origin of neuro-psychiatric disorders is assumed, from two to five years. Otherwise our insane comrades will be unjustly handicapped in their efforts to secure treatment and compensation through the fact that their disability happens to affect the mental faculties with which they must press their claims."

In Section 2 of Public Document 542, approved March 4, 1923, it is recommended that, beginning on the twenty-seventh line of page 2, the words "And such showing was also made, upon examination by a medical officer of the Veterans Bureau or by a legally qualified physician made," be stricken out, thereby admitting lay evidence of observation and examinations showing advanced condition, but made within a few days or weeks over the three-year period, to be considered in determining the claimant's entitlement.

The present law should be amended so that a more liberal amount will be allowed to cover the funeral expenses and transportation of deceased former service men and women, and made payable without restrictions as to whether
or not the deceased died while undergoing training or hospitalization by the Government, or whether or not he or she died in indigent circumstances.

The law should be liberalized so as to increase the attendant allowance for all permanent and total cases.

Having received complaints from many sections of the country concerning hardships to disabled service men because of the present practice of making reductions on account of overpayments of compensation from insurance, the National Rehabilitation Committee discussed the situation with the Director of the United States Veterans' Bureau. The Director was unable to give any relief, and the entire matter was referred to J. R. McCarl, Comptroller General of the United States.

The matter of making the deductions has been held in abeyance, pending the necessary legislation by Congress under a ruling by the Comptroller General. A strong recommendation should go from the National Convention bearing on this situation and the National Legislative Committee should use every effort to have the present situation corrected.

The Comptroller General gave the following decision in reply to a letter from the Director of the Veterans' Bureau:

"I have your letter of March 21, 1923, request decision whether it is the duty of the Veterans' Bureau to require, from those persons who have heretofore drawn both pension and War Risk compensation for the same period of time, refund of the amounts so erroneously received.

"You refer in your submission to decisions of the Comptroller of the Treasury and of this office to the effect that the receipt by one and the same person of both pension and War Risk compensation for the same period of time is prohibited by law. You say that while present practice of the Veterans' Bureau conforms to those decisions where there are many cases in which payments conflicting with the decisions have been made before the decisions were rendered, and request decision as to your duty in the premises.

"I understand from your submission that following the rendering of the decision by the Comptroller of the Treasury, payments of pension and War Risk compensation were unlawful, there was not immediately made efforts to recover back the unlawful payments, and that such procedure has continued and recovery back has not been made.

"If it be your purpose, as has been suggested, to submit to the next Congress for its consideration, the matter of the recovery of such unlawful payments, the particular question now presented is whether the procedure referred to should immediately cease and such unlawful payments be recovered through withholding compensation, etc.; or be permitted to continue pending consideration of the matter, and action thereon by Congress.

"Assuming your purpose to be as stated, there seems no pressing reason at this time for a change in the procedure followed in your Bureau; but unless submission of the matter to Congress is contemplated, or should the Congress fail to act on the matter in relief by the close of the next fiscal year, June 30, 1924, the procedure should be immediately adopted of recovering back such unlawful payments."

It is recommended that, in Section 13, page 8, of the consolidated War Risk Insurance Act with amendments prior to September 1, 1921, the words "Provided further, that application for such care and treatment and appliances provided for in this section shall be made within one year from date of separation from service or from the date this Act goes into effect, whichever is the later" be stricken out and that the time limit for application for treatment be removed in order that a man may at all times obtain treatment for a disability attributable to his service.

It is recommended that in Section 13, of Article 1, page 9, of the consolidated War Risk Insurance Act with amendments prior to September 1, 1921, the penalty for charging or accepting an aggregate fee of more than $3.00 for aid in any one case be made ten years imprisonment or $5,000, or both.
That in Public 2, 542 Section 4 (8), page 4, the provision “Provided, that all hospital facilities under the control and jurisdiction of the United States Veterans’ Bureau, shall be available for veterans of the Spanish-American War, the Philippine Insurrection, and the Boxer Rebellion, suffering from neuro-psychiatric or tubercular ailments and diseases, including transportation as granted to those receiving compensation and hospitalization under the War Risk Insurance Act,” be amended to read as follows: “Provided, that all hospital facilities under the control and jurisdiction of the United States Veterans’ Bureau, shall be available for veterans of the Spanish-American War, the “Philippine Insurrection, the Boxer Rebellion, and the World War with Germany, who may be suffering from neuro-psychiatric or tubercular ailments or diseases and in need of hospitalization, including transportation as granted to those receiving compensation and hospitalization under the War Risk Insurance Act.”

That Section 391, paragraph 7, page 23, of the consolidated War Risk Insurance Act with amendments prior to September 1, 1921, be amended to read as follows: “Where the disabled person and his wife or dependent parent are not living together, or where the children are not in the custody of the disabled person, the amount of compensation shall be apportioned as may be prescribed by regulation, and where the disabled person is in a penal institution or a hospital, public or private, the Director of the Veterans’ Bureau may apportion compensation as he may prescribe by regulation to the man, his wife, children, parents, all or any of them collectively or separately.

It is most urgently recommended that Section 309 of the War Risk Insurance Act be repealed and that the time limitation for filing claims for disability compensation be removed inasmuch as it is not thought equitable to penalize a man who would equitably be a beneficiary for either ignorance or for attempting to carry on independently of Government aid.

It is also urgently recommended that Section 310 of the War Risk Insurance Act be repealed so that it may be permissible for the Bureau to pay compensation commensurate to any existing service disabilities over any period during which the disabled person was not in receipt of active or retirement pay and so that, in reference to the second provision of Section 310, a man may not be penalized for ignorance of his rights under the War Risk Insurance Act. It may be added here that under the legislation as it exists today, if a man is mentally incompetent (or he may be a raving maniac) and does not file his claim until five years and one day from the date of his discharge, the Bureau can not pay his compensation except by special authority of the Director himself, and the Director may not extend his time to exceed one year. Further, where the man mentioned in the preceding sentence does file his claim for compensation four and one-half years from the date of his discharge, under the present legislation, he can only be paid for a two-year period prior to the date of his filing claim, when, as a matter of fact, he is equitably entitled to receive disability compensation for the entire period since his discharge.

That in Section 404, of the War Risk Insurance Act, as amended August 9, 1921, beginning with the third line of such Section, the following words: “Not later than five years after the date of the termination of the war as declared by proclamation of the President of the United States," be stricken from the statute.

That Section 403, of the War Risk Insurance Act as amended December 24, 1919, be so amended as to permit any person with an insurable interest in the life of the insured, to be named as the beneficiary by the insured.

It is recommended that the following provision appearing in an Act making appropriations to supply deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921, and prior fiscal years and for other purposes approved June 16, 1921, “That any persons entitled under the provisions of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act, as amended, to take vocational training
must make application therefor within eighteen months from the date of approval of this Act" be repealed. It is recommended that a new Section be added to the Vocational Rehabilitation Act to read as follows: "No person enlisting in the armed forces of the United States subsequent to December 16, 1922, shall be entitled to the benefits of this Act."

Clarify Sections 406 and 409 on insurance reinstatement. The awarding of benefits under these sections is at present very much clouded because of their complicated nature and the many legal opinions that have been rendered.

There is a great need for legislation making it possible for a woman to receive compensation on behalf of a deceased husband who was a Civil War veteran and, upon showing of dependency, on behalf of a son whose death was due to World War service, receive an additional compensation for the son’s death, the combined amount not to exceed a certain reasonable amount.

Remove any question that now exists regarding disallowance of insurance reinstatement applications when permanent total ratings are made almost coincident with the receipt of the application for reinstatement.

According to the Comptroller and the interpretation the Central Office of the Veterans’ Bureau places upon the Comptroller’s decision, Hospital Division funds can not be used for the purchase of recreational equipment for men in hospitals, nor other Bureau funds for the purchase of recreational equipment for men in training schools. The law should make such purchases possible in both cases.

Permissive legislation specifically allowing the Veterans’ Bureau to assist the man in the preparation of his claim and in the collection of evidence.

Place on a permanent and total basis disability of deafness in both ears. This will affect a small group of about sixty men throughout the country.

Make available to all veterans of the World War hospital treatment where needed, regardless of service connection.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]
Chairman.
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