Reports

to the
SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION
of
THE AMERICAN LEGION

OMAHA, NEBRASKA
October 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 1925
THE AMERICAN LEGION

SEVENTH
ANNUAL CONVENTION

OMAHA, NEBRASKA
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Reports of
NATIONAL OFFICERS
STANDING COMMITTEES
SPECIAL COMMITTEES
LEGION PUBLISHING CORPORATION
THE AMERICAN LEGION DEDICATES THIS REPORT TO

THOMAS RILEY MARSHALL

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
MARCH 4, 1913—MARCH 4, 1921
AND SECOND IN COMMAND OF THE MILITARY FORCES OF
THE UNITED STATES IN THE WORLD WAR

BORN
MARCH 14, 1854

DIED
JUNE 1, 1925
VIEWS NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Foyer
National Auxiliary

Legion Foyer
Executive Suite

Foyer 40 et 8
Year after year, more and more of those who stood by our side in line of battle or served with us wherever duty called, abroad, at home or upon the seas, answer the last call, the call of their God. To the comrades who cherished their comradeship is left only a memory.

The deeds which these dead have done will live. To the farthest point of time, their acts upon the great stage of the world will wield a potent influence. Those who have fought and suffered and sacrificed for great causes cannot utterly pass away.

As we read over the names of those who served with us in war and of those who joined with us in peace-time service in this Legion of ours, we cannot but glory in them and in what they have done. We cannot but take from them new inspiration to push forward with the torch of service for a better nation and a better world.
“Omaha, the Convention City”


Something doing every minute. Legionnaires won’t have to amuse themselves. All they will have to do is to stand around with their mouths, eyes and ears open, tasting, seeing, hearing what’s being done for their pleasure and entertainment. Two thousand automobiles all ready to haul them around without charge, day and night. Dancing, Rodeo, Varsity football. Contests of all kinds. Bands. Parade by 10,000 regular troops with Legionnaires on side line. Music. Greatest fireworks display. Three big military demonstrations. Greatest Legion parade ever. Indians. Biggest American Legion Post in the world.

City founded by Brigham Young. Developed by George Francis Train. Eastern terminus of first and greatest transcontinental railroad. Geographical center of United States. See the midnight air mail between New York and San Francisco come in with searchlights flashing.

Omaha says, “Put your hair in a braid and come on. When you go home you can tell your friends you’ve been to Carcassonne.”
FOREWORD

With the publishing of this report for the previous thirteen months of Legion effort, the organization completes its sixth year. Each of those years has been one of value; each has had an outstanding leader whose duty it was to carry forward those tasks set for him and the national organization by the national convention. Each year has seen the Legion succeed in carrying out some one big national achievement in addition to those acts of benefit to community, state and nation which are always part and parcel of the year’s work but which are overshadowed by the magnitude of some one thing. During the past year, the national organization, carrying out the will of the Saint Paul convention, created the necessary machinery to bring into being a $5,000,000 endowment fund to assist the disabled and the orphans of veterans. A full report of the way this campaign was organized, the methods used in raising the fund and the amount subscribed by individual states is set forth in Part 1. It is recommended that each delegate give this report his careful attention.

The Legion’s program in behalf of the disabled has been carried forward along established lines during the past year. Changes in the physical set-up of the United States Veterans’ Bureau will necessitate a change in the Legion’s own set-up and recommendations to that end will be submitted for the approval of the convention.

The child welfare program has gotten under way rapidly. Organizations have already been created in some states, as many as the shortness of time permitted, and other states will be organized during the year to come that the Legion may keep its pledge, “A Home for Every Homeless Orphan of a Veteran.”

The Americanism work, following the resolutions adopted by the last national convention, has been accomplished.

Much has been also accomplished during the year to place the Legion in the forefront of those agencies working toward a permanent world peace. The World Peace Commission, authorized at the last national convention, has completed its preliminary study and as directed by the convention will make its report direct to the Omaha convention. In talks before the country, the national commander and other Legion speakers have advocated a peace policy founded on an adequate preparedness program and with justice between nations.

If additional information regarding any particular recommendation or report is desired, it may be readily obtained from the directors of any of the headquarters divisions or from the chairmen or members of the committees.
Report of the National Adjutant
(Which Includes the Reports of All Headquarters Divisions)

The National Commander and Headquarters

The increasing growth of The American Legion in national prestige and its ever spreading field of activities beyond the bounds dreamed of by the originators of the organization have created two distinct phases of work for the national commander.

The national commander is not alone the leader of a huge fraternity bound together by ties of comradeship and service, he is also the head of a big business organization comparable in many ways to a million dollar concern. As the executive head of an organization dealing in hundreds of thousands of dollars each year, it is necessary that he spend a large portion of his time at national headquarters. It is he who must lay down policies, keep in touch with various standing committees, and make sure that the various divisions and departments are carrying out the mandates of the national conventions and the National Executive Committee. Problems which he only can decide upon are constantly arising. The responsibilities are such that they cannot be delegated but require action of the national commander. This is the business side of the national commander's office.

Yet in his capacity of leader of the greatest service men's organization he must spend a great deal of time in the field. Departments and posts are constantly requesting his presence. Such visits stimulate the field activities. Hence, he attends departmental conventions, post meetings, meets with leaders in civil life, addresses civic gatherings and otherwise acts as the direct proponent of Legion policies, both in educating the Legionnaire, and the public at large.

This year due to the endowment campaign, the national commander has spent a great deal of his time in the field. He has criss-crossed this continent many times. Twenty-nine state conventions, ranging from Washington state in the west, to Wisconsin of the north, Florida the south and New York of the east, have heard him speak the Legion's inspirational message. To be present at these conventions—inasmuch as most of them are held within the space of thirty days—it was necessary for the national commander to spend two-thirds of his nights in a pullman, use airplanes, automobiles and other fast transportation to keep his engagements.

He has addressed hundreds of gatherings of leading business men in Chicago, New York, Boston, Washington and scores of other cities explaining the Legion's purpose, its ideals and why the endowment campaign came into being.

He appeared before congressional committees in Washington to urge passage of legislation for the disabled which the Legion's National Rehabilitation Committee had recommended as necessary.

The national commander visited more than forty once, and in many cases several times.

The result, of course, was that his time at national headquarters was shorter than the time in the field. With so many requests for his presence it was necessary to choose carefully the places the national commander visited. Geographical and financial conditions made this a necessity.

The National Vice-Commanders

Peyton H. Hoge, Jr., Kentucky
Frank McFarland, Kansas
Eugene Armstrong, Connecticut
William Stern, South Dakota

A. L. Perry, Panama
The national vice-commanders were of especially great assistance during 1925 in that they kept before the Legion and the public not only the policies advocated by the Legion, but more notable still, the reasons for the $5,000,000 Endowment Campaign for Disabled Veterans and War Orphans. Each in his own region was called upon to address many meetings both Legion and public, explaining this great activity. Many of them represented the national commander where the restrictions of itinerary and distance precluded his presence.

Dedication of Permanent Headquarters Building

In June, 1925, The American Legion moved into its permanent home, the gift of the state of Indiana, and the first completed unit of Indiana's $10,000,000 war memorial plaza. An impressive dedicatory service was held in which the governor of Indiana made the presentation speech and the national commander accepted in behalf of the Legion. Hundreds of notables in Legion and civic affairs were present. A motion picture film depicting the ceremony was taken and placed in the Legion's vaults as part of the Legion's pictorial history.

Newly furnished in keeping with the Greek beauty of architecture and carefully planned with a view to business efficiency methods, the new building offers a home in keeping with the influence and dignity of this great body of World war veterans.

Conference of Department Adjutants

The fourth annual conference of department adjutants was held at national headquarters November 17, 18 and 19, 1924. The conference was held under the authority of a resolution reported by the Convention Committee on Internal Organization at the St. Paul convention and adopted by that convention and also of a motion passed by the National Executive Committee at its meeting immediately following the convention.

National, state and local problems of the Legion were presented to the adjutants. Practically all phases of Legion work were treated in the discussions. Papers were read by a number of department adjutants. The work of national officers, of national headquarters divisions and of national committees was presented by the respective officers and division committee heads.

Among the subjects considered were: Rehabilitation, child welfare, Americanism, community service and civic betterment, legislation, publicity, the American Legion Weekly, the American Legion Auxiliary, the American Red Cross, accounting and bonding, historical, constitution and by-laws, athletics, correspondence and filing systems, films, national convention, department conventions, chaplain, national emblem, department and post records, manual of ceremonies, organization and membership, district and county organizations, annual conferences of department and post officials, post organization, post entertainment, policies, source records, navy-marine posts, printing post handbook, Legion recognition of the march, "Armistice Day Forever."

One of the greatest benefits arising from these conferences is the opportunity presented to each individual adjutant to learn the methods used in all departments in handling problems constantly coming up for action in all departments. This exchange of ideas is of inestimable value.

At the Sixth Annual National Convention at St. Paul in 1924 the Convention Committee on Internal Organization directed that the adjutants' conference be held each year in November or December and ordered the National Finance Committee to make proper provision for it and provided that men to serve as adjutants during the ensuing year should attend. The Convention Finance Committee at St. Paul gave the National Executive Committee power to "dispense with the meeting if it so desires." The National Executive Committee at its meeting in June, 1925, referred to the National
Who resigned as National Adjutant on July 31, 1925, after serving in that capacity from January 16, 1924. Prior to his assuming the office of adjutant he was Director of Organization from Dec. 11, 1919, to Sept. 29, 1920, and Assistant National Adjutant from Sept. 30, 1920, to Jan. 15, 1924.
Finance Committee the question of including department commanders in
the adjutants' conference.

**Master Card System**

Authority has been received from the finance committee to install a
master card system on Legion membership. This file will hold a card on
every current member of the Legion throughout the entire organization and,
eventually, of every individual who ever was a member. It is designed to
carry a record of the Legion history of every member such as his transfer
from one post to another, any offices held by him and in what year, and
record of payment of his annual dues. Classified selections are made pos-
able by recording the information with "punching" machines. For example
a list may be made of all members of any division of the entire organiza-
tion who have not paid their current year's dues, or of those who have paid
the current dates.

**Visits to National Headquarters**

Great interest has been manifested by Legionnaires, members of the
Auxiliary and the general public in the beautiful new building now occu-
pied by national headquarters of the Legion as its permanent home. Mem-
bers of visitors inspect the structure every day. Many parties of Legion-
naires on their way to the national convention stopped off in Indianapolis
to see the building.

Many people inspected the headquarters on June 17, when the building
was officially dedicated and turned over to the Legion by the state of Indiana,
the county of Marion and the city of Indianapolis, which cooperated in
erecting the structure as a unit of the Indiana World War Memorial Plaza
project. Governor Ed Jackson, of Indiana, Legionnaire, made the presenta-
tion speech.

Convention delegates and department and post officials are asked again
to transmit to all Legionnaires and members of the Auxiliary the cordial
invitation of the national staff to visit headquarters.

**ADMINISTRATION DIVISION**

*John H. Hilkene (Panama), Director*

The organization of the Administration Division is the same as that in
effect last year. Its subdivisions or sections are as follows:

- Purchase and Supply
  - Multigraph
  - Stock room
  - Freight and express

- General Files
  - Reference library
  - Correspondence files
  - Membership card files
  - Archives
  - Research

- Cashier
  - Petty cash expenditures
  - Handling and distribution of mail
  - Telegraph and cable service

- Stenographic section
  - Employment of women
  - Stenographic pool
  - Mimeograph
  - Addressograph mailing lists
Employment and Personnel

All applicants for position at national headquarters to be eligible for employment are still required to be members of The American Legion or of The American Legion Auxiliary. It is becoming more difficult, however, now that a few years have passed to find applicants for some of the minor positions with this qualification. We are approaching the time when the positions of lesser importance because of the salary attached to them, can be filled only with younger persons. Such applicants were not old enough to enter the service at the time of the World war and are therefore unable to qualify as a Legion member. This bars them under our present ruling from employment at national headquarters. Those men who saw service in the World war are reaching an age where they have attained a greater earning power than we can pay for this class of service. It is only a question of a comparatively short time when exceptions will have to be made for this particular requirement.

At the present time all permanent personnel holds membership in the Legion or the Auxiliary.

Purchase and Supplies

Grover W. Workman (Indiana), P. A.

The purchasing agent now holds membership in the National Association of Purchasing Agents for the purpose of keeping abreast of the times in his profession.

In this past year he has installed a system of records of purchases, deliveries, etc., for better efficiency in keeping track of deliveries due and those accomplished.

In this past year the work of the purchasing agent has been doubled due to the extensive requirements of the Endowment Fund Drive organization. Pamphlets, forms, photos, mats, etc., have been bought in large quantities and this service has been performed by this division in addition to its normal volume of work.

Files and Archives

On the removal from the old building into our new quarters it was decided to standardize our filing equipment. The new filing section is equipped throughout with the same make of filing cases and transfer cases.

An effort has been started since our removal to new quarters to build up our library of works relative to the World war. Donations have already come in of something less than a hundred volumes and it is hoped to build this up to include practically everything that has been published on the subject of the great war. State librarians, state historians and various organizations are responding readily and it is hoped that departments and posts of The American Legion will donate such volumes as have been published in their individual states, counties or communities. We are arranging for a proper book-plate, and credit to the donor will be recorded in all cases.

Complete files of all Legion and veteran publications should be in the archives of national headquarters and during this past year a persistent effort has been made to accomplish this. After extensive checking and correspondence, a file of 395 publications has been established. Of this number, 165 are currently received and a system has been installed to secure the missing issues immediately as noted.

The first draft of the cumulative index to the minutes of the National Executive Committee has been completed. This includes in one alphabetic index, all subjects acted upon by the committee from 1919 to date, with a reference to where each action is to be found in the verbatim minutes. 1,426 subject entries have been made.

The first draft of the cumulative index to the proceedings of the annual conventions involving 1,746 subject entries, has also been completed.

The compilation of biographical data concerning the 3,454 members, prom-
in most in national and departmental Legion affairs to date, was transferred to this section during the year. The routine connected with it has been re-organized and systematized and new and additional forms prepared. At the end of June, 1925, this material included 1,406 questionnaires completely filled out with biographical information, 311 photographs and thirty-two clippings.

Research and Information: 19,256 requests were handled during the past year. These range from simple routine matters to those involving the digesting of files, compilation of lists and statistics, research into the official records, etc. Increase over previous year, 3,579.

Statistical Summary—The statistics for this section for the past year are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General correspondence and subject material</td>
<td>51,458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pamphlets</td>
<td>849</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reports, bulletins, news releases, etc.</td>
<td>956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clippings</td>
<td>1,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications (Legion and Veteran)</td>
<td>9,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter applications</td>
<td>688</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Legion History material</td>
<td>2,236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questionnaires of prominent legionnaires</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>2,523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>62,677</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase over last year</td>
<td><strong>10,121</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* In tabulating this material a definite unit on a subject, whether it be one piece of paper or a number of attached letters on one specific matter, is considered one item.

**Telegraph, Express and Mail Service**

The expense of the telegraph, express and mail service is charged to each division on the basis of the service performed to each.

From August 16, 1924, to September 5, 1925, the following mail was handled:

**INCOMING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Letters</td>
<td>143,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Packages</td>
<td>1,874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telegrams</td>
<td>4,779</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aggregated total of pieces handled: 150,203

**OUTGOING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Letters:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular</td>
<td>397,711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment</td>
<td>572,089</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Packages, parcel post and express</td>
<td>33,464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telegrams</td>
<td>6,235</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aggregate total of pieces handled: 1,069,559

Amount of postage:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular</td>
<td>11,756.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment</td>
<td>11,291.83</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: $23,047.94

**Mimeograph and Multigraph Service**

This section now includes two multigraph machines, two mimeograph machines, one folding machine and one wire-stitching machine, all operated by electric power. The load on this section this past year has been tremendous
because of the great volume of duplicated work required in the endowment drive.

The following is a record of the production in this section during the past year, Aug. 15, 1924, to Sept. 6, 1925.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stencils cut</td>
<td>3,011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mimeograph pages</td>
<td>703,430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multigraph pages</td>
<td>1,144,722</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folded pages</td>
<td>1,848,152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Envelopes stuffed</td>
<td>184,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Addressograph mailing lists are maintained in locked steel file cabinets. A mailing list of posts was compiled during this past year for use in the endowment drive. One addressograph stencil cutter and one addressograph printing machine is the equipment used in addition to the steel filing cabinets.

General

The Administration Division prepared and published in blue-print form an organization chart of national headquarters, The American Legion. This chart was detailed and comprehensive in scope and was approved by the national adjutant.

A Manual of Office Procedure and Office Regulations was compiled, published and distributed to members of the headquarters staff for their information and guidance. It is planned to improve this and make additions until it is in a most complete stage, when it will be printed in loose-leaf pamphlet form.

A personnel file was started on January 1, 1925, to keep a running record on every employee at national headquarters. Records of delinquencies, exceptional service, absences, health as it affects their service, etc., is kept. Ratings are recorded at proper time. These records are kept under lock and are only available to executives and heads of departments.

On January 1, 1925, a perpetual inventory was set up in the stock room and, in co-operation with this system, the accounting department simultaneously set up a “Stock Account” on their books. All incoming supplies are now charged to “Stock Account” and are charged out to the divisions on requisitions as supplies are withdrawn from stock. In this manner each division is accurately charged with such supplies as they use.

The universal vacation system was not inaugurated this year owing to the necessity of keeping a working force at national headquarters during the entire summer on account of the endowment drive.

The budget required to operate the administration division for the current year follows:

### Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pay roll</td>
<td>$36,280.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>2,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone and telegraph</td>
<td>3,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery, printing and office supplies</td>
<td>7,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage and express</td>
<td>2,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance of quarters</td>
<td>2,200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due and interest, Interallied Veterans</td>
<td>6,193.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>2,004.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$62,677.65</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NEW NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Housed in a building especially designed for its needs, surrounded by equipment planned to attain the greatest efficiency with the greatest economy, national headquarters is now at home in thoroughly modern, commodious and beautifully furnished quarters in the newly finished Indiana World War Memorial Building, the first unit to be completed of the magnificent $10,000,000.00 Indiana memorial to soldiers of the World war. Today, in light, airy rooms, the business of national headquarters is carried on amid ideal surroundings and with equipment that is practical and adequate. The Legion, after six years of what might be termed "camp life", is now housed in quarters in full keeping with its dignity and place in national life.

Just as this new phase of Legion history begins, the man who planned it, dreamed it and saw it installed, bids it adieu; but he leaves a finished job. Russell Creviston, Past National Adjutant, spent months in working out the details and arrangements which have resulted in a splendid example of the best in efficiency and co-ordination. No division or section was located without due consideration being given to its relation to other units of the organization. The final result is a perfect co-ordination of all sections of headquarters with the easiest possible contact and accessibility. To bring into being this desirable situation exhaustive surveys based on the activity of national headquarters in the past and its needs in the future were carried out without, however, interrupting the regular routine.

The actual moving of national headquarters was accomplished under most adverse conditions. It was greatly desired that the move be accomplished in time for the June meeting of the National Executive Committee and that the dedication of the new building be made during that session. Delays that were unavoidable resulted in the building being uncompleted on the date set for moving. The headquarters staff took possession amid confusion of the whine of steel drills, pounding of hammers and the interruption of workmen. Desks, filing cases and other furniture arrived bearing different colored tags which indicated the part of the building for which a piece was intended. Each tag bore a name of an employee for whose use that piece was intended. It is worthy of mention that under this system of moving, of all the papers, individual files and small articles that are in use by an office staff of the magnitude of national headquarters, not one item was reported as even temporarily lost.

All furniture at national headquarters is made of American walnut and is uniform throughout. It is plain and dignified in pattern but of the best quality. Serviceability was the chief consideration in the selection of the furnishings, together with standardization. Wilton rugs, taupe in color, cover the cement floors of all offices and battleship linoleum is laid in all workrooms. The general files and archives section shows the greatest improvement due to standardization of equipment. In the early days of the organization the lack of money to buy proper equipment resulted in the purchase of second-hand filing cases wherever they could be obtained. All known makes, some of wood, some of steel, held the headquarters records. At the instigation of Grover Workman, Purchasing Agent at national headquarters, a standard type of filing case was adopted. The general files room now presents a neat and orderly appearance and gives the maximum degree of efficiency.

The new national headquarters occupies almost three floors of the new building with approximately 20,000 square feet of floor space. On the second floor is located the Administration Division which includes the purchasing agent, the supply room, cashier, mailing section, library, general files and archives, membership card files, stenographic pool and the multigraph and mimeograph room. The third floor houses the national officers in the executive suite which surrounds a central reception room. These offices occupy one-half the floor. The other half of the third floor is occupied by the offices of the division heads. On the fourth floor is located the general stock
room, the packing and shipping rooms of the Emblem Division and the booking and shipping rooms of the Film Service Division. Also on this floor are the fireproof vaults for the storing of valuable stock of the Emblem Division as well as films and advertising matter of the Film Service.

The most beautiful and impressive room in the building occupies the remaining half of the fourth floor. It is the National Executive Committee room. In construction and arrangement it follows the general lines of a senate chamber. It is furnished with thirty-five desks, seating two persons to each desk. The bronze ink sets at each seat bear the state seal of the department to which the seat is assigned. The desks and swivel chairs are fixed to the floor and are made of American walnut. Each state or department provided $145.00 toward the furnishing of the desk, chair and desk equipment.

In 1919, at the First Annual National Convention of The American Legion in Minneapolis, the city of Indianapolis sent a committee of citizens to invite the national headquarters to locate in the Hoosier capital. They promised the Legion if they would make its headquarters in Indianapolis, a home befitting the greatness and importance of the organization. The new home of the national headquarters stands today as a perfect fulfillment of that promise.

ORGANIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP DIVISION

Frank E. Samuel (Kansas), Director

Created by authority of the Fifth Annual National Convention, the Organization and Membership Division has had its first full, unbroken year in which to function. This report will endeavor to briefly set forth in chronological order, the program accomplished during the past year.

Early Enrollment of 1925 Membership

The first concern upon return from the St. Paul convention had to do with advance enrollment of 1925 members. Posts and departments were urged to theoretically establish the fiscal year as October to October. This was done to take advantage of the enthusiasm following department and national conventions, the ambitious interest of recently elected post officials and the high tide of economic conditions so often followed by an after-the-holidays slump. In this connection, three inducements were offered:

1. The American Legion Weekly placed 1925 paid up members on its mailing lists as soon as the 1925 subscriptions were received.

2. National headquarters offered two forms of service citations, distinguished and meritorious, to be awarded posts on December 1 and 31, respectively, in accordance with definite regulations for equaling or surpassing previous membership records. One hundred and forty distinguished and 283 meritorious service citations were awarded.

3. In order to encourage uniform and business-like methods of collecting dues, 772,755 “Statements of Dues” forms were furnished the departments without charge for transmission to posts. On one side was shown the amount due the finance officer for local, department and national dues, while on the reverse side was a message from the national commander.

Reports indicate that these three inducements played an important part in allowing us to open the year 1925 with a much larger advance membership than ever before. Thus, the first day of the year found us not with a negative membership but with 38,059 paid in advance for 1925.

Armistice Day Membership Campaign

Departments and posts were urged to make Armistice Day, 1925, an occasion for membership renewals. There were erected in many communities membership booths equipped with war relics, radio sets, bands, orchestras and quartettes. Membership literature was made available through the National
and department headquarters. Many members, both old and new, were enrolled through this activity.

**Special Membership Officers**

In line with the policy recommended by this division at the St. Paul convention, twenty-six departments have had special membership officers this year. These were all selected because of their proven membership-getting ability. Whether a committee or an individual is selected for membership responsibility, and whether with or without funds, it is believed the policy is sound as represented by the experience of the above mentioned twenty-six departments, which have a higher membership average than the others.

**Membership Campaign Manual**

The Membership Campaign Manual constitutes the most important published product of the division this year. At first mimeographed in temporary form, criticism and suggestions were invited from approximately one hundred prominent Legion officials. It was then placed in permanent pamphlet form and distributed without charge to departments and posts requesting it. Seven thousand copies have been supplied.

**Flag Index System**

The Organization and Membership Division has installed for its own use this year, the flag index card system. The same system in the amount of 21,380 cards has been supplied to thirty-seven departments upon their request. This provides for a ten year membership history for each department or post. This is shown month by month with a grand total for each of ten years. The quota assigned is given also for each year. On the reverse side of each card is a record of the names of commander, adjutant and membership chairman for each of the ten years. A red flag is moved along showing percentage progress. This makes it possible for the official concerned to learn at a glance the condition of his membership.

**Membership Quotas**

Upon request of this division, each department fixed for itself a definite membership goal for 1925. The combined quotas amounted to one million. Many departments have made favorable progress in advancing toward their quotas.

**Merit Report Form**

The Annual Merit Report form, as recommended by this division at the St. Paul convention, was published in February of this year. The plan serves as a guide in definitely outlining the kind of well-balanced, unselfish program which a post might well carry out annually. Scoring of points is distributed among such items as post organization, club advantages, service and welfare activities, patriotic observances and co-operation in department and national Legion affairs. National citations are being offered high-scoring posts and it is thought that a national cup will soon be available. Seven thousand copies have been distributed without charge to departments for transmission to posts.

**Fathers’ Council**

The Organization and Membership Division has continued attempting to interest posts in the organization of local Fathers’ Councils. In February of this year, the following material was furnished all departments:

- Application for charter
- Application for membership form
- Suggested local constitution and by-laws
- Suggested membership certificate
- History of authority for councils
The same material has since been included in the post handbook. To date, thirty-seven Fathers’ Councils have been chartered by national headquarters.

**Assistance to Weak Posts**

An unusual amount of effort has been concentrated this year toward serving the weak posts. All departments were asked to furnish such lists, at which time specially prepared letters and membership material went forward. Each post was invited to discuss with us its specific problems. Incomplete returns would indicate that this service to post commanders and adjutants has assisted many in increasing membership and strengthening standing. Two thousand six hundred and seventy-four such posts in thirty-four departments were served.

**Navy and Marine Posts**

The Department Adjutants’ Conference adopted a resolution recommending the formation and chartering of Navy-Marine posts in each department. This division has further urged such organization through publicity and through letters and bulletins to department adjutants. To date, thirty-two Navy-Marine posts have been formed in fourteen different departments, and reports indicate that a few additional posts are contemplated. Where department policy restricts Legion membership to a single post in a city, Navy-Marine sections have been recommended.

**Individual Member Getting**

As an experiment in individual membership-getting, 150,825 copies of the new Dictionary of Facts were mailed, one to each Legionnaire on the Weekly mailing lists in the first twelve departments undertaking endowment campaigns. An incomplete survey would indicate that such expense has scarcely been justifiable in point of membership returns. One hundred thousand copies of the same pamphlet were furnished in quantities to all other departments for limited distribution to posts.

**Co-operation of Auxiliary**

The American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters has co-operated splendidly in all our membership plans. The national president has issued formal bulletins and messages urging the same kind of membership cooperation from all units. Through the national president and national membership chairman, many Auxiliary units have made use of our Membership Campaign Manual.

**Forty and Eight**

While the Forty and Eight have always been interested in membership activities, their assistance this year has been particularly outstanding. Through the inspiration of their chef de chemin de fer and their other national officers, both voitures and individuals have enrolled many members.

**Post Handbook**

A great deal of time has been required this year in revising the old post handbook. The entire contents were very thoroughly gone over and brought up to date. The best possible advice was consulted. Eleven thousand seven hundred and thirteen copies have been distributed without charge to departments and posts since the first of May.

**Half-Million by May**

An extraordinary effort was made this year to pass the half-million mark in membership by the end of May. Through the co-operation of department and post officials, the mark was exceeded by seven thousand four hundred and eighty-nine.
Testimonial to Post Officers

Through the Organization and Membership Division, the national commander has offered an engraved testimonial of appreciation for all commanders and adjutants who succeed in having their posts surpass their average membership of the past four years by the time department books close for representation at the national convention. In this connection, the "Get Your Man" membership plan has been offered all departments for transmission to posts.

Citations and Resolutions

An effort has been made to standardize all citation and resolution forms in use at national headquarters. Material has been stocked which will serve as either a citation or a resolution in behalf of an individual, a post or a department. The degree is indicated by a change of color in the border, while the accumulation from year to year is shown by gold date seals affixed to borders. A fifty years record can thus be accommodated. Already bands and drum corps winning first and second places at all national conventions have been recognized through this new system of citations.

Post Activities

The work of building up our post activities files and library of printed material has progressed during the year. It is only through such an assembly of up-to-date material that we are able to co-ordinate and disperse information, ideas and suggestions to departments and posts.

Contact With New Posts

Contact with newly organized posts has been maintained through personal letters accompanied by membership material. All charter applications have been carefully studied with a view to furnishing helpful ideas where needed.

Additional Calls on Director

In the interest of organization in general, the director of this division has been called upon for the following services outside his own office:
- Secretary of Department Adjutants' Conference.
- Secretary of three endowment classes.
- Secretary to National Adjutant during the January meeting of National Executive Committee.

Endowment Will Give Membership Boost

A survey of the first twelve departments undertaking the endowment campaign would indicate a unanimity of opinion that this activity has solidified the Legion in the community, that it has raised the Legion's prestige and made of it a more permanent and stable organization and that increased membership will naturally follow—if not this year, then the next. The survey shows the feeling that department adjutants could have materially increased their membership but for the excessive endowment activity required of them and which each and every one of them was only too glad to undertake.

Realizing the value of publicity, an effort has been made to have stories published almost weekly, covering matters pertaining to organization and membership. The American Legion News Service has carried thirty-eight stories while seven stories have appeared in The American Legion Weekly.

In attempting to maintain a proper esprit de corps, this division has written some three thousand personal letters congratulating individual posts
and departments on favorable membership showing. An equal number of letters have gone to those in need of encouragement and suggestions.

The national conventions have never yet been able to agree upon a life membership plan. Twice rejected, a third plan is now being worked out by a special sub-committee of the National Executive Committee, with a view to reporting its recommendations to the Omaha convention.

**Number of Posts**

| Posts existing August 1, 1924 | 11,231 |
| Less charters cancelled | 1,178 |
| **Total** | **10,053** |
| New posts chartered to August 1, 1925 | 206 |
| **Total existing August 1, 1925** | **10,259** |
| Departments | U.S. | Territorial | Foreign | Total |
| (Aug. 1, 1925) | 49 | 5 | 3 | 57 |

Since the last national convention, new posts have been organized at Santa Marta, Colombia, South America; Montevideo, Uruguay, South America, and Bordeaux, France. This brings the total of foreign posts to twenty-nine, exclusive of department organization.

**Budget**

The work covered by this report is being accomplished by an office personnel of three, under the following budget:

- Pay Roll: $9,856.00
- Travel: 1,000.00
- Stationery, printing and office supplies: 4,000.00
- Telegraph and telephone: 80.00
- Postage: 1,000.00

**Total:** $15,936.00

An additional $4,147.00 was subsequently appropriated by the National Finance Committee for the purpose of promoting membership among individual Legionnaires. However, this was not a part of our original program.

The work of this division is such that it is fitting to deal more or less directly with the various department headquarters. Acknowledgment is made of the splendid, constant cooperation of department adjutants, department membership chairmen and the many individual posts. Such cooperation has made it possible to work out and have adopted, definite policies founded on organization principles which can be applied to a continuous and constructive program extending throughout the life of The American Legion.

**NEWS SERVICE**

Frederick C. Painton (New York), Director

Marked changes in the form and methods used by The American Legion News Service took place during the year 1924-1925.

Channels for distributing Legion news were increased in number; the service offered both the public and the Legion itself was improved and extended; in short, existing methods of obtaining and distributing publicity have been greatly strengthened during the year.
What the News Service Is

A brief explanation of the work the News Service performs will make apparent the reasons for these additions and extensions.

The News Service has a twofold purpose. First, it is the channel through which the public is informed of the Legion's manifold activities. Its mission is to make the Legion and its policies sympathetically understood by the public through the media of newspapers, magazines, radio and photographs. (The use of the leading motion picture news reels is obtained for national Legion events through co-operation of the Legion Film Service.)

Second, the News Service has the task of informing the Legion members what other Legionnaires are doing. Scattered as they are throughout the United States in more than 11,000 posts, the average Legionnaire has no way of knowing what his comrades are doing save through the News Service publicity. It is to thousands of individual Legionnaires the only connecting link between activities of a national nature and those of the local post.

What the News Service Does

The News Service's general publicity methods may be covered under ten headings.

1. It carries on its mailing list the names of 2,800 daily and weekly newspapers, selected thoroughly to cover every state.

Until January of this year, it was the policy to send out carefully compiled stories, both multigraphed and mimeographed, to the newspapers on this mailing list. Believing, however, that this plan was not meeting with the wished for results, the newspapers were queried as to whether they desired such a service continued or if they wished a printed clipsheet containing as much news volume, but more compactly and more attractively compiled. The replies gave the clipsheet a majority and it was begun. Evidenced by increased clippings the results have greatly exceeded expectations.

2. Once every six weeks this office prepares six columns of illustrated Legion news—about 8,000 words—for Western Newspaper Union, a huge newspaper syndicate having more than 1,000 clients.

3. Every week 2,000 words of Legion news, of particular interest to the states of Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota and South Dakota, is sent to the Sioux City (Ia.) Tribune for syndication to papers published in these states.

4. The biggest outlet of Legion news has been the three major press associations, the Associated Press, United Press Associations, Universal and International News services. Over a period of five years the News Service has carefully refrained from giving these associations any news that could be construed as Legion propaganda. All news has been carefully written for news value alone. As a result, the News Service has the confidence of all these wire services, which make gratifying use of material which is sent them.

5. The big newspaper feature syndicates with their constant demand for much timely feature material have been of great aid in telling the American people about the Legion. The Newspaper Enterprise Association, Central Press, Publishers Autocaster and Western Newspaper Union all handle hundreds of Legion news items and are especially valuable because of their syndication of Legion news photographs. Each of the syndicates mentioned above syndicate and will continue to syndicate preparedness services on big Legion events such as the national convention and (as happened in 1925) the dedication of the permanent headquarters. The liaison between the News Service and these syndicates is close and their friendliness has been invaluable.

6. Begun in 1924 just prior to the St. Paul convention, the American Legion Foreign News Service has been continued with satisfactory results. Fifty-two newspapers in Canada, Great Britain, France, Belgium, Cuba, Mexico, China, and Japan receive this service. It is not mailed regularly
but only when Legion news of international interest develops. It should be continued.

7. A most important and highly successful form of publicity—news photographs—has been used to a greater degree this year than before. The widespread use of picture pages has made a big demand for current photographs and the News Service has endeavored to keep Legion news photos regularly in use. Such syndicates as Newspaper Enterprise Association, Western Newspaper Union, Central Press and others send hundreds of Legion pictures in their client's picture pages. Usually these are in mat form. Hence, a Legion news photograph appears in all parts of the nation on a given day.

Photograph syndicates such as Underwood and Underwood, Kadel and Herbert, Times Wide World, Pacific and Atlantic, and others make use of timely news photographs of Legion news and distribute them to their clients.

8. The amazing growth in the number of magazines published has given a very important outlet for lengthier discussions of the Legion's work. Magazine publicity has been stressed this past year.

9. The News Service is the information bureau for newspapers desiring special information regarding Legion activities. Many stories and articles prepared by newspaper staff men were actually written from information supplied by this office.

10. Direct publicity work, (preparation of advance stories, running stories and so-called "canned" matter) is done by this division. Photographs, mats and biographical material are sent to all newspapers in cities where the National Commander and other national officers are scheduled to appear.

Publicity Within the Legion

Nearly 300 Legion publications, departmental and post, are now being published. The clip sheet prepared by this division gives the editors of these publications news of national Legion interest to intersperse with their more localized items. The News Service also supplies these Legion publications with special inspirational articles dealing with membership, community activities by posts and so-called "pep" articles dealing with outstanding accomplishments of departments and posts.

Through the use of these inspirational articles the News Service becomes, in effect, an idea exchange where one post may learn how another solved certain problems. This service has met with an enthusiastic response and should be continued.

Quite frequently Legion publications call upon the News Service for special articles for exclusive use. Hundreds of these are prepared in the course of the year.

Publicity Service to the Legion

After some months of careful study the News Service recently decided to offer departments and posts wishing it, a publicity advice service. Departments and posts wishing advice on how to conduct a publicity campaign in connection with a membership drive, clubhouse drive, etc., have only to write this division to have every facility available placed at their disposal. A compilation of ways in which other posts have solved these publicity problems has been made and this compilation together with such expert assistance as can be given by experienced newspaper and publicity men is available to any Legion department or post making a request. Already many have taken advantage of the service, and more are urged to do so.

American Legion Auxiliary Publicity

The need for co-ordinating publicity efforts of the Legion and Auxiliary has been a long standing problem that was solved during 1925. Through the co-operation of Mrs. O. D. Oliphant, National President, the News Service was enabled recently to begin publication in the regular News Service
clip sheet of a column of Auxiliary news for use by departmental and unit publicity officers and editors of women's pages. This move has not only established a liaison between the Auxiliary and Legion publicity, but will prove a foundation upon which to build a more co-ordinated joint publicity program. The news has been well received by newspapers and is a distinct addition to already existing publicity facilities.

**Hospital Legion News Service**

Early in 1925 it was pointed out that The American Legion’s efforts both rehabilitative and legislative for the disabled veterans in hospitals were not fully known, and that credit for Legion accomplishments in these lines was going to other sources.

In conjunction with the chairman of the National Rehabilitation Committee, the director established what is called The American Legion Hospital News Service, issued weekly. This consists of two mimeographed pages of news concerning rehabilitation, veterans bureau and legislative activities likely to be of interest to the hospitalized veteran. The news is prepared in the offices of the National Rehabilitation Committee by a News Service correspondent.

This service is sent weekly to sixty-two hospitals, all of the Veterans Bureau establishments and such contract hospitals as house sufficient patients to make the service worth while. After four weeks of service, the clients were queried as to whether they used the service and, if so, how. The reply was one hundred per cent that the service was invaluable and should be continued. Those hospitals having special publications use the service in its entirety, giving the Legion a credit line. Those not having local publications pin the sheets on the bulletin board. Several of the medical directors wrote personally to say that not only was the information in the service of value to the patients, but also to the personnel.

**$5,000,000 Endowment Fund Campaign**

When the Legion’s major activity for 1925—the $5,000,000 Endowment Fund for disabled veterans and war orphans—was started, the News Service handled all news releases.

When the special Endowment Educational Division was established, full use was made of the News Service resources, the two departments working in full accord to acquaint the country with the reasons for and the method of raising the fund.

**The American Legion Press Association**

The American Legion Press Association, an organization of editors of Legion publications, was reorganized at St. Paul, during the Sixth Annual Convention. Not only is the association a fraternal one, it is also co-operative. Due to lack of funds the News Service had been unable to supply an illustrated feature service to Legion publications. Yet it was felt at this meeting that such a service is needed. So an assessment of $25 each was placed on each member, the sum to pay his dues and his share of the cost of maintaining an illustrated feature service throughout the year.

Each week during this year the News Service has gathered, written and distributed to the members of the association a story of national Legion interest illustrated by mats. It is believed this service has met with satisfaction and should be extended.

**Results Obtained in 1925**

More publicity of national characters was obtained by The American Legion in 1925 than in any previous year of its existence. The combination of the Endowment Educational bureau, together with the News Service and an expanded budget made it possible to get stories concerning the Legion
Itepor't of the National Adjutant

printed in practically every newspaper in the United States. Every newspaper was on our mailing list, both dailies and weeklies.

More than one hundred thousand newspaper stories, both form and specially written, were mailed out.

More than fifty magazine stories appeared in national, trade and class magazines.

Increased use of material sent out in News Service clipsheet.

Increase in number of newspapers on mailing list.

Complete check-up and revision of mailing list.

More than 3,000 photographs (irrespective of those sent out by the Endowment Publicity Division) of Legion notables and events were used in newspapers and picture pages.

At the dedication of the permanent headquarters building, cameramen from Pathe News, Fox Film, Kinograms and International News Reel took big footage, and pictures of that event appeared in every moving picture playhouse in America. The national commander's speech was broadcast.

Port of Missing Men

About once a month the News Service mails to all of its clients a printed list of ex-service men who have disappeared and of whom information is wanted by relatives. The list has been responsible for the location of many missing men.

Department News Services

Wisconsin was the only department during 1925 to begin a department news service. Together with other departments which already had this valuable publicity adjunct under way, Wisconsin has found it an invaluable medium for disseminating Legion information and keeping up the Legion prestige throughout the state.

The cost of operating a department news service is small, and, when weighed against the results obtained, insignificant. Department news services take the national news in the clipsheet, give it a local twist, combine it with their own state grist of news and send it to all papers in mimeographed form. The results are excellent, thousands of clippings each month attesting to its efficacy.

It is to be hoped that other departments will establish department news services. Those wishing information as to how one may be financed on $15.73 a week may obtain a special book of instruction by writing to this division.

Recommendations

The Speakers' Bureau of National Headquarters has been built up this year into an efficient piece of publicity mechanism. It is an important means of disseminating Legion facts, and should be continued.

It is recommended that the Speakers' Bureau be transferred from the Endowment Fund Publicity Bureau to the News Service Division with an adequate appropriation to continue its functions.

The American Legion Press Association is the beginning of an effort to weld into an integral whole the publicity possibilities within the Legion. Its objective is to obtain the aid of departmental and post publicity officers, department and post publications, etc. It is recommended that this association be given adequate recognition by the Legion in convention assembled and authorization given for financial aid if necessary.

The need for increasing goodwill publicity to follow on the heels of the Endowment Fund campaign should receive serious consideration. It is believed that the Legion, having announced itself as the servant of disabled veterans and war orphans, and having accepted a public trust to see that they are properly cared for, should give an accounting of its work through publicity, the only medium through which the average person can learn of relief activities.
If the next national convention should see fit to endorse this recommendation of goodwill publicity, it will require extra funds above those now appropriated for the News Service.

1. Each post is urged to appoint a publicity officer to publicize the activities of the post locally and to act as correspondent of the News Service when an event of more than local importance happens about which the national News Service wishes information for national publicity.

2. It is suggested that where departments have publicity officers their names and addresses be forwarded to this office for the purpose of establishing closer liaison to the end that departmental news be given fuller coverage. Where no department publicity officer has been appointed, it is recommended that one be appointed as conveniently as possible.

3. The most difficult task facing the News Service is to cover adequately the thousands of Legion news stories “breaking” annually. Each year the Legion does relief work, important community service, carries out unique activities and does numerous deeds of first class importance not only to the rest of the Legion but to the public as well. It is recommended that where such unusual activity happens, that a full report, accompanied by photographs suitable for newspaper reproduction be forwarded to this office as quickly as possible. Only by full co-operation from posts, departments and individual Legionnaires can the News Service get stories about these activities to the public while the news is yet fresh.

4. It is strongly suggested that departments now without a department news service establish one. The value of a department news service in publicizing the Legion and as a goodwill getter has been amply demonstrated by California, Kansas, Virginia, Oklahoma, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Louisiana, and others. This subject has been discussed under another heading but the importance of such a news service cannot be too strongly stressed.

5. Local post officers are urged personally to see to it that the editors of the local newspapers print Legion news, local news and items from the national clipsheet. This can easily be arranged by the post officers. Call upon the editor and tell him what you want. He wishes to co-operate. If he is not getting the national clipsheet, a postal card to this office will place him on the mailing list. This is a most important activity to give prestige to your post.

6. Each department and post is urged to make increasing use of the publicity information service available in the National News Service office. It has been compiled for no other purpose than to aid departments and posts in publicizing their various campaigns and making them more successful.

7. Publicity—good publicity—is a gainer of goodwill, an indication of an up and doing post. Get post activities mentioned in the press.

News Service Budget

The work of the News Service was carried on during the past year on the following budget. (It may be mentioned that this allowance was increased at the June meeting of the National Finance Committee due to the increased postage act passed by Congress and hence nearly doubling the postage account.)

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<tr>
<td>Pay Roll</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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EMBLEM DIVISION

E. O. Marquette (Indiana), Director

The Emblem Division is the commercial department of national headquarters. It is operated at a profit on a strictly commercial basis with service, however, as its principal object. The responsibility of protecting the use of the American Legion emblem which is both copyrighted and patented is assumed by the Emblem Division. The scope and character of the merchandise offered is governed by the desires of the majority and with but few exceptions each transaction is limited to supplies embodying the Legion emblem.

System of Purchases

All purchases are made under the competitive contract system. Competition is desired and invited in connection with the awarding of contracts. Contracts are let principally on a price basis as concise specifications for each product have been prepared which leaves nothing of importance to the option of the bidder.

Sales Methods

The sales of the Emblem Division are limited to the direct mail type. No salesman, agents or representatives except official jewelers are employed. These official Legion jewelers, appointed only upon the recommendation of local posts operate on a gross profit of twenty per cent. This commission is computed from the retail prices which are established by the Emblem Division and maintained by the official jewelers.

Catalogue

Each year the general emblem catalogue has been improved and enlarged. The present thirty-two page edition which has proven effective, compares favorably with that used by the average high grade mail order house.

Service to Auxiliary and American Legion Fathers

In addition to its regular duties the Emblem Division also serves the American Legion Auxiliary and American Legion Fathers. Neither of these lines is extensive but both are adequate and particularly adapted to the respective organizations.

Itemized Sales

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<td>Aug. 15, 1924 to Sept. 5, 1925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total sales</td>
<td>$270,882.37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total gross profit</td>
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<td>Total net profit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of orders received</td>
<td>23,593</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of pieces sold</td>
<td>4,580,549</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of pieces of correspondence handled</td>
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Sales by item:

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aug. 15, 1924 to Sept. 5, 1925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buttons</td>
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<td>Ceremonial badges</td>
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<td>Card cases</td>
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<td>Administration forms (sets)</td>
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<td>Administration forms (parts)</td>
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<td>Athletic emblems</td>
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### FILM SERVICE

**Henry J. Prue (Massachusetts), Director**

The popularity of the film show as a profitable and interesting post activity is evidenced by the fact that during the current year, 2,060 posts have been served with films by this division.

The activities of the Film Service have been carried on with a reduced personnel consisting of a director and one assistant.

The gross receipts for the year were $38,162.71.

Under a policy prohibiting the expenditure of money for new films and allowance for only actual operating expenses, the Film Service, during the current year, has not only been a self-sustaining division, but has succeeded in a partial liquidation of the liabilities incurred through the abrupt withdrawal from distribution of the film known as "THE WHIPPING BOSS" in the latter part of 1924.

Two films have been added to the Film Service library during the year—"THE LOST BATTALION" and "YOU CAN'T STAND THERE", both being distributed on a percentage basis.

"THE LOST BATTALION" has been distributed to posts in cities under forty-five thousand population, through an arrangement with the owner, allowing the Film Service a percentage of each rental. Eight hundred and thirty-one posts have used this film during the year.

"YOU CAN'T STAND THERE" is an official film, glorifying the American doughboy, and produced from film of the United States Signal Corps. The owners have turned this subject over to the Film Service on a liberal distribu-

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<th>Item</th>
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<th>Previous Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>Banners</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>531</td>
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<td>Grave markers</td>
<td>5,845</td>
<td>5,280</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caps</td>
<td>41,680</td>
<td>32,678</td>
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<tr>
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<td>690</td>
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<tr>
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<td>144</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seal presses</td>
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<td>Legion transfers</td>
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<td>Cuts</td>
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<td>269</td>
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<td>Auxiliary pins</td>
<td>32,075</td>
<td>24,894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auxiliary badges</td>
<td>2,227</td>
<td>1,466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auxiliary banners</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auxiliary lamps</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auxiliary jewelry</td>
<td>1,194</td>
<td>769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auxiliary gavels</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School award medals</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Legion Fathers' regalia</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constitution and By-laws</td>
<td>12,416</td>
<td>8,859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preambles (printed)</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small silk flags</td>
<td>6,625</td>
<td>4,902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publicity forms</td>
<td>98,081</td>
<td>62,749</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous (flag pamphlets, etc.)</td>
<td>4,237,747</td>
<td>3,920,100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
tion arrangement, which should enable the division to realize a handsome profit during the ensuing year.

The Film Service has endeavored to acquire new productions, but no producer has been found willing to enter into a distribution contract without involving financial commitments on the part of the Legion.

A film history of the World war, which has been in process of making since the close of the war, has been completed and negotiations contemplating the distribution of this subject through the Film Service are now being carried on.

The Film Service has co-operated with the Motion Picture Distributors and Producers of America, Inc., in a campaign for better films, and has frequently been consulted by producers of motion pictures dealing with citizenship and various phases of the war.

Future of the Division

The new year is approached with confidence that it will be one of the most successful in the history of the division. With one new subject already added to the list of films now in distribution, and excellent prospects of obtaining at least two more, it is anticipated that gross business for the ensuing year will more than double that of the year closing.

CHILDREN’S WELFARE DIVISION

John W. Gorby (Illinois), Director

In January, 1925, the Children’s Welfare Division of The American Legion was established at national headquarters under authority granted by the Sixth Annual Convention. The Children’s Welfare Division is the actively functioning agency of the National Children’s Welfare Committee, and through it, under the direction of the National Children’s Welfare Committee, the national program is being carried out.

With its establishment, a temporary secretary was appointed and took up his duties at national headquarters, setting up an office organization in preparation for the many demands of the work.

The results of the surveys, conducted under the direction of Mr. George Withers of Kansas, during his period of service as chairman of the National Children’s Welfare Committee, were transferred to national headquarters immediately following the establishment of the division, and are incorporated in the permanent files of the division. The results of these surveys are the very basis of the entire child welfare program of the Legion and have proved invaluable, particularly that portion which included the compilation of state laws covering child care, mothers’ aid, and interstate placement of children.

Functions as Clearing House

The Children’s Welfare Division at national headquarters is the clearing house for all the state departments in carrying out the Legion’s child welfare program.

Permanent files for records have been established; complete histories of all children referred to our care are kept; foster parents’ histories with supervisory reports on children placed in homes are recorded; results of the survey of minor veterans’ bureau wards, and complete records of all dependent children of veterans of the late war are being compiled.

A technical and law library is being built up covering particularly interstate placement of children; United States Veterans’ Bureau regulations, and the best current literature on child welfare. The able assistance of Miss Grace Abbott of the Children’s Bureau, Department of Labor, has been materially helpful and we owe her sincere thanks.

Blank forms for use in the field in reporting children for billet care,
investigating and supervising foster homes and for all other field work, have been carefully prepared and are in use. The educational value derived from the use of these forms is great. The results of their use and the intelligent and thorough manner in which the field personnel (the local Legion chairmen) are filling them out for our records are gratifying.

In compliance with the request of the national commander a letter was sent out January 6, 1925, to all department commanders asking for the appointment of local child welfare chairmen by every post in the Legion. Similar action was taken by the Auxiliary. Seven hundred and fifteen Legion and 665 Auxiliary chairmen were functioning on August 15.

American Legion Auxiliary Cottage, Otter Lake

On February 7, 1925, the American Legion Auxiliary cottage, third unit of the Otter Lake Billet, was dedicated by the national president of the Auxiliary. This structure was built and completely furnished from funds subscribed by Auxiliary members—ten cents per member—and is being maintained by a five hundred dollar monthly subscription from the same source. This is but one more example of the generous spirit and loyal support the Legion’s child welfare program is receiving from the Auxiliary.

Clarksboro Billet

Acceptance and dedication: The need of a billet in the east to give temporary care to the dependent children of our disabled or departed comrades was met by the Department of New Jersey in the form of a lease of a billet at Clarksboro, New Jersey. This billet, number three, has a maximum capacity of twenty-one children. This gift was formally accepted by the National Children’s Welfare Committee, April 17, and has been in operation since that day. The Legionnaires and Auxiliary members of Camden, Burlington, Gloucester and Salem counties made this gift possible. An incorporated billet board was set up which has efficiently managed the operations of this billet.

The Kansas Billet

On April 26, 1925, the first shovel of dirt was turned over, and construction begun on a billet at Independence, Kansas. (This is to be known as the Legionville billet.) The cornerstone of the first unit was laid June 9. Good progress has been made on construction and the cottage will soon be in operation and is to be dedicated September 9, 1925. This billet is the materialized dream of Dan Dabney, who made it possible in memory of his two Legionnaire sons.

National Field Secretary

The personnel of the Children’s Welfare Division was reinforced on May 1 by the addition to the staff of Miss Emma C. Puschner as national field secretary, formerly executive secretary of the St. Louis children’s board of guardians. Miss Puschner has a background of fourteen years experience in child welfare work and a knowledge of the Legion organization gained in her association as an active member of the Auxiliary.

National Children’s Welfare Committee Meeting

The National Children’s Welfare Committee met on May 21, 1925, in conjunction with the advisory committee of the Auxiliary and the Forty and Eight.

In its direction of thought and action in carrying out the national program this meeting has been the greatest influence brought to bear from within the organization during the past year.
Otter Lake Billet

Dedication of cottage number four and the laying of the cornerstone of the hospital administration unit took place May 31. The national commander officiated. Cottage number four was constructed and furnished by subscriptions from Legion Auxiliary and Forty and Eight members of Michigan. Funds for the construction of the hospital administration building were provided by an act of the Michigan legislature. The state of Michigan has been very generous in meeting the needs for completion of the Otter Lake project.

National Conference of Social Workers

In line with the policy of co-operation with existing child welfare agencies the national field secretary represented the Legion in attendance at the National Conference of Social Workers held in Denver, Colorado, early in June. As a result, promises of co-operation from recognized child welfare authorities were forthcoming and have been fulfilled.

Beginning of Organization By States

The first Legion state children's welfare organization to be set up in this way was in New Hampshire. The results have been gratifying and establish the need of careful study of local conditions before the formation of a successful organization. In as rapid succession as possible will follow Iowa and Kansas for the middle west; Colorado for the mountain states; Oregon for the west coast and Tennessee and Florida for the southern states. The remainder of the country will be organized section by section until every state is fully organized to carry forward the Legion's child welfare program.

Co-operation With Other Agencies

Co-operation with the veterans' bureau is being thoroughly developed. The records in the guardianship service of the bureau on minor wards and dependent children have been made available to the Children's Welfare Division and form the basis for an intensive nation-wide survey of the conditions surrounding the present care of veterans' bureau minor wards and works in admirably with the Legion's plan of survey of all dependent children of veterans. Veterans' bureau officials have given the utmost assistance.

Through the courtesy of State Child Caring Departments effective working agreements have been arranged in Michigan and New Jersey. Conferences have been held with heads of corresponding departments in several other states looking toward similar agreements.

Acknowledgments

No report of the activities of the National Children's Welfare Committee could be considered complete without an expression of the deep appreciation the committee feels for the splendid assistance given during the year by the American Legion Auxiliary and the Forty and Eight. Both financially and in the volunteer service of national officers and the Auxiliary members and Voyageurs in the field, the help given by these organizations cannot be adequately estimated. It has been great and the committee takes this time to extend its thanks to the national officers and through them to the thousands of members who have given so generously to the national Legion program of children's welfare.

The Children's Welfare Division also wishes to acknowledge with gratitude the invaluable assistance rendered during the last several months by the Child Welfare League of America. Its executive officers have been uniformly courteous and helpful toward all our representatives.

In final conclusion, the Children's Welfare Division and the National Chil-
The National Adjutant's Welfare Committee wish to thank all those within and without the Legion who have given so generously in words and deeds in these first few months of the Legion's effort to establish an organization of nation-wide proportions to adequately care for the homeless orphans of our departed comrades.

The start has just been made. The results obtained assure beyond question that the Legion's promise, "A home for every homeless orphan of a veteran," will be kept.

National Adjutant.
Report of the National Judge Advocate

The functions of the national judge advocate of The American Legion are those of a general counsel for any corporation and, for the most part, the duties performed by the national judge advocate of The American Legion involve in greater or less extent legal questions arising within the organization upon which professional advice is needed. By reason of the familiarity of the national judge advocate with the affairs of the Legion in many instances inquiries are submitted to his office which do not directly involve consideration of strictly legal matters.

The reports for each year submitted by this office are strikingly similar in the subject matter dealt with. For that reason it is deemed unnecessary this year to report with any specific expressions the various activities submitted to and handled by the national judge advocate. A brief statement is sufficient to mention that the largest number of inquiries continue to deal with the general subject of eligibility. A group second in importance deals with misuse of the name and emblem of The American Legion. Next in order would come interpretation of the national constitution and then matters of administrative detail, office and department co-ordination, taxation, incorporation, investigation of requests for influence on behalf of persons convicted of crime and occasional questions. Each of the topics mentioned above has arisen frequently from the earliest days of The American Legion, and with practically the same relative order of importance.

As department organizations increase their files dealing with such subjects mentioned, the necessity of appeal to the national organization for advice has very greatly diminished, but there continue to come questions from individuals and posts which can easily be answered by the department and in many cases more satisfactorily through the department by reason of a knowledge of local conditions which might change opinions.

Endowment Fund Duties

The activities of The American Legion in establishing the American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation and in raising the fund administered by that corporation have had considerable legal connection which has been handled by the office of the national judge advocate, involving the preparation of a deed of trust between The American Legion and the American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation, the establishment of that corporation, the preparation of pledge cards and much detail work in connection with local campaigns concerning the connection of the national organization with local campaigns.

Legion Connection With Persons Convicted of Crime

It appears desirable to restate the attitude of the national organization as operating through the office of the national judge advocate on two points. First, requests for the influence of the national organization of The American Legion on behalf of ex-service men convicted of crime, and secondly, the relationship between the national organization and departments on questions submitted to this office for attention. Frequently individuals, in some instances members of the Legion and in many instances merely ex-service persons, write to the national commander of The American Legion asking that he use his influence to secure their release from punishment imposed by civil or military courts. In every case the policy is followed of advising the applicant that his request will be transmitted to the proper authorities duly constituted to pass upon commutation, pardon, parole and the like, but without recommendation from the national organization of the Legion by reason of the fact...
that we have no means of determining the accuracy of statements made in such requests, and experience shows that the most favorable view is generally that taken in those communications.

**Return of Inquiries to Departments**

The second point mentioned, dealing with the relationship between the national organization and departments on inquiries submitted to these headquarters, should be restated in order that all departments may fully understand why inquiries from individuals or posts within their department are returned to the department headquarters rather than handled directly from the national headquarters. It appears that in many instances inquiries are forwarded to the national headquarters following a consideration of the same questions by the department where the opinion of the department officials has not given the satisfaction desired, and the hope exists that by a statement transmitted to the national organization a different ruling may be made. In order that that may be avoided and, furthermore, that departments may be kept advised of questions arising within their department, it is a policy followed with few exceptions to forward such inquiries to the department organization with any suggestions that seem beneficial and have the matter handled there. It is the opinion of the national judge advocate that the department is strengthened by a touch with posts and individuals acquired through inquiries received, and, further, that embarrassment is saved the department organization if questions upon which controversy might arise are handled locally. However, in taking such action there is no desire to shirk responsibility or be relieved of any duty properly belonging to this office and the services of this office are most fully available to any department.

**Recommendations**

It is recommended that departments and posts can best operate when incorporated under local laws, and it is recommended that posts, if carrying on any extensive business operations, likewise be incorporated as a matter of local protection and business efficiency.

It is recommended that in any business activity of a post or department the participants be thoroughly advised of the fact that the responsibility is that of the contracting party and not of the national organization of The American Legion.

It is recommended that the most careful attention be given to efficiency and accuracy in all business undertakings that there may be no basis of criticism against any unit of The American Legion, national or subordinate, for unbusinesslike and unethical action.

In conclusion, the national judge advocate desires to express his sincere appreciation of the kindness received and the co-operation always shown by the field in the activities of his office.

[Signature]

National Judge Advocate.
Report of the National Historian

If monuments were set up showing progress of the Legion toward its objectives, these would be many. Not the least in interest would be that marking the generous gift by city, county and state of our noble memorial building in Indianapolis, dedicated June 17, 1925, in which national headquarters are now ideally housed.

In this fireproof building ample provision has been made for the care of the Legion archives.

Our constantly increasing collection of documents and papers of permanent value has required and will require from year to year constant watching of our files, lest from a desire to discard what has no longer current value, papers illustrative of the history of the Legion be discarded. As years pass it becomes more and more important that we have the material upon which to draw from for first hand information. Future historians of our country will need to know to what extent the American Legion influenced the national policies of the country; in what affairs its members deemed they had the right to intervene in an advisory capacity; and in what matters the organization refused to take any official position and the reasons therefor.

Students of our institutions will need the record of what the Legion did in nation and state to learn how our organization of ex-service men, typical representatives of the young manhood of the nation, reacted toward the conditions following the war.

If our story is not to be learned from more or less unfriendly sources it must be preserved in the files of correspondence and in the records of action, which can only be found in the archives of National and Department Headquarters.

Participants in events have at the time little or no perspective. They struggle along as best they can; either to accomplishment or failure. Years later the results are seen in their proper relation, events in a series, and one is able to learn of what importance the events really were. We now realize that but for the Legion's activities there might have been serious social disturbances in 1919 and the years immediately following, and that our policy and services at that time were of tremendous value in stabilizing conditions; but also that at that time there was nothing like the widespread dissatisfaction, notwithstanding the activities of a small group of communists, mostly alien or but lately naturalized, which led many persons to dread a revolutionary trend. Moreover, we have seen such a world-wide change for the better that at the present time neither we Legionnaires, nor our fellow citizens generally, appreciate or are able to measure forces of unrest which exist and are but waiting for some incident to be moulded into a movement of importance, the outcome of which it is impossible to predict.

Our successful efforts for the disabled, for the dependents of ex-service men, for justice to the ex-service men themselves, have passed into history, and yet the Legion is still making history in each of those activities. They have become a part of our daily life, and we no longer need to be urged to unusual endeavor in behalf of those particular policies. The establishment of a fund, raised through the enthusiastic cooperation of the Legion and its friends, to enable our most important objective to be placed upon a permanent basis, was a fitting culmination of the first stage of our work for the disabled and their dependents.

From the very beginning of our organization various posts and departments made provision for the appointment of officers who were styled "historians." The desire that there should be someone to collect, to preserve, and to record all items of importance in the life of the organization was
spontaneous and not due to direction from national headquarters. Not until the Cleveland convention in 1920 was the national constitution amended to permit the election of a National Historian of The American Legion. The office was created that the efforts of post and department historians might be coordinated, and in answer to requests for guidance and information received at national headquarters which had led to the provisional appointment of the present incumbent of the office.

As might be supposed from the widespread interest so early manifested, and which our correspondence files show has been maintained, there is now a large collection of material telling of the activities of the Legion in the departments. However, fluctuations in membership, changes in office, as well as other causes, as for instance loss of the early files and records, has led in many departments to a meagre performance of the earlier promise.

In July of this year a questionnaire was sent to the historian and adjutant in each department asking for definite information regarding the results attained by department and post historians, with special emphasis upon the questions,—what post and department histories had been compiled or initiated; what progress had been made toward the preservation of data; and to what extent the recommendations of the national historian had been followed or had proved helpful.

It was hoped that a summary of the replies could be incorporated in this report, but as returns are lacking from nearly half the departments, some of which are known to have made very satisfactory progress along these lines, and as in many instances the actual record of accomplishment is more favorable than reported, it has been necessary to omit the details.*

The presence in our headquarters files of compilations and reports more or less extensive, relating to the history of both departments and posts, not mentioned in the returns noted above, demonstrates the importance of the duties of a national officer who has the facilities, meagre as they have been, to seek information and to maintain a proper filing system.

It is satisfactory to note that the departments reporting, with two or three exceptions, show not only activity and progress but express appreciation of the advice and aid extended by the office of the national historian. Several have published, in one form or another, department histories or have material in hand and are looking forward to early publication. Many posts are reported as having histories in printed or manuscript form.

Post and in some instances department histories have from time to time been published in convention programs and in Legion periodicals. These periodicals should be cited. This leads to the suggestion that few of our Legion periodicals are attaining that degree of excellence that the reason for their existence calls for. It would seem that activity on the part of editors, a little stirring up of the dormant energies of post historians or persons interested in the history of the post, would result in a sufficient supply of material to enable at least one post history to appear in every issue of a department periodical. Where a paper is published by a post or county council the question naturally arises, "If your post or group of posts have no incentive toward presenting to its members and your readers a yearly chronicle or general write-up of activities over a certain period, whose fault is it?"

In each edition of the post handbook published by national headquarters there have appeared brief outlines of methods which could be followed by post historians, and like information has been printed in the American Legion Weekly. Notwithstanding these printed instructions letters are constantly received, and are very welcome, seeking information how to gather facts, how to arrange them, and how to compile a post history.

There is no question that the post handbooks fail to reach many if not

* Reports received to date will be in possession of the national historian at the Omaha convention and will be considered at the Fourth Annual Conference of Department and Post Historians at Omaha.
most of the persons who are interested in this subject. Post adjutants are advised to notify post historians of the contents of the handbook and to call their attention to the directions therein.

In former annual reports the national historian has outlined to some extent his duties during the year, and has emphasized the opportunities open to department and post historians. Reference is here made to those reports. At the yearly meeting of department adjutants he has opened the discussion on the work of the department and post historians, and on every such occasion there has been shown a marked interest on the part of those present. It is evident, however, from results obtained that other and more pressing duties of the adjutant have usually prevented any general follow-up in the department, among the posts, of the suggestions made and discussed at those meetings.

During the incumbency of your present national historian he has been able to supervise the arrangement of our files, initiate historical files into which papers of permanent interest but no longer current are placed, to collect from individuals statements regarding the inception of the Legion in localities, to obtain biographical information regarding those who have held important office in the Legion, and in general to establish a system which can be maintained. There have been many discouragements, but these have been overcome. Nothing but a deliberate reversal of the present policy can lead to the abandonment of a system which, as now installed, will automatically care for our most important historical materials.

Your national historian has promulgated instructions to department and post officers charged with duties in his particular province and has, it is believed, established on a sound footing the policy of the Legion with respect to this important matter.

Your national historian has been called upon for special advice and particular information by hundreds of Legionnaires, and by every commander of the Legion. The activities of the national historian are limited only by the facilities placed at his disposal. It has been a pleasure to have held the office and to know that he has in some small measure contributed toward our objectives.

After so long a service as he has had, with so abundant opportunities to observe the working of our organization, he feels that he is competent to offer certain suggestions which should operate to make the efforts of his successor more productive of results than his have been.

Recommendations

Your national historian believes that all national officers, whether elected by the convention or the executive committee, should be ex-officio members of that committee. He also believes that he and the national chaplain, from the very nature of their office, should be ex-officio members of the Americanism Commission. The field of activity which naturally falls to the post historian so closely dove-tails into the program of the Americanism Commission that there can be no question of the advisability of the closest cooperation.

To carry on successfully the work of the national historian certain office assistance is required; at least one competent person is needed who shall at all times be under the direction of the national historian, and who shall be his representative at headquarters. If the Legion could see the way clear to adopt the suggestions made in former reports with regard to the publication of a serial devoted to the proceedings and history of the Legion, in all its departments, the office of the historian would in the opinion of the national historian be entirely self-supporting.

There is today sufficient material on hand to justify the beginning of a publication, to be issued quarterly, in each issue of which brief summaries of the history of various adjacent departments could be printed and mention made of prominent Legionnaires in those departments. After all the depart-
ments have been covered, prominent or especially active posts could be noticed, and also in this serial would appear brief but official summaries of the doings of department conventions and important conferences. Such a serial, "History and Proceedings of The American Legion, National and Departmental," would provide a long-needed reference work which could at slight cost be placed in the hands of every Legionnaire interested, and even at a low price would be self-supporting.

The finance committee, fearing an unusual demand during the year upon the finances of the Legion, felt obliged to request the national historian not to undertake this year the historical program which had been planned, and so reported in January to the National Executive Committee as follows:

"Careful consideration was given to the recommendation of the national historian that effort should be made immediately to compile the history of the Legion in serial form. Your committee feels that the historian's recommendation is just, but owing to the heavy outline for the ensuing year, it was considered inadvisable to undertake a compilation of such a record at this time."

The time has come when there should be an authentic and comprehensive history of the Legion to date. The history of the Legion is that of the conventions, of activities of national headquarters and committees and of the departments and posts where our members come directly into contact with other members of their communities.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Evan Putnam
Report of the Endowment Executive Committee

James A. Drain, Chairman,                 Frederick D. McCarthy,  
Russell Creviston,                          Emmet O'Neal,          
Robert H. Tyndall,                         Bowman Elder,          
Robert A. Adams,                           James F. Barton,        
Wilder S. Metcalf,                         Richard Seelye Jones, Executive 
John R. McQuigg,                          Secretary,             
Edgar B. Dunlap,                           Watson B. Miller, (Ex-officio),  
Mrs. O. D. Oliphant,                       Mark T. McKee, (Ex-officio). 
George Dobson,                             

The American Legion endowment fund for disabled men and the orphans of veterans was established as a result of two instructions by the Sixth Annual National Convention held at St. Paul, Minnesota, September 15 to 19, 1924. These instructions were a part of two resolutions, as follows:

1. A resolution from the convention finance committee adopted by the convention which concludes:

"Be it resolved, by The American Legion, in convention assembled, That the National Executive Committee be, and it is hereby directed to take the necessary steps to create a trust with some reliable and friendly trust company, trustee, to receive donations from members of The American Legion and other persons interested, such donations to be used to create a trust fund, the income of which shall be used solely in carrying on the national rehabilitation work of The American Legion (and such other similar or allied activities so far as the income from such trust funds will permit after first providing for the rehabilitation work) as the executive committee may from time to time determine."

2. A resolution from the convention child welfare committee adopted by the convention concluding as follows:

"That the National Finance Committee be directed immediately to take steps to secure a permanent endowment fund of sufficient size to permit the above outlined program to be financed with the interest derived from such a permanent endowment."

Finding the National Executive Committee and the National Finance Committee thus instructed to establish and raise two separate endowment funds, the national commander on October 21, 1924, wrote to each member of the National Executive Committee, recommending that a single endowment fund be raised and that it be adequate to care for both purposes and suggesting that the National Executive Committee authorize the commander to proceed with the establishment of such a fund by and with the consent of the National Finance Committee. A ballot was attached to this communication and the members of the National Executive Committee responded by a vote of forty-five favorable and three unfavorable to authorizing this combining of the two instructions of the Sixth Annual National Convention. The national commander called a special meeting of the National Finance Committee on November 15, 1924, to consider procedure under this combined authority.

After careful and detailed consideration of all of the elements involved, the National Finance Committee adopted the following resolution: (Minutes of the special meeting of the National Finance Committee, November 15, 1924, at Indianapolis, Indiana.)
"WHEREAS, The Sixth Annual Convention of The American Legion directed that an endowment fund be established for the purpose of providing for the administration of the national program of rehabilitation and child welfare which are principal motives of The American Legion, and

"WHEREAS, By referendum the National Executive Committee authorized the National Finance Committee to proceed with the organization of the administration of such fund;

"NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the members of the National Finance Committee, after due consideration, do hereby authorize and direct the national commander to proceed with the formation of an executive committee of not less than eleven members, which shall include the national commander, the national adjutant, the national treasurer, the national judge advocate, the members of the National Finance Committee, the national president of the American Legion Auxiliary, and the national chef de chemin de fer of the Forty and Eight, and

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That said executive committee thus established, shall be and hereby is, authorized to formulate and approve an agreement of trust for the preservation and use of said fund, which shall provide, in part, that the earnings from said trust fund shall be used solely to assist in carrying forward the activities of The American Legion in connection with the care of disabled veterans and the welfare of orphans of veterans, and to initiate, organize and direct a campaign for the purpose of raising the sum of $5,000,000, more or less, to be the principal of the fund herein designated; that the sum of $25,000 is by this committee appropriated to serve as a revolving fund for the underwriting of the administration of said endowment fund, and that the executive committee referred to herein shall be and hereby is authorized to make such expenditures incident to and required by said campaign as shall be necessary and in accordance with certain limitations by the finance committee as shall be made from time to time."

Pursuant to this resolution the national commander appointed the Endowment Executive Committee, composed of the following members:

James A. Drain, National Commander, Chairman.
Russell Crevison, National Adjutant, Executive Secretary.
Robert H. Tyndall, National Treasurer.
Robert A. Adams, National Judge Advocate.
Wilder S. Metcalf.
John R. McQuigg.
Edgar B. Dunlap.
Mrs. O. D. Oliphant, President, American Legion Auxiliary.
George Dobson, Chef de Chemin de Fer of the Forty and Eight.
Frederick D. McCarthy.
Emmet O'Neal.
Bowman Elder.
Watson B. Miller, Chairman, National Rehabilitation Committee (ex-officio)
Mark T. McKee, Chairman, National Children's Welfare Committee (ex-officio)

Preliminary negotiations were undertaken by the chairman and executive secretary of this committee towards securing professional assistance in the money-raising campaign and developing an educational campaign and a force of field workers adequate to carry out the undertaking. Proportions of the sum of five million dollars plus estimated cost of the campaign and allowances for possible loss were assigned to each department in the continental United States. A budget of estimated expense of the campaign was prepared and a complete program of proposed operation outlined for the consideration of the Endowment Executive Committee, which was called to meet at In-
Indianapolis on January 11, 1925. These plans were submitted to the National Finance Committee, meeting January 10, 1925, and were then considered by the Endowment Executive Committee at its meeting January 11, 1925. The Endowment Executive Committee at this meeting authorized conclusion of a contract with the General Organization company, 10 North Clark street, Chicago, Illinois, for professional services in planning and supervising the money-raising campaign. A budget of campaign expense as approved by the National Finance Committee was approved by the National Endowment Executive Committee.

A plan of campaign by states beginning with campaigns in the states of Indiana, Illinois and Kentucky, to be followed by campaigns in a group of southern states and finally by campaigns in the remaining states of the union, was approved. A sub-committee was authorized to prepare the terms of the declaration of trust and report direct to the National Executive Committee, meeting January 12, 1925. The National Finance Committee was empowered to select the trustee and depository of the fund. The National Finance Committee was authorized to conclude the terms of the contract with the General Organization company. A complete report of the action of the Endowment Executive Committee was submitted to the National Executive Committee of the Legion at its meeting January 12, 1925, at Indianapolis. The National Executive Committee approved the report of the Endowment Executive Committee and appointed another sub-committee with power to act to complete the drafting of the trust agreement. This sub-committee was composed of National Judge Advocate Robert A. Adams, Emmet O'Neal of Kentucky and Fred D. McCarthy of Minnesota. The national commander was authorized to proceed with the formation of an administrative staff, an educational staff and a field force and to make employment and fix salaries for same, subject to the approval of the National Finance Committee. Quotas assigned to the states were approved.

At the request of several departments of the Legion desiring to conduct local money-raising campaigns in conjunction with the national endowment campaign, the National Executive Committee adopted a resolution permitting the combining of such a local campaign with the national endowment campaign only in cases where the local campaign had been authorized and approved by the department convention or the department executive committee at a date prior to the authorization of a national endowment fund at the sixth national convention at St. Paul. The same resolution provided that where such joint campaigns were authorized, the net share of the national quota should be taken from the first funds collected.

Pursuant to these authorities the necessary field force, administrative staff and educational staff were employed, the planning, supervision and advice of the General Organization company engaged, and the endowment campaigns launched in groups of states. The first state to complete its campaign and raise its quota was Kentucky, which reported the campaign successfully completed on March 7, 1925.

The endowment personnel in all departments was made up of members of The American Legion, the field secretaries being assembled at Indianapolis and given a course of training in money-raising work by the General Organization company and a course of instruction in the organization and operations of The American Legion by officials and department heads at national headquarters. The field force of secretaries reached a maximum of forty-three in the course of the campaign. The educational staff reached a maximum of four members in addition to clerical help and the endowment administrative section at headquarters a maximum of three members in addition to clerical help.

The Endowment Executive Committee met at Indianapolis, March 11, 1925, to consider the progress of the endowment campaign and the matters arising requiring committee attention. The sub-committee on the trust agreement, through Robert A. Adams, its chairman, reported a decision to establish
a separate administration for the American Legion endowment fund. The sub-committee having authority to act and its determination having the approval of the Endowment Executive Committee, proceeded to the organization of the American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation and to the execution of an agreement of trust between The American Legion and the American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation. This procedure established a definite division of authority as to the raising and the administration of the endowment fund, the raising of the fund resting with the authority of the Endowment Executive Committee which was instructed to turn over the net proceeds of the money-raising campaign to the American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation, which became the administering body (See report of the American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation). The National Finance Committee reported that the Fletcher American National bank had been selected as a depository of the endowment fund. Negotiation of an agreement between the endowment fund corporation and the bank, subject to restrictions provided by the National Finance Committee, was authorized. Acceptance of the contract with the General Organization company under certain specifications was authorized by the National Finance Committee. The calling of regional conferences of department officials of the Legion at which details of the endowment campaign should be outlined, was approved and such conferences were held at New York City, Salt Lake City and Kansas City, for department officials in the regions most accessible to those points. The executive secretary and department heads of the endowment campaign reported at length the progress of the campaign. These reports were accepted and found to be generally satisfactory. They included a complete report of the progress of the campaign by states up to that time, and a complete report of expenses of the campaign and of receipts up to and including March 9. At this date the expenses of the campaign amounted to a total of \$48,716.85 and the receipts in the hands of the national treasurer amounted to a total of \$8,312.39.

The next meeting of the Endowment Executive Committee was held June 14, 1925, at Indianapolis, Indiana. The chairman and the executive secretary reported that the campaign was progressing satisfactorily and was at that time at its maximum point of activity in a maximum number of states. Financial reports as of June 10 indicated that there had been received by the national treasurer \$691,201.75, and that reports from the field indicated that there had been raised and was resting in local and state depositories a total of \$1,941,708.10. Reports indicated that fifteen states had raised their complete allotments and over-subscribed same. Expenses of the campaign to May 31 had been \$243,364.77. The committee adopted a resolution recommending to the National Executive Committee that at the next January meeting when the nine members of the endowment fund corporation shall be elected, one of these members be a member of the American Legion Auxiliary. Motion was adopted instructing the national commander to submit a formal report on the status of the campaign in each department to each department convention with a request that each department consider the matter and report action taken toward the completion of its quota. A resolution was adopted recommending that there be no salaried officials of the endowment fund corporation.

The reports received by the Endowment Executive Committee on June 14 were approved by that committee and resolutions adopted by that committee were submitted to the National Executive Committee of the Legion, meeting June 15 and 16 at Indianapolis and approved by the National Executive Committee.

The Endowment Executive Committee met at Indianapolis, Indiana, July 26, 1925, to consider the progress of the money-raising campaign and to make plans for what should be its future and final period of activity. Due to the resignation of Russell Creviston as national adjutant and as executive secretary of the Endowment Executive Committee, National Adjutant James F. Barton became an additional member of the Endowment Executive Committee.
and Richard Seelye Jones, who had been educational director of the endowment campaign, was appointed a member of the Endowment Executive Committee and elected to succeed Mr. Creviston as executive secretary of the committee on August 1, 1925.

Motion was adopted authorizing the national commander to recommend to the Seventh National Convention at Omaha the appointment of a convention committee on the endowment campaign, if in the opinion of the national commander such action was necessary.

Motion was adopted increasing the endowment campaign budget from $448,500 to $518,500. Complete reports on the progress of the campaign by states, receipts and disbursements were submitted by the executive secretary and department heads. These reports showed collections in the hands of the national treasurer on July 23 of $1,733,757.57, and reports from posts and departments indicated that probably $2,000,000.00 in addition had been secured and was in the hands of local and state depositories. The expenses of the campaign to July 23 had been $366,736.89. The original estimates for administrative and field expenses had been exceeded by approximately $8,000.00 as of July 23 and the expenditures for educational expense had been approximately $90,000.00 less than the original estimates. The committee authorized a transfer to administrative and field expense of savings effected under the educational budget and authorized the necessary increase of the budget to cover anticipated expenses up to and including September 30, 1925.

The committee instructed the chairman and executive secretary to take all possible steps to complete the endowment-raising campaign by September 30, 1925.

Committee voted to hold a meeting at Omaha, Nebraska, just prior to the Seventh Annual National Convention at which time it should determine whether the campaign had been substantially completed or whether a continuation of the money-raising effort should be recommended, following the Seventh Annual National Convention.

Summary and Recommendations

The raising of the American Legion endowment fund for disabled men and the orphans of veterans has been one of the most extensive and successful endeavors ever undertaken by The American Legion. The endowment-raising campaign has been a joint effort of The American Legion and the American public which has extended into practically every community in the United States and has attracted the attention of a majority of the people of the United States and the co-operation and contributions of many hundreds of thousands of people.

It is impossible in this report to enumerate the persons to whom the Legion is indebted for co-operation and assistance in this great effort. The endowment has been sponsored by a national honorary committee of which the president of the United States, Mr. Coolidge, accepted the chairmanship, and on which more than sixty leading men and women of all walks of American life accepted membership. The campaign in each state has been carried forward by state committees and in each community by local committees on which leading men and women, both in and out of The American Legion, have performed magnificent service. It is impossible to estimate the volume of good-will that has been established or of understanding that has been developed in the public mind concerning the specific purposes of The American Legion in its rehabilitation and child welfare work and its general purpose of service to community, state and nation in time of peace as its members rendered service to the nation in time of war.

The money-raising campaign, whether or not it is entirely complete at the time of the Seventh Annual National Convention, will have been completed in a majority of states, excepting as to such communities as may have delayed their share in the effort and may at a later date determine to complete their part of the endowment fund. The American Legion stands com-
mitted to the American people to a very large responsibility in the conduct of its rehabilitation and child welfare service through the financial support of the endowment income which is a contribution of the whole American people.

It is recommended that the records of the endowment fund campaign, national, state and local, be carefully preserved and that The American Legion, through all of its branches, maintain its friendly contact with those citizens who have contributed to this fund and that they be at all times in the future given to understand that The American Legion regards them jointly with itself as trustees of its high purpose for the care and cure of the disabled veterans of the World war and for the care and up-bringing of the orphan children of those who fell.

This committee, unable to mention by name the thousands of those who have co-operated in and made possible the raising of this fund, expresses its thanks to each and every one who has contributed to the fund and served in helping toward its establishment.

ENDOWMENT CORPORATION

The Sixth Annual National Convention of The American Legion held in St. Paul, Minnesota, directed the National Executive Committee and the National Finance Committee to proceed with the raising of endowment funds for rehabilitation and child welfare, respectively.

In conformity with that direction, having given careful consideration to both mandates, the national commander sent a confidential memorandum to members of the National Executive Committee requesting that the committee approve or disapprove the commander's suggestion to consolidate the two efforts and authorize him to proceed by and with the consent of the National Finance Committee. Both requests having been voted upon favorably by the National Executive Committee, the National Finance Committee authorized and directed the national commander to proceed with the formation of an executive committee of not less than eleven members who were empowered to formulate and approve an agreement of trust for the preservation and use of said fund.

This committee, known as the Endowment Campaign Executive Committee, by motion passed, placed in the hands of three members thereof as a sub-committee certain questions and directed that sub-committee to report directly to the National Executive Committee. The national judge advocate of The American Legion was chairman of this sub-committee, and, in conformity with the foregoing action, organized a corporation under the laws of Delaware, known as the American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation, of which the original incorporators were Thomas W. Miller, J. Danforth Bush and J. Alexander Crothers.

The articles were filed on March 18, 1925, and on March 20 the original incorporators' meeting adopted by-laws which had been prepared, and elected as members and directors for the first year, and pending the annual meeting to be held in January, 1926, the following persons: James A. Drain, Russell Creviston, Wilder S. Metcalf, John R. McQuigg, Edgar B. Dunlap, J. G. Scrugham, Royal A. Stone, Charles H. Cole and Alexander Fitz-Hugh.

At that meeting, they also passed a resolution calling for a meeting of the board of directors in Indianapolis on March 30, 1925. At a meeting held on that date, the following officers of the corporation were elected:

James A. Drain, President.
John R. McQuigg, Vice-President.
Robert A. Adams, Secretary.
John H. Hilkene, Treasurer.

An executive committee was elected and offices established in Indianapolis; a declaration of trust entered into with The American Legion, a depository
selected, and a contract approved between the Fletcher American National bank as depository and the American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation as trustee of the funds.

On May 28, the first funds from the endowment drive conducted by The American Legion were transferred to the American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation. Since that date and up to the time of this report the inflow of funds has been steady and constant. At the present date, September 1, 1925, there is invested in securities for the American Legion endowment fund the sum of $2,067,248.27.

The expenses incurred in the organization of the corporation and the setting up of an office with necessary equipment are, to September 1, 1925, $277.43. This amount will be deducted from the earnings of investments and the balance on hand will be paid to The American Legion in accordance with the terms of the indenture of trust.

Accompanying this report is a statement of the accounts of this corporation certified to by the auditors and submitted as a part of this report.
Mr. J. H. Hilkene, Treasurer,  
American Legion Endowment Corporation,  
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with your instructions, I have audited the books of account and record of the American Legion Endowment Corporation, Indianapolis, Indiana, beginning with the opening entries in July, 1925, and continuing through August 31, 1925, and submit herewith my report with the following exhibits and schedule:

Exhibit A—Balance Sheet  
Exhibit B—Surplus Analysis  
Exhibit C—Operating Statement  
Schedule No. 1—Security Record (omitted from printed report)

I checked all of the transactions between the national headquarters of The American Legion and the Endowment Corporation as well as all the entries in the books of original entry and the general ledger.

I examined all of the securities owned by the corporation, as shown on Schedule No. 1 herewith, and found them to be in agreement with the book records.

In accordance with my suggestion to you during the course of my audit I am showing on the balance sheet herewith the securities at par with the premium and accrued interest paid at time of purchase in separate accounts. The premium account will be amortized as an expense over the life of the bonds and the accrued interest paid will be credited when the first coupons, after purchase, become due.

I am showing below the reconciliation between the American Legion Endowment Corporation account of the national headquarters at September 5, 1925, and the Endowment Corporation’s capital account at August 31, 1925:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cash transferred to Endowment Corporation up to Sept. 5, 1925</th>
<th>$2,302,711.97</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounted for as follows:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Securities at par —— $1,948,950.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premium paid ———— 99,831.27</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest paid ———— 19,467.00 $2,067,248.27</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Funds reinvested — 5,907.79</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plus: Funds for reinvestment in bank —— $62.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes receivable held — 13,350.00 $13,412.50 $2,074,762.98</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash advanced between Aug. 31, 1925, and Sept. 5, 1925——— $227,958.99</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This amount is represented by two checks, one of $225,000.00 and one of $2,958.99, as shown on the books of the national headquarters.

I trust my report will give you the desired information.

Respectfully submitted,

(s) GEO. S. OLIVE, C. P. A.,  
Member American Institute of Accountants.
### EXHIBIT A

**BALANCE SHEET**

**August 31, 1925**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>ASSETS</strong></th>
<th><strong>LIABILITIES</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Securities—Sch. No. 1</td>
<td>$1,948,950.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bond premium—unamortized</td>
<td>$98,696.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued interest paid</td>
<td>13,630.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued interest receivable—Sch. No. 1</td>
<td>$24,489.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bills receivable</td>
<td>13,350.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash in bank</td>
<td>819.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong>—national headquarters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$2,099,998.74</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>277.43</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LIABILITIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Represented by</strong></th>
<th><strong>$2,099,721.31</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capital account—advances from national headquarters</td>
<td>$2,074,752.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus</td>
<td>24,968.33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I hereby certify that I have audited the books of account and record of the AMERICAN LEGION ENDOWMENT CORPORATION, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, and have prepared the above balance sheet as representing the financial condition of the corporation at August 31, 1925.

(s) GEO. S. OLIVE, C. P. A.,
Member American Institute of Accountants.

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### EXHIBIT B

**SURPLUS ANALYSIS**

**August 31, 1925**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Credit to account</strong></th>
<th><strong>Balance to credit of account August 31, 1925—Exhibit A</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Earnings to August 31, 1925—Exhibit C</td>
<td>$24,968.33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**EXHIBIT C**

**OPERATING STATEMENT**

**August 31, 1925**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Earnings</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interest—On securities</td>
<td>$891.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest—Accrued at August 31, 1925</td>
<td>24,489.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$25,380.42</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corporation Trust company</td>
<td>$201.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seal</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telegrams</td>
<td>10.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery and printing</td>
<td>22.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checks</td>
<td>37.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubber stamps</td>
<td>2.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amortization of bond premiums</td>
<td>134.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>412.09</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Profit for Period to Surplus**

**$24,968.33**

**Note by Treasurer**

In the foregoing report of the auditor’s (Exhibit A) the item of $24,489.05 is shown as interest accrued to August 31. This is represented by interest coupons on securities, said coupons falling due at dates between September 1 and December 15, 1925.

John H. Hilker
Treasurer.
The Legion Publishing Corporation

PRESIDENT
James A. Drain, D. C.

VICE-PRESIDENT
John D. Ewing, La.

SECRETARY
Russell G. Creviston, Ind.

TREASURER
Robert H. Tyndall, Ind.

DIRECTORS
To Serve Until February, 1926
Alvin Owsley, Tex.
Lemuel Bolles, Wash.

To Serve Until February, 1927
George J. Hatfield, Cal.
H. Nelson Jackson, Vt.
Russell G. Creviston, Ind.

To Serve Until February, 1928
George L. Berry, Tenn.
Ludwig I. Roe, Minn.
W. R. Matheny, Ill.

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.

Regular meetings of the board of directors are held throughout the year.

A Liaison Committee of five, composed of members of the National Executive Committee and the Board of Directors serves to connect and correlate the interests of the Legion Publishing Corporation and The American 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:

Alvin Owsley, Texas.
John R. Quinn, California.
George J. Hatfield, California.
Bowman Elder, Indiana.
Eminet O'Neal, Kentucky.

The three members of the National Finance Committee attend all meetings of the Board of Directors of the Legion Publishing Corporation.

Robert F. Smith, as General Manager, is in charge of the general supervision of The American Legion Weekly.
Certified report of George S. Olive, certified public accountant, Indianapolis, Indiana, dated September 11, 1925, and including balance sheet as of August 31, 1925, and statement of income and expense for the eight months ending August 31, 1925, follows, as does the report of the general manager.

President, The Legion Publishing Corporation.

Attest:

Russell G. Creviston

Secretary, The Legion Publishing Corporation.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Legion Publishing Corporation,
Indianapolis, Indiana.
Gentlemen:

As per instructions I have audited the books of account of

THE LEGION PUBLISHING CORPORATION,
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

for the eight months ended August 31, 1925, and wish to submit herewith my report consisting of the following exhibits:

Folio 1 Exhibit A—Balance sheet.
Folio 2 Exhibit B—Surplus analysis.
Folio 3 Exhibit C—Statement of income and expenses.
Folio 4 Exhibit D—Reconciliation of national headquarters account.

SCOPE OF SERVICE

My audit embraced the verification of the assets and liabilities of the corporation as of August 31, 1925, and an examination of the accounts relating to the operations during the period under review.

The account of the national headquarters was reconciled as of September 5, 1925.

GEO. S. OLIVE, C. P. A.,
Member American Institute of Accountants.
THE LEGION PUBLISHING CORPORATION
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

CONDENSED BALANCE SHEET
August 31, 1925

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fixed Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and fixtures</td>
<td>13,002.23</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machinery and equipment</td>
<td>26,886.72</td>
<td>39,888.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Less: Reserve for depreciation</strong></td>
<td>8,711.58</td>
<td>31,177.37</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deferred Charges</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>1,195.49</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improvements to leasehold</td>
<td>1,498.72</td>
<td>2,694.21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories—materials and supplies</td>
<td>35,170.44</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes and accounts receivable</td>
<td>19,080.52</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Less: Reserves for losses and discounts</strong></td>
<td>4,840.11</td>
<td>14,240.41</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due from national headquarters</td>
<td>82,527.44</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash on hand and in bank</td>
<td>2,000.00</td>
<td>6,513.75</td>
<td>138,452.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>172,323.62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>10,044.83</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due national headquarters</td>
<td>819.46</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued compensation insurance</td>
<td>28.50</td>
<td>10,892.79</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deferred Credits</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unearned membership subscriptions</td>
<td>144,491.02</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unearned non-member subscriptions</td>
<td>1,880.20</td>
<td>146,371.22</td>
<td>157,264.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets—Represented as follows</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital stock outstanding</td>
<td>50,000.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deduct: Operating deficit per exhibit B</td>
<td>34,040.39</td>
<td>15,059.61</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I hereby certify that I have audited the books of account of

THE LEGION PUBLISHING CORPORATION
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

for the eight months ended August 31, 1925, and have prepared the above condensed balance sheet as representing the financial condition of the corporation at the close of the period under review.

GEO. S. OLIVE, C. P. A.,
Member American Institute of Accountants.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surplus balance, Dec. 31, 1924, per audit report</td>
<td>24,164.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deduct: Adjustments made in 1925</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased traveling expenses</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Decreased telephone charges</td>
<td>14.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus balance, Dec. 31, 1924, after adjustment</td>
<td>24,129.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deduct: Operating loss for eight months ended August 31, 1925, per exhibit C</td>
<td>59,069.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deficit balance, August 31, 1925</td>
<td>34,940.39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## THE LEGION PUBLISHING CORPORATION
### INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

**STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSE**

Eight Months Ended August 31, 1925

### Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</table>

### Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
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**Net operating loss**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Deduct:** Other income

Interest and discount earned | 225.60
Collected on old accounts received | 167.19

**Refund on old cut, arts, etc.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Net loss eight months ended August 31, 1925**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
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</tbody>
</table>
EXHIBIT D

THE LEGION PUBLISHING CORPORATION
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

RECONCILIATION OF
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS ACCOUNT

September 5, 1925

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance due from national headquarters</td>
<td>82,527.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 31, 1925, per exhibit A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Current charges carried in account payable—per exhibit A</td>
<td>819.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deduct: Charges by national headquarters Aug. 31, 1925, to Sept. 5, 1925</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash advanced</td>
<td>25,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current expenses</td>
<td>11.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional service</td>
<td>591.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25,602.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>56,105.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add: Credits by national headquarters Aug. 31, 1925, to Sept. 5, 1925</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8779 names 1925 @ 75c</td>
<td>6,584.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 names 1924 @ 75c</td>
<td>12.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash paid for expenses</td>
<td>.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6,597.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deduct: Difference in names billed and credits for collections</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1925 names billed</td>
<td>593,097</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1925 credits for collections</td>
<td>592,379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difference @ 75c each</td>
<td>718</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>538.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1924 names billed</td>
<td>644,199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1924 credits for collections</td>
<td>641,537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difference @ 75c each</td>
<td>2,682</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,996.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1923 Balance due</td>
<td>3,798.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6,333.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance Sept. 5, 1925, per national headquarters statement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>56,369.33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

This report is intended to embody a brief statement of the important functions of The American Legion Weekly since the last national convention.

General

The outstanding accomplishment during the year was the removal of the publication from New York City to Indianapolis.

A general improvement in the magazine has been attained by developing its physical appearance. This has been done chiefly by providing a separate color cover and the use of better quality of body stock paper.

The corporation has sustained a loss from operations which is occasioned by the improvements above mentioned and mechanical difficulties resulting from a change in printers. The 1925 loss from operations to and including August 31, 1925, is $59,069.82, and after deducting the surplus of $24,129.43 as of December 31, 1924, there exists a deficit of $34,940.39. This condition is not alarming, as an adjustment of the printing difficulties and an increase in advertising and circulation revenue which is conservatively forecast in the immediate future will eliminate this deficit.

Editorial

The problem of the editorial department in the past year has been that of keeping the magazine readable and entertaining in those pages devoted to general articles while presenting in the most suitable form, in the space available, material relating strictly to Legion activities. A considerable percentage of the space available necessarily had to be devoted to the Legion's main objective during the year—the raising of the $5,000,000 Endowment Fund.

While the policy of giving the Weekly the appearance of a general magazine has been continued, an additional effort has been made to embody in the material relating to Legion activities a warmth of human interest. This spirit has been reflected on the editorial page, on the personal page written by Frederick Palmer, in the intimate paragraphs published on the table of contents page and in the cartoons by Wallgren.

An important undertaking by the editorial department during the year is the assumption of the administration of the Sun-Roxy Radio Fund of The American Legion Weekly for the purpose of providing radio apparatus to entertain disabled men in hospitals. This fund now amounts to more than $80,000.

Advertising

The commercial advertising revenue for the year has decreased slightly. This decrease is in harmony with the general trend of publication conditions throughout the country.

Circulation

There has been a slight decrease in circulation during the current year. While this condition may not be considered as serious, to the contrary it is highly important that some practical plan be developed to increase the circulation, because national advertisers are averse to purchasing space in a publication which ceases to have a steady increase in circulation.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

General Manager.
Report of the National Executive Committee

National Commander
James A. Drain, D. C.

National Adjutant
James F. Barton, Ia.

Past National Commanders
Milton J. Foreman, III.
Franklin P'Ollier, Pa.
Hanford MacNider, Ia.
John R. Quinn, Cal.

Henry D. Lindsley, N. Y.
Alvin Owsley, Tex.

Past National Adjutants
James F. Barton, Ia.

Past National Commanders
Milton J. Foreman, III.
Franklin P'Ollier, Pa.
Hanford MacNider, Ia.
John R. Quinn, Cal.

National Vice Commanders
Eugene Armstrong, Conn.
Peyton H. Hoge, Jr., Ky.
Frank McFarland, Kan.

A. L. Perry, Panama
William Stern, N. D.

DEPARTMENT COMMITTEEEMENS

Terms Expire 1925
Arkansas—J. Robert Reichardt
Colorado—Wilkie Ham
Connecticut—E. L. Barlow
Georgia—Asa W. Candler
Hawaii—A. G. Clarke
Illinois—S. L. Nelson
Indiana—Bowman Elder
Iowa—Maurice Cahill
Kentucky—Emmet O'Neal
Louisiana—Gus Blacand
Michigan—Dr. C. V. Spawr
Minnesota—Frederick J. McCarthy
Montana—Ley J. Molumby
New Hampshire—Orville E. Cain
New Jersey—A. Eugene Pattison
New Mexico—J. C. Wallach
New York—Donald C. Strachan
Oklahoma—W. L. Eagleton, Jr.
Oregon—Dr. E. B. Stewart
Philippine Islands—Harry J. Morgan
Rhode Island—B. W. Wall
South Carolina—J. Monroe Johnson
South Dakota—Dr. G. G. Cottam
Utah—Dr. B. W. Black
Vermont—Jack Crowley
Virginia—E. E. Goodwyn
Washington—L. B. Donley
West Virginia—Spiller Hicks

Terms Expire 1926
Alabama—Walter E. Bare
Alaska—John A. Talbot
Arizona—G. V. Hays
California—George Hatfield
Canada—William Wardwell
Delaware—Thomas W. Miller
D. C.—Paul J. McGahan
Florida—J. Y. Cheney
France—S. P. Bailey
Idaho—James Harris
Kansas—Dr. C. C. Hawke
Maine—Albert Greenlaw
Maryland—John Carmichael
Massachusetts—Leo M. Harlow
Mexico—P. B. Holsinger
Mississippi—Curtis T. Green
Missouri—Carl G. Schrader
Nebraska—Samuel Reynolds
Nevada—Earl T. Ross
North Carolina—Thomas W. Birk
North Dakota—F. B. Streeter
Ohio—Lucian Kahn
Panama—Fred DeY. Sill
Pennsylvania—J. Leo Collins
Porto Rico—Athos W. Besosa
Tennessee—J. G. Sims
Texas—Ben J. Dean
Wisconsin—Vilas H. Whaley
Wyoming—Marshal S. Reynolds

The National Executive Committee is, next to the national convention, the highest authority in the Legion. It has the general supervision of the entire Legion as its trust.
Each department chooses a member of the National Executive Committee. The term is for two years but is arranged on an alternating scheme so that half of the committee takes office each year, thus insuring a continuity of direction. In addition to the representatives of the departments, the committee includes all past national commanders and national vice commanders. The national commander is the presiding officer and the national adjutant is secretary of the committee.

National committees which carry out the mandates of national conventions and the will of the National Executive Committee are composed so far as possible of members of the National Executive Committee. This system provides for the various committees a personnel thoroughly acquainted with all phases of Legion work and insures for the National Executive Committee the best advice and counsel in its deliberations.

Through committees, some of which are sub-committees of the National Executive Committee and others of which are temporary units within the main organization, practically all the work of the Legion is done. With the exception of the National Rehabilitation and National Legislative Committees, activities of the various committees are listed in brief resume in the individual reports which follow.

**TROPHIES AND AWARDS**

Asa W. Candler, Ga., Chairman

Dr. R. J. Laird, Ia.  W. L. Eagleton, Jr., Okla.
L. B. Donley, Wash.  Dr. G. G. Cottam, S. D.
Jack Crowley, Vt.  Lucian Kahn, Ohio

During the year 1924-1925 the Trophies and Awards Committee centered its activity on the rules and regulations covering the disposition of the following trophies and awards:

**Milton J. Foreman Trophy**

To be awarded annually to that department winning the annual inter-department rifle match. The rules adopted are:

1. Title to this trophy to remain in The American Legion.
2. The custody of said trophy to be awarded annually at the national convention of The American Legion to that department thereof winning the annual inter-department rifle match.
3. In addition to the award of the custody of said trophy, there shall be presented at the same time and place to the department winning same a gold plate suitable to be attached to the staff of the department banner, said plate to be engraved as follows: "Winner Milton J. Foreman Trophy, (year )."

4. The department awarded the custody of said trophy shall deliver to the national adjutant a bond, insurance policy and other indenture to be approved by the national judge advocate, to insure the return to national headquarters of said trophy, or a sum sufficient to replace the same with a duplicate thereof.

**Regulations Governing Rifle Matches**

Recommended that the rifle matches be continued at the national conventions and that teams be composed of six shooting members, one team captain and one coach. Team captain and coach may be shooting members of teams. Teams may be entered by posts or departments of The American Legion provided the respective adjutant thereof shall file a certificate with
convention committee on the rifle matches, certifying that each member of the team entered is a bona fide member of The American Legion and in good standing. All matches shall be conducted according to the rules and regulations for the national team match, as promulgated for that year by the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice, but the convention committee shall be allowed to designate ranges and courses to be fired.

CONVENTION CONTESTS

Bands, Drum and Bugle Corps Contests

No Legionnaires or conductors shall be allowed to compete as members of more than one band or drum corps.

Bands and drum corps shall be selected to enter contests for final judging while the column is passing the reviewing stand on the parade day in the following manner: They shall turn out of column, take post opposite reviewing stand and play the units composing their division or portion of division of the parade by the reviewing stand, and then fall in behind their proper units and resume the march.

Bands shall use standard marches. The same tempo shall obtain for drum and bugle corps as for bands. All organizations shall be notified by convention city band committee where the reviewing stand is located.

Bands will be judged by the following points while passing the reviewing stand in the parade:

- Uniforms and general appearance.
- Marching and cadence—128 steps per minute as standard.
- General playing ability.

From the parade: five bands of not less than twenty pieces will be selected to enter final competition at 4:00 p.m. the same day. The bands in the final competition will be judged on the following points:

- Conducting .......................................................... 20 points
- Interpretation ......................................................... 15 points
- Instrumentation ..................................................... 15 points
- Articulation ........................................................... 10 points
- Intonation .............................................................. 10 points
- Expression ............................................................ 10 points
- Ensemble ............................................................. 20 points

The bands chosen for the final contest must select from the following pieces and the score be presented to the judges before the contest:

Selection—Any march composed by John Philip Sousa.
(That was not in the San Francisco competition.)

Selection—Echoes from the Metropolitan Opera House, Fischer edition.

The bands will be permitted a warming up march. The above selections are suggestions only and may be replaced at the option of the convention city band committee by other standard band selections provided at least 60 days notice is given to the departments to be represented in the competition.

Drum Corps: Five drum corps of not less than fifteen pieces will be selected from the big parade the same as bands and will be judged on the following points:

- Uniform .............................................................. 20 points
- Marching appearance ......................................... 20 points
- Rhythm ............................................................... 20 points
- Cadence ............................................................. 20 points
- Maneuvers .......................................................... 20 points
Drum, bugle and fife corps shall be required to march United States army standard time of 128 steps per minute; these marches to consist of 2/4 and 6/8 tempo.

No band or drum corps shall be eligible for the award of any prize in said contest, unless all of the members thereof shall be Legionnaires in good standing, and, as evidence of this, the leader of each band or drum corps shall present to the chairman of the band committee of the convention city a certificate certifying that each member of said band or drum corps is a bona fide member of The American Legion and in good standing, said certificate to be signed by the post adjutant in case of post bands or drum corps, or the department adjutant in case of department bands or drum corps.

Recommended that the convention city be requested to offer cash prizes to the competing bands and drum corps as follows:

- $1000—First band prize.
- $750—First drum corps prize.
- $500—Second band prize.
- $300—Second drum corps prize.
- $250—Third band prize.
- $200—Third drum corps prize.

This is the sum total of the money prizes offered at San Francisco.

**Auxiliary Drill Team Contest**

1. Teams to be composed of bona fide members of the American Legion Auxiliary, duly certified to the convention contest committee by the unit secretary in case of unit members and by the department secretary in the case of department teams.

2. Each team shall designate its captain or commanding officer and forward said designation to the convention committee at least fifteen days prior to the opening of the convention.

3. Said contest to be held at such time and place as is designated by the convention committee.

4. Prior to said contest, the convention committee shall cause the captains or commanding officers of each team entered to meet and at such meeting the order of drill shall be determined by lot.

5. Each team shall be limited to fifteen minutes for the execution of its drills and maneuvers.

6. Prizes, to be fixed by the convention city committee, shall be awarded upon the following scale:

   - Promptness in commencement of drill after notice from judges: 10 points
   - Cadence: 20 points
   - Appearance: 20 points
   - Execution and movements: 50 points

**Male Quartet Contest**

1. Personnel—Open to quartets from posts or departments of The American Legion, composed of members in good standing of The American Legion, to be evidenced by a certificate from post adjutant in the case of post quartets, or department adjutant in case of department quartets, certifying that the members of said quartet are bona fide members and in good standing of the post or department by whom they are entered.

2. No accompanist shall be allowed, but a pitch may be given before the start of each selection. Each quartet shall sing two songs of its own selection. No encores shall be permitted.

3. The convention committee shall appoint three or more judges, none of whom shall have affiliation with any of the quartets competing.

4. The judges shall adopt that system of marking which in their opinion shall be most suitable in determining which of the competing quartets presents
the most meritorious performance, taking into consideration tone, enunciation, interpretation, presence, pitch and ensemble.

5. Entries for this contest, accompanied by proper certificate of membership, must be sent to the convention committee not less than twenty days prior to the opening day of said convention. Said entries shall designate the leader of each respective quartet, who shall be responsible for the prompt reporting and rendition of program.

6. Quartet leaders shall meet at a time and place to be designated by the convention committee, prior to the contest, for the purpose of discussing any questions which may arise in relation to the contest and for the purpose of determining by lot the order of the appearance in the contest.

7. No quartet shall be permitted to hear another contestant sing, unless such quartet has already rendered its program.

8. Your committee recommends, subject to the approval of the convention committee, the offering of three prizes and the naming of three additional quartets for honorable mention, honorable mention quartets to be named alphabetically and not in order of rating.

**Trap Shooting Contest**

**Squadded Team Competition**

Open to: Teams of five men and one alternate, all of whom must be members of some post or department of The American Legion and in good standing at date of competition. One or more teams may be entered as representing a post or department. A certificate from post adjutant in case of post team or department adjutant in case of department team, certifying that the members of said team are bona fide members and in good standing of the post or department by whom they are entered, must be presented.

Course: Fifty single targets per man, unknown angles, shot in two events of twenty five targets each from 16-yard rise.

Arm: Any 12-gauge shotgun.

Ammunition: Any 12-gauge, loaded with smokeless powder and not to exceed one and one-fourth ounces of shot.

Prizes: A cup or trophy to winning team and medals to individual members of first, second and third teams or as determined by convention city committee.

**Unsquadded Individual Competition**

Open to: Any member of The American Legion in good standing at date of competition, to be evidenced by presentation of his current membership card. (Conditions otherwise as in team competition)

**Pistol Match**

**Squadded Team Competition**

Open to: Teams of five men and one alternate, all of whom must be bona fide members of a post or department of The American Legion and in good standing at date of competition, evidenced by a certificate from post adjutant in case of post team, or department adjutant in case of department team, certifying that the members of said team are bona fide members and in good standing of the post or department by whom they are entered. One or more teams may be entered as representing a post or department, course as prescribed by convention committee conforming as nearly as practicable to national pistol team match and in accordance with the rules and regulations therefor as promulgated for that year by the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice.

Arm: Same as rules and regulations for national team match of National Board for Promotion of Rifle Practice.

Ammunition: Same as rules and regulations for national team match of National Board for Promotion of Rifle Practice.

Prizes: A cup or trophy to winning team, and medals to individual
members of first, second and third teams or as determined by convention city committee.

Unsquadded Individual Competition

Open to: Any member of The American Legion in good standing at the date of competition, to be evidenced by presentation of his current membership card, other conditions to be the same as in team competition except prizes, which shall be determined by convention city committee.

All the above regulations have been accepted by the National Executive Committee.

PERMANENT FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMISSION

(Which Includes the Report of Fidac)

Term Ends 1925

Lemuel Bolles, Wash.

Term Ends 1926

Milton J. Foreman, Ill. Rev. Wm. P. O'Connor, Ohio
Frederick M. Alger, Mich.

Term Ends 1927

William B. Follett, Ore.

Term Ends 1928

Ernest O. Thompson, Tex.

Term Ends 1929

H. Nelson Jackson, Vt., Chairman
Thomas W. Miller, Del. L. R. Gignilliat, Ind.

To broaden the Legion's activity in the field of international affairs and world problems, the National Executive Committee in May, 1924, authorized the appointment by the national commander of a Permanent Foreign Relations Commission of fifteen members. This commission represents the Legion in its work as a member of Fidac (Interallied Veterans' Federation, or Federation Interalliee des Anciens Combattants). It is also responsible for such other questions of foreign relations as may be referred to it from time to time by the national commander. This commission, acting in accordance with the policies of the National Finance Committee, has been empowered to raise funds, which will be in charge of the national treasurer.

Members of the commission serve for five years, not more than one third of the number changing in any one year. The national adjutant acts as general secretary.

The Interallied Veterans' Federation or Fidac

Born of a thought of the late Frederic W. Galbraith, Jr., National Commander of the American Legion in 1921, the Interallied Veterans' Federation or Fidac has devoted itself to work for world peace and to the perpetuation of the memories and incidents of the comradeship in arms in the World war. The American Legion is the member of Fidac for the United States, representing in an international way the 4,000,000 American veterans of the war.
Accomplishments for 1925

Calling of a fifth arms conference was advocated by Fidac. Fidac was invited to be and was officially represented at the conference at Geneva in May, 1925, a recognition of the part which the veterans of the nine principal Allied countries play.

Fidac was invited to aid in the selection of a veteran to represent the organized former service men in the information section of the League of Nations.

The first bulletin of Fidac, broadcasting its views and activities, was published at the headquarters at Paris on January 1, 1925. A ten page edition has been put out each month.

Two associations of veterans from France and four from Poland were admitted to Fidac during the year. This action added 580,000 veterans to the membership. A number of associations have applications pending.

Resolutions were adopted at the London congress of 1924 for the organization of a women’s auxiliary to Fidac. Details of organization were considered at the Fidac congress in Rome September 10-13, 1925.

Valuable work was done in coordinating the activities of Fidac from a publicity standpoint and in reporting on the state of public opinion in Allied and former enemy countries by the Permanent Propaganda Committee, particularly following the election of Field Marshal von Hindenburg as president of the German republic.

Thomas W. Miller, Legionnaire of Delaware, was president of Fidac for 1924-1925. He paid official visits to all member countries and did much to strengthen the member organizations. Roy Hoffman, of Oklahoma, was vice president for the United States.

Members of Council of Direction

American Legion members of the Council of Direction of Fidac, as appointed by the national commander, were: Laurence V. Benet, Benjamin H. Conner, Leon Fraser, Dr. Edmund L. Gros, Francis Jaques, Arthur W. Kipling and Edwin W. Thorn.

Delegation to Congress at Rome

The American Legion delegation to the Rome congress of Fidac, from September 10 to 13, 1925, as appointed by the national commander, was composed of the following:

L. R. Gignilliat, Ind., Chairman
William B. Follett, Ore.
Joseph H. Thompson, Pa.
A. Piatt Andrew, Mass.
H. E. Stewart, Mont.

Rev. William P. O’Connor, Ohio
Lemuel Bolles, Wash.
Julian Thomas, France.

COMMITTEE ON WORLD PEACE

Thomas A. Lee, Chairman, Kan.
L. R. Gignilliat, Ind.
F. J. Block, Miss.
J. Y. Cheney, Fla.
A. Piatt Andrew, Mass.
Gen. George A. Wingate, N. Y.

John H. Sherburne, Mass.
Aubrey E. Strode, Va.
J. G. Serugham, Nev.
Joseph H. Thompson, Pa.
Colonel F. L. Garrard, La.
Colonel John M. Wainwright, N. Y.

The National Committee on World Peace was appointed by the national commander in compliance with Resolution No. 536, passed by the Sixth Annual Convention of The American Legion reading as follows:
"Resolved, That the national commander be authorized and directed to appoint an American Legion World Peace Committee composed of ten members, which committee after carefully considering all of the factors in the present international situation, and after consultation with and consideration of the plans of the various organizations now working for peace, shall report to the national convention of the Legion in 1925, the most practical plan whereby the influence and power of the Legion may be most effectively utilized for securing permanent world peace."

After a brief survey of the situation, the chairman of the committee called a meeting of the committee in conjunction with the meeting of the Permanent Foreign Relations Commission, the president of the F. I. D. A. C., Col. Thomas W. Miller of Delaware, and various members of the Legion delegation to the F. I. D. A. C. conference in London last year, in Indianapolis on January 11 and 12 at the regular meeting of the National Executive Committee.

It was decided to co-operate with the Permanent Foreign Relations Commission as closely as possible and with the F. I. D. A. C., and to survey the various organizations working for world peace, to list and analyze their projects, and to take the counsel of men skilled in world affairs as to the best means of utilizing the strength of the Legion, to consult the department of state as to the suggested plan of action, and finally to draft a report.

Several sub-committees were appointed, such as one on the F. I. D. A. C., one on the League of Nations, one on the Bok Peace Plan, and one on arousing Legion and public interest in any action which may be taken by the convention.

That plan has been carried out.

The committee has been in constant and active correspondence with many world leaders, both at home and abroad, and has received most unusual consideration from distinguished statesmen. The committee will make a full report of its year's activities to the next convention.

---

**THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY**

A harmony of effort which has expressed itself especially in pushing the American Legion endowment fund has been the record of the close relations this year between the Auxiliary and the Legion.

The national president of the Auxiliary, Mrs. O. D. Oliphant, New Jersey, has constantly said: "The Auxiliary is your Auxiliary. We exist but to help you in all your endeavors."

This policy has been lived up to in every respect, and the presence of Auxiliary women on many of the Legion's major standing committees, and the co-operation between existing standing committees in the Legion and Auxiliary has resulted in pushing forward Legion work.

The visitation of Auxiliary committees at hospitals has done much to strengthen the regard in which the Legion is held by the disabled.

In its Americanism work, the Legion acknowledges the able assistance given by the Auxiliary.

The Auxiliary, composed of the wives, mothers, sisters and daughters of American Legionnaires, had a total of 5,568 units attached to Legion posts during 1925. The total membership is in excess of 205,000.

**Auxiliary Accomplishments**

During 1925 the Auxiliary dedicated a cottage for war orphans at Otter Lake, Michigan, built with ten cent contributions by Auxiliary members.

One of the outstanding achievements of 1925 was the Conference on National Defense as Peace Insurance called by the Auxiliary in Washington,
February 22 to 25. Sixteen patriotic women's organizations responded to the Auxiliary's invitation, representing a combined membership of more than a million women. The conference was addressed by President Coolidge and is considered an outstanding development during the year.

More than $200,000 was expended by the Auxiliary and its units on rehabilitation.

The record of the Auxiliary is one of which its members and the Legion may well be proud.

NATIONAL FINANCE COMMITTEE

Wilder S. Metcalf, Kan., Chairman
John R. McQuigg, Ohio
Edgar B. Dunlap, Ga.

To the National Finance Committee are entrusted the safekeeping and allotment of Legion finances. In this work they are assisted by the national commander, the national adjutant and the national treasurer, who are members of the committee ex-officio.

Budgets of all divisions of national headquarters and of national committees are fixed by this committee. In addition, members of the committee in various ways assist units of the Legion national organization. These services are often of such a nature as to necessitate trips to national headquarters and elsewhere. In this way there is available to national officers, division heads and committee chairmen expert financial advice, without which there would be loss in efficiency and increase in expenditure.

FRANCE CONVENTION TRAVEL COMMITTEE

John J. Wicker, Jr., Va., Chairman
George Hatfield, Cal.
Bowman Elder, Ind.
Albert Greenlaw, Me.

Samuel Reynolds, Neb.
Wade H. Phillips, N. C.
B. W. Wall, R. I.
J. Monroe Johnson, S. C.

The National Executive Committee at its January meeting authorized the appointment by the national commander of a committee to study the advisability and feasibility of holding a convention of The American Legion in France. This committee rendered a preliminary report at the June meeting of the National Executive Committee and will place a completed resume of its studies before the Omaha convention.

OVERSEAS GRAVES ENDOWMENT FUND

Milton J. Foreman, Illinois, Chairman.
Hanford MacNider, Iowa, Treasurer.
Franklin D'Olier, Pennsylvania.
John G. Emery, Michigan.

John R. Quinn, California.
Henry D. Lindale, New York.
Alvin Owsley, Texas.
James A. Drain, District of Columbia.

Following the receipt of funds for the Overseas Graves endowment fund, a committee composed of the national commander and all past national commanders of The American Legion was created to administer the fund. The
total receipts of the drive amounted to $161,828.57. The earnings from this sum amounted to $7,656.34 during 1924. This amount was sent to the Graves Decoration Day Committee in France. The money was expended for the decoration of the graves of American veterans in France, England and Belgium on Memorial day. Thousands of wreaths, American and French flags were purchased from the budget money for this purpose. The earnings on the fund to August 31 for the year 1925 amounted to $2,063.36.

The original goal of the Overseas Graves endowment fund was $200,000. This sum has never been reached. That the total amount may be collected, it is urgently requested that those departments which have not yet reached their quotas take the necessary steps to collect and forward the rest of their quotas to the treasurer of the fund.

NAVAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

E. E. Spafford, N. Y., Chairman
Wallace S. Thomas, Ohio G. W. Steagall, Tenn.
Leslie B. Newman, Calif. Howard S. Fisk, D. C.
John A. McCormack, Colo.

Only one meeting of the National Naval Affairs Committee was held during the year. Few of the members were able to attend this meeting because no appropriation was made for the payment of expenses of this committee. It is believed that if the Legion desires that all of its committees should meet and advise the Legion as to its procedure—that the expense of these meetings should be borne by the Legion as a whole. Therefore, the first recommendation of the naval affairs committee is that provision be made in the budget for its necessary expense.

The committee is of the opinion that the navy department is endeavoring to maintain the national naval policy established in 1922, and is adopting a program of construction which will eventually give to our nation a more balanced navy than it has at the present time.

The report of your committee which was made to the executive committee at its June meeting, set forth the need for an increase in enlisted personnel in order that trained men shall be available to place in commission the new aeroplane carriers which will soon be ready for service. Instead of providing for an increase—recruiting in the navy has been stopped—which plainly shows that economy has been carried to such an extent that today our navy is having to cut down its present strength of enlisted personnel. This should not happen. When the new aeroplane carriers are placed in commission, at least 4,000 men will be needed to man these vessels. If more men are not recruited, vessels now in commission will have to be placed out of commission where they will more quickly deteriorate.

It is the belief of your committee that altogether too many naval vessels are already out of commission and that we must carry a balanced fleet in time of peace if we are to have an efficient first line of defense in time of war. If this country becomes engaged in another war in the near future and the navy is not prepared, the blame cannot be placed on the congress which has appropriated all of the funds which have been asked for the budget, and any lack of preparedness must be placed squarely upon the shoulders of those who may preach false economy.

The last congress passed a bill providing for greater efficiency of our naval and marine reserves; for this they should be commended. In the
opinion of your committee, however, a very grave and serious error has been made in not providing for the continuance in the reserve of the rating of yeoman (F). A correction of the bill should be immediately made, because as now written it is a reflection on the excellent work done by our yeomanettes during the last war.

It is recommended that a set of regulations be drawn up by a board composed of officers of the regular navy and of the reserve—that these regulations be for the governing of the reserves and that they be placed in the hands of all persons holding positions of responsibility either in the reserve or the regular navy—that once approved by the secretary of the navy and established, that it be impossible to change these regulations except upon the recommendation of a board similarly convened and acting as the original board.

In the past changes in regulations governing the reserve have been made by officers because the regulations did not cover some specific incident. These changes had been effected without due consideration and without considering the original cause for establishing the regulation which was altered. This should become impossible and a definite high standard must be established so that the naval reserve will be created, organized and trained for the benefit of our nation. It is the belief of your committee that the Legion should again bring to the attention of the secretary of the navy the desirability of having on duty at the navy department a naval reserve officer, or an officer of the regular navy, having real experience with the naval militia or the naval reserve. This officer, under the chief of the bureau of navigation, should be held responsible for the affairs of the naval militia or the naval reserve. This officer, under the chief of the bureau of navigation, should be held responsible for the affairs of the naval militia or the naval reserve force. Heretofore, it seems to have been the policy of the navy department to select an officer whom the department desired to have on duty in Washington rather than an officer versed in the requirements of the reserve.

The merchant marine is a very necessary branch of defense in time of war and to some extent, at least, is an economic asset in time of peace. The coastwise and intercoastal merchant marine is without competition and must always remain a domestic industry. Vessels engaged in coastwise trade, however, are not usually well fitted for transport service.

About three-quarters of the American tonnage engaged in overseas trade is government owned and is being operated at a loss to the government of about thirty million dollars a year. The operating losses under the present able leadership of the president of the emergency fleet corporation have been reduced very materially. Less than two years ago the average loss for operating three hundred and twenty cargo vessels was more than $25,000 per voyage. This loss has been cut to $17,000 per voyage and the number of vessels employed reduced to three hundred—although the same number of voyages are made. The losses mentioned above do not include interest or depreciation losses. If the government is to remain in the shipping business about thirty millions of dollars per year must be appropriated for replacements of the cargo vessels alone.

Your committee is, therefore, of the opinion that the present policy of the government in selling ships both for operation and for scrapping is wise. Your committee, however, believes that all of the present trade routes which are covered by American vessels should be maintained. If possible, the vessels on these routes should be operated by private enterprise. To carry out these policies your committee, after due deliberation, believes that all merchant vessels should be transferred to private ownership and that congress either by direct or indirect subsidy could cause a very material saving for the government by making a yearly contribution of, say, thirty millions of dollars to those private firms engaged in foreign shipping. Real economy will result.

It is believed that the navy department has been doing excellent work along aviation lines and that great progress has been made. Too much honor cannot be paid to that able leader, chief of the bureau of aeronautics
of the naval department, Rear Admiral Moffett. Navy planes have been sent to the Arctic and to the tropics. They have made long flights in the Pacific—have been tested and developed for every kind of service. A just portion of the flying records of the world is held by our navy. During the past year new motors of greater horse power than any ever previously produced have been built under the supervision of our navy department. The secretary of the navy has recently ordered that every naval officer must have a knowledge of naval aviation. Training in aviation of every midshipman at the naval academy has been begun. No nation has ever done more successful work with lighter than air dirigibles, than has our navy department. This in spite of the regrettable accident to the Shenandoah.

It is the unanimous belief of your committee that the navy department has done everything possible toward the development and perfection of naval air service and to make any change in the handling or control of this service would be a national calamity.

To your committee there have been referred cases where men tried by court-martial and dismissed from the service have sought the assistance of The American Legion for re-instatement. It should be known to every post in the Legion that as a body The American Legion can never interest itself in an individual case unless a mistrial or persecution can be shown.

The joint manoeuvres of the army and navy which were held in the waters about Hawaii have proven beyond peradventure that the Hawaiian Islands are not properly protected at the present time. The Hawaiian Islands have long been known to every strategist as the key controlling the Pacific ocean. Every trade route crossing the Pacific either touches or comes close to this group of islands. It should be the policy of The American Legion to see that these islands are not only strongly fortified and made into an adequate and real naval base, but the group should become impregnable, and with the Hawaiian Islands assured and safely in our hands, our west coast and the Panama Canal are comparatively safe from attack.

There is one other pressing thing for our navy and that is a real naval base on the Pacific coast. On previous occasions the Legion has gone on record favoring a base at Alameda, California. This location was one selected by a board of naval officers headed by Admiral Rodman. Congress, generally, seemed to be willing to establish the Alameda base, but congressmen from California could not agree and therefore the base has not yet been established. It is the belief of your committee that the budget should provide for the starting of a proper naval base on the west coast this year, and the committee further believes that Alameda offers the very best location for the primary base.

AERONAUTICS COMMITTEE

Reed Landis, Chairman, Ill.
C. E. McCullough, Md.
Loy J. Molumbry, Mont.
T. C. McCauley, Cal.
Paul Winner, Wis.
Elliott W. Springs, S. C.
Walter E. Bare, Ala.
A. H. Scott, Nev.
T. A. Stevenson, Panama
Norbert Carolin, Fla.
R. E. L. Cone, Ga.
Judge Levi M. Hall, Minn.

The National Aeronautics Committee has remained in touch with all phases of air legislation and plans advanced, both by the government and those agencies looking toward greater commercial aviation in the United States, both of these being in accordance with the aeronautics committee report accepted by the past national convention.
General Pershing

The first action of the committee following the convention in Saint Paul was to take the proper steps to carry out the instructions contained in the National Convention Military Affairs Committee report relating to our distinguished comrade, General John J. Pershing.

The committee considered the proper steps whereby General Pershing's valuable services might be retained through legislation to restore him to the active list of the army. Contact was established with the other national organizations and all arrangements made to introduce and press for passage this legislation when General Pershing requested that no action be taken. General Pershing expressed his sincere thanks to the Legion for its interest in this matter and stated that he considered the convention resolution on this subject one of the most appreciative actions of his career.

Captured War Trophies

Your committee has taken an active interest in the disposition of the thousands of captured war trophies that are being distributed to the respective states. A representative of this committee in connection with a representative of the National Guard association inspected these trophies at Raritan and Port Newark in May of this year and recommended the distribution of thousands of other trophies which had been previously listed as unsuitable, and which under present legislation would have been sold or destroyed. This recommendation is being studied by the war department and it is anticipated that favorable action will be taken upon the request for the distribution of additional trophies.

It is also noted that under present legislation trophies that are not accepted by the respective states must be sold or destroyed. Your committee recommends that proper legislation be enacted to enable this character of trophies to be allotted to other states that would make a request for same under the original terms of distribution. The committee also feels that a representative collection of these trophies should be placed at the national headquarters of the Legion, and recommends introduction of such legislation as will authorize the secretary of war to comply with this request.

Universal Draft

The legislation recommended by the Legion has been introduced in congress by Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas, and Congressman Royal Johnson of South Dakota. The military affairs committee of both the house and the senate have held extended hearings on this subject, but no action was taken during the past session of congress. The military affairs committee of the house made a favorable report upon a resolution of Congressman McSwain of South Carolina, recommending the appointment of a committee to study this subject.

Your committee is of the opinion that The American Legion should press for passage in congress the legislation embodied in the Johnson-Capper bill. This legislation was prepared by the Military Affairs Committee of
the Legion and unanimously approved by the past three national conventions. It is recommended that this legislation be made one of the primary activities of our organization during the coming year.

**National Defense**

It is apparent to your committee that the most pressing matter from the standpoint of national defense is to have Congress determine by proper legislation the strength of the various components of the army of the United States necessary for our protection from aggression upon continental United States.

The regular army should be maintained at 12,000 officers and 125,000 enlisted men and not one man less. The national guard, whose strength is limited today to approximately 182,000, should be permitted to grow to 190,000 in 1926, and 200,000 in 1927, and by progressive increments to 250,000 in 1936. The reserve officers of the organized reserves should have sufficient appropriations to train every three years all field, line and staff officers for fifteen days. The Reserve Officers' Training Corps should be so extended until it can graduate yearly 5,000 well qualified officers for the components of the army of the United States. The Citizens' Military Training Camps should have sufficient funds to train, in its red camp, 60,000 young men per year. The white and blue camps are of doubtful importance and men eligible for these camps should secure their additional training in the national guard or Reserve Officers' Training Corps.

**National Defense Appropriations**

There should be no reduction in appropriations for national defense this year. Economy is much to be desired in national expenditures, but the limit of safety has already been reached with our national defense, and consideration should be given to making such increases as are demonstrated to be needed in equipment and personnel in order that our nation may have a well-balanced and harmonious army, immediately available to protect our country from any aggression.

**Recommendations**

It is recommended that a copy of this report be submitted to the Convention Committee on Military Affairs in order that they may present such action as is necessary for the approval of the national convention.
Report of the National Treasurer

Following is a report of an audit made by George S. Olive, C. P. A., of the book accounts and financial records of National Headquarters of this organization at the close of business on September 5, 1925:

It is most gratifying to note that The American Legion continues in its strong financial position with assets as of September 5 amounting to $1,285,410.31, as compared with $1,011,772.45 one year ago; an increase of $273,637.86.

This increase is partly offset by an increase in liabilities of $242,514.29, giving an increase in net worth of $31,123.57.

The low cash position is due to converting cash assets into furniture for the new building; reducing the amount due the Legion Publishing Corporation; and the amount of restricted funds on deposit in the general funds. The cost of moving to the new building amounted to $1,630.34.

Effort has been made to reduce notes and accounts outstanding, resulting in a reduction of $939.84.

Our Finance Division has been taxed to the limit on account of the endowment fund campaign and, at this time, the National Treasurer wishes to commend Mr. Glenn D. Crawford for his devotion to this work and the efficient manner in which he has handled same.

September 16, 1925.

Mr. Robert H. Tyndall, National Treasurer,
The American Legion,
National Headquarters,
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with your instructions, I have audited the books of account and financial records of THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, from August 16, 1924, through September 5, 1925, and submit herewith my report together with Exhibits and Schedules as follows:

Folio 1 Exhibit A—Statement of financial condition.
Folio 2 Exhibit B—Surplus analysis.
Folio 3 Exhibit C—Revenue and expense statement, January 1, 1925, through September 5, 1925.
Folio 4 Exhibit D—Revenue and expense statement, August 16, 1924, through December 31, 1924.
Folio 5 Schedule No. 1—Operating statement—Emblem Division.
Folio 6 Schedule No. 2—Operating statement—Film Division.
Folio 7-8 Schedule No. 3—Analysis of expense.
Folio 9 Schedule No. 4—Notes receivable.
Folio 10 Schedule No. 5—Accounts receivable.
Folio 11-12 Schedule No. 6—Statement of working funds.
Folio 13 Schedule No. 7—Accounts payable.
Folio 14 Schedule No. 8—Department credits.
Folio 15 Schedule No. 9—Legion Endowment Corporation account.
Folio 16 Schedule No. 10—Endowment drive expense.
Folio 17-18 Schedule No. 11—Expense analysis endowment field men.
Folio 19-20 Schedule No. 12—Expense analysis state campaign.
Folio 21-22 Schedule No. 13—Ratio of 1925 to 1924 paid membership.
Folio 23-24 Schedule No. 14—Ratio of paid membership to eligible ex-service men.

SCOPE OF SERVICE

I have reconciled all bank balances as shown on the records of the organization with the amounts shown on the statements received from the bank by taking into consideration the deposits in transit and the outstanding checks at the close of the period.
I have checked all canceled checks returned by the bank against the corresponding entries in the various check registers and have examined the checks for proper signatures and endorsements and for agreement of written and figure amounts.

I have traced remittance advices into the cash received record and traced receipts into the bank. I have tested disbursements by an examination of disbursement vouchers, which were found to be properly authorized and charged to the proper accounts. I have tested the footings in the various general records, checked all postings to the expense ledger and general ledger and made such analyses as were necessary for the preparation of this report.

Following is a comparative balance sheet showing the financial condition thirty days prior to the convention of 1925 and 1924.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>Sept. 5, 1925</th>
<th>Aug. 15, 1924</th>
<th>Increase</th>
<th>Decrease</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fixed Assets—Less depreciation</td>
<td>$61,782.37</td>
<td>$17,399.87</td>
<td>$44,382.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>714,650.49</td>
<td>704,651.95</td>
<td>10,098.54</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Charges</td>
<td>7,136.99</td>
<td>3,014.88</td>
<td>4,122.11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Assets</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inventories</td>
<td>19,937.77</td>
<td>17,617.29</td>
<td>2,320.48</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts and notes receivable</td>
<td>44,711.50</td>
<td>45,551.34</td>
<td>$939.84</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued interest receivable</td>
<td>4,890.02</td>
<td>3,755.92</td>
<td>1,134.10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working funds</td>
<td>28,768.43</td>
<td>9,450.00</td>
<td>19,318.43</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment Corporation</td>
<td>283,308.53</td>
<td>283,308.53</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate of deposit</td>
<td>31,735.00</td>
<td>31,735.00</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds on deposit</td>
<td>85,996.37</td>
<td>196,234.61</td>
<td>110,238.14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graves Endowment Fund—Special deposit</td>
<td>3,482.84</td>
<td>15,096.69</td>
<td>11,613.85</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>501,840.46</td>
<td>286,806.75</td>
<td>215,034.71</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>$1,285,410.31</td>
<td>$1,011,772.45</td>
<td>$273,637.86</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Liabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted funds on deposit with general funds</td>
<td>$14,709.50</td>
<td>$72,306.14</td>
<td>$57,596.64</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes payable</td>
<td>150,000.00</td>
<td>$150,000.00</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>3,869.90</td>
<td>327.91</td>
<td>3,541.99</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emblems paid for not delivered</td>
<td>3,316.90</td>
<td>4,498.18</td>
<td>1,179.28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department credits</td>
<td>1,640.00</td>
<td>918.00</td>
<td>722.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legion Publishing Corporation</td>
<td>56,369.33</td>
<td>193,111.18</td>
<td>$139,741.85</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earnings Graves Endowment Fund</td>
<td>2,517.54</td>
<td>2,517.54</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay contests unpaid</td>
<td>1,695.07</td>
<td>854.07</td>
<td>841.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment Corporation</td>
<td>283,308.53</td>
<td>283,308.53</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total current liabilities</td>
<td>617,526.77</td>
<td>275,012.48</td>
<td>242,514.29</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Net Worth                  | $767,883.54 | $736,759.97 | $31,123.57 | |

Following is a comparative balance sheet showing the financial condition thirty days prior to the convention of 1925 and 1924.
TRUST FUND—$504,650.49

This fund is held in trust by the Fletcher-American National bank, trustee, and the original fund has been invested together with earnings re-invested as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Securities</th>
<th>Face Value</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U. S. government securities</td>
<td>$212,850.00</td>
<td>$206,630.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal bonds</td>
<td>298,352.16</td>
<td>297,393.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First mortgage R. E. bonds</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
<td>1,425.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$512,702.16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ACCRUED EARNINGS—$4,890.02

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cost of investments held</td>
<td>$505,448.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Original trust fund</td>
<td>504,650.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earnings re-invested</td>
<td>798.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued interest and premium</td>
<td>3,931.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash in hands of trustee</td>
<td>160.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$4,890.02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OVERSEAS GRAVES DECORATION TRUST—$160,000.00

In addition to this amount, there is on deposit in a special account, $3,482.84 which represents the amount of the fund not invested of $1,843.57 together with earnings of $1,639.27 which are available for the decoration of foreign graves.

The entire amount of $160,000.00 is invested in U. S. government securities, all of which are fourth Liberty Loan bonds, maturing October 15, 1938, with interest of 4 1/2% and registered in the name of "Robert H. Tyndall or his successors in office as Treasurer of Overseas Graves Decoration Trust of the American Legion."

I have examined all securities and found them to agree with the records of the organization.

ENDOWMENT CORPORATION $283,308.53

This amount is made up of cash not invested of $51,531.92, together with subscriptions receivable of $231,776.61. This account is shown in detail on schedule No. 9 of this report.

RESTRICTED FUNDS ON DEPOSIT IN GENERAL FUND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Knights of Columbus migratory relief</td>
<td>$12,057.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 and 8 and Auxiliary child welfare</td>
<td>2,299.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodrow Wilson memorial fund</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fidac</td>
<td>342.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total per exhibit A</td>
<td>$14,709.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ESSAY CONTESTS UNPAID—$1,695.07

This amount is made up of unpaid balances of the following contest winners:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ah Sing Ching</td>
<td>$ 760.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Virginia Chastain</td>
<td>104.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah R. Heysham</td>
<td>341.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florence Sweetman</td>
<td>500.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$1,695.07</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SURPLUS—$79,351.19

This account is shown in detail on exhibit B of this report. The balance shown at this period will be decreased at the end of the year, as the expense for the remainder of the year is always in excess of the revenue.

LEGIONVILLE BILLET BUILDING FUND—$22,038.29

The original amount of this fund was $52,947.71, on which there has been interest earned of $614.50, or a total of $52,762.21. Of this amount, there has been expended on buildings $30,723.92, which leaves the above balance of $22,038.29 yet to be expended.

REVENUE AND EXPENSE

The excess of revenue over expense from January 1, 1925, through September 5, 1925, of $71,157.24 is shown in detail on exhibit C of this report. The excess of revenue over expense from January 1, 1924, through August 15, 1924, was $47,665.91, or an increase for 1925 over 1924 of $23,491.33. The period in 1925 is for eight months and five days against the 1924 period of seven months and fifteen days, which makes the 1925 period 21 days longer than the 1924 period.

National dues received of $150,321.25 is made up as follows:

| National dues 1925     | $147,912.25 |
| National dues 1924     |  1,907.50   |
| National dues 1923     |    501.50   |

The amount of $147,912.25 for 1925 dues is for 590,040 members within the limits of Continental United States and 1,609 names in possession of the United States, as shown on schedule No. 14 of this report. The 1,843 members in foreign countries are exempt from national dues by action of the National Finance Committee.

I trust this report furnishes you with the desired information.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. S. OLIVE, C. P. A.,
Member American Institute of Accountants.
THE AMERICAN LEGION
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
Indianapolis, Indiana

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION
September 5, 1925

**ASSETS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fixed Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and fixtures</td>
<td>$59,926.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Reserve for depreciation</td>
<td>4,753.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Films</strong></td>
<td>30,500.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Reserve for depreciation</td>
<td>23,892.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Investments</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust fund investments</td>
<td>504,650.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overseas Graves Decoration Trust—Legion Publishing Corporation capital stock</td>
<td>160,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deferred Charges to Future Operations</strong></td>
<td>50,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories</td>
<td>19,937.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes receivable—sch. No. 4</td>
<td>39,003.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable—sch. No. 5</td>
<td>5,708.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued earnings on trust fund</td>
<td>4,890.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working funds—sch. No. 6</td>
<td>28,788.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment Corporation—see contra</td>
<td>283,308.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate of deposit</td>
<td>31,735.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds on deposit</td>
<td>85,006.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graves Endowment Fund—special deposit</td>
<td>3,482.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>$714,650.49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted funds on deposit in general fund</td>
<td>$14,709.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes payable—bank</td>
<td>150,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable—sch. No. 7</td>
<td>3,969.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emblems paid for and not delivered</td>
<td>3,316.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department credits—sch. No. 8</td>
<td>1,640.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legion Publishing Corporation</td>
<td>55,369.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earnings Overseas Graves Endowment Fund</td>
<td>2,517.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay contest unpaid</td>
<td>1,695.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment Corporation—see contra sch. No. 9</td>
<td>283,308.53</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Worth</strong></td>
<td>$767,883.54</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surplus in general fund—exhibit B</td>
<td>79,351.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust fund invested</td>
<td>504,650.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graves Endowment Fund invested</td>
<td>160,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graves Endowment Fund not invested</td>
<td>1,843.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legionville Billet building fund</td>
<td>22,038.29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I certify that I have audited the books of account of THE AMERICAN LEGION, NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, from August 16, 1924, through September 5, 1925, and have prepared the above balance sheet as reflecting the financial condition at the close of the period.

GEO. S. OLIVE, C. P. A.
Member American Institute of Accountants.
**THE AMERICAN LEGION**
**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS**
Indianapolis, Indiana

**SURPLUS ANALYSIS**
August 16, 1924, through September 5, 1925

**Balance to Credit of Account August 16, 1924, per Audit Report**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excess of expense over revenue August 16, 1924, to December 31, 1924—exhibit D</td>
<td>$37,618.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$67,111.33</td>
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</table>

**Credits to Account**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount paid on National Executive Committee room fixtures</td>
<td>$3,105.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refund on 1923 expense</td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refund on 1924 expense</td>
<td>31.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americanism Service books sold through Emblem Division</td>
<td>88.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refund on Christmas party</td>
<td>60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film Division earnings 1924</td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refund on printing of Service book</td>
<td>460.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refund on telegrams E. A. Chester</td>
<td>7.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$3,967.40</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Charges to Account**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One-fourth cost of membership card system</td>
<td>4,736.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payment of outstandings which were previously charged off</td>
<td>1.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bad accounts charged off</td>
<td>4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjustment of poppy account</td>
<td>591.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Otter Lake Billet expenditures for 1924</td>
<td>18,773.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research work for Service</td>
<td>505.22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional copies of June 6, 1924, issue of Weekly</td>
<td>662.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>25,366.21</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Profit from January 1, 1925, through September 5, 1925—exhibit C**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$8,193.95</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**September 5, 1925, Balance to Credit of Account**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$79,351.19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Revenue and Expense Statement

**January 1, 1925, Through September 5, 1925**

### Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National dues</td>
<td>$150,321.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust fund earnings</td>
<td>15,129.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue on sale of Source Records</td>
<td>12,360.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest earned</td>
<td>1,584.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounts taken</td>
<td>448.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Legion Fathers—charter fees</td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News Service revenue</td>
<td>61.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous revenue</td>
<td>22.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net earnings—Emblem Division—Sch. No. 1</td>
<td>34,567.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net earnings—Film Division—Sch. No. 2</td>
<td>2,482.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$217,007.63</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Expense

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administrative—Sch. No. 3</td>
<td>42,148.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Americanism—Sch. No. 3</td>
<td>13,730.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Legislative—Sch. No. 3</td>
<td>13,293.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publicity—Sch. No. 3</td>
<td>13,396.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance—Sch. No. 3</td>
<td>7,737.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization—sch. No. 3</td>
<td>14,576.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive—sch. No. 3</td>
<td>37,166.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership cards—sch. No. 3</td>
<td>3,800.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expense</strong></td>
<td><strong>145,850.39</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Excess of Revenue over Expense—To Exhibit B

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Excess of Revenue over Expense</strong></td>
<td><strong>$71,157.24</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Revenue and Expense Statement

**August 16, 1924, Through December 31, 1924**

### Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National dues</td>
<td>$7,138.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust fund earnings</td>
<td>$14,254.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net earnings—Film Division</td>
<td>$7,301.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source Records—commission</td>
<td>$4,786.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest earned</td>
<td>$975.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounts taken</td>
<td>$162.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net earnings—Emblem Division</td>
<td>$13,218.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous revenue</td>
<td>$3,347.08</td>
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</table>

**Total Revenue** $51,184.42

### Expense

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General and administrative</td>
<td>$23,154.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Americanism</td>
<td>$6,700.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Legislative</td>
<td>$7,786.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation</td>
<td>$10,703.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publicity</td>
<td>$7,160.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>$4,402.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive</td>
<td>$14,587.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>$4,110.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orphans' Home</td>
<td>$2,730.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjutants' Conference</td>
<td>$7,365.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Expense** $88,702.99

**Excess of expense over revenue—to exhibit B** $37,518.57
# OPERATING STATEMENT—EMBLEM DIVISION

January 1, 1925, Through September 5, 1925

## Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>$195,413.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Cost of goods sold</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventory January 1, 1925</td>
<td>$15,011.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchases</td>
<td>136,182.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>151,193.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventory September 5, 1925</td>
<td>18,210.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>132,982.30</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Gross profit on merchandise sold

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>62,430.92</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Expense

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pay roll</td>
<td>9,366.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>51.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone and telegraph</td>
<td>141.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery, printing and office supplies</td>
<td>830.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage and express</td>
<td>4,277.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>12,972.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boxes and shipping supplies</td>
<td>220.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>61.97</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Net Operating Profit—to Exhibit C

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$34,567.61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
Indianapolis, Indiana  

SCHEDULE No. 2

OPERATING STATEMENT—FILM DIVISION  
January 1, 1925, Through September 5, 1925

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>$16,082.55</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue from bookings</td>
<td>$16,082.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Cost of advertising merchandise</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 1, 1925, inventory</td>
<td>$2,803.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchases</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 5, 1925, inventory</td>
<td>1,726.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5,075.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross profit from bookings</td>
<td>$11,007.03</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pay roll</td>
<td>2,735.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>32.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone and telegraph</td>
<td>256.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery, printing and office supplies</td>
<td>232.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage and express</td>
<td>736.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>68.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent, heat and light</td>
<td>630.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional service</td>
<td>88.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>11.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation of films</td>
<td>4,017.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8,809.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add: Sale of advertising on “The Whipping Boss”</td>
<td>2,198.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>284.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net operating profit—to exhibit C</td>
<td>$2,482.05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### SCHEDULE NO. 3

**ANALYSIS OF EXPENSE**

**January 1, 1925, Through September 5, 1925**

#### Administration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pay roll</td>
<td>$23,891.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>144.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone and telegraph</td>
<td>2,043.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery, printing and office supplies</td>
<td>4,308.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage and express</td>
<td>864.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance of quarters</td>
<td>775.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>8,490.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moving to new quarters</td>
<td>1,630.34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Administration** $42,148.11

#### National Americanism

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pay roll</td>
<td>8,440.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>1,946.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone and telegraph</td>
<td>109.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery, printing and office supplies</td>
<td>821.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage and express</td>
<td>250.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special meetings</td>
<td>1,640.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>515.69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total National Americanism** $13,730.62

#### National Legislative

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pay roll</td>
<td>9,287.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>129.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone and telegraph</td>
<td>832.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery, printing and office supplies</td>
<td>1,651.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage and express</td>
<td>90.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent, heat and light</td>
<td>1,108.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special meetings</td>
<td>180.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>15.00</td>
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</table>

**Total National Legislative** $13,293.63

#### Publicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pay roll</td>
<td>7,885.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>723.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone and telegraph</td>
<td>74.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery, printing and office supplies</td>
<td>1,816.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage and express</td>
<td>1,500.65</td>
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<tr>
<td>Photos and clippings</td>
<td>1,396.11</td>
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</table>

**Total Publicity** $13,396.42

#### Amount forward

**$82,565.78**

---

**THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**National Headquarters**

**Indianapolis, Indiana**
Report of the National Executive Committee

THE AMERICAN LEGION
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
Indianapolis, Indiana

SCHEDULE No. 3

(Concluded)

ANALYSIS OF EXPENSE

January 1, 1925, Through September 5, 1925

| Amount forwarded | $82,568.78 |

**Finance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pay roll</td>
<td>$4,994.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>54.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone and telegraph</td>
<td>9.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery, printing and office supplies</td>
<td>575.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage and express</td>
<td>137.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>658.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional services</td>
<td>810.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bond premiums</td>
<td>497.43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total                                   | 7,737.81 |

**Organization**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pay roll</td>
<td>$36,471.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>953.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone and telegraph</td>
<td>24.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery, printing and office supplies</td>
<td>6,553.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage and express</td>
<td>573.93</td>
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| Total                                   | 14,576.52|

**Executive**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National commander</td>
<td>11,980.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National adjutant</td>
<td>5,221.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National judge advocate</td>
<td>666.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant national adjutant</td>
<td>1,788.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National historian</td>
<td>666.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>2,926.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance Committee</td>
<td>580.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Committee</td>
<td>14,235.80</td>
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| Total                                   | 37,166.35|

**Membership Cards**

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Pay roll</td>
<td>419.38</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telephone and telegraph</td>
<td>.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery, printing and office supplies</td>
<td>1,448.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage and express</td>
<td>200.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional services</td>
<td>1,732.47</td>
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| Total                                   | 3,800.93 |

$145,850.39
### SCHEDULE NO. 4

#### NOTES RECEIVABLE

**September 5, 1925**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maker</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Due</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department of Colorado</td>
<td>12-20-21</td>
<td>12-20-23</td>
<td>$1,001.62</td>
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<tr>
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<td>9-29-24</td>
<td>9-29-26</td>
<td>1,800.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department of Missouri</td>
<td>9-29-24</td>
<td>9-29-27</td>
<td>1,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Missouri</td>
<td>9-29-24</td>
<td>9-29-28</td>
<td>1,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Missouri</td>
<td>9-29-24</td>
<td>9-29-28</td>
<td>1,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Missouri</td>
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<td>9-29-28</td>
<td>1,800.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department of New Jersey</td>
<td>2-1-25</td>
<td>2-1-26</td>
<td>3,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Mississippi</td>
<td>6-15-25</td>
<td>12-15-25</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
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<td>Department of Maryland</td>
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<td>12-15-25</td>
<td>1,189.11</td>
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<td>Department of Utah</td>
<td>6-15-25</td>
<td>12-15-25</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
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<td>Department of Alabama</td>
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<td>620.91</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department of Alabama</td>
<td>6-15-25</td>
<td>3-18-26</td>
<td>612.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Orleans convention com.</td>
<td>12-21-23</td>
<td>12-21-26</td>
<td>14,549.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. H. Boynton</td>
<td>2-1-23</td>
<td>7-1-23</td>
<td>830.45</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. H. Boynton</td>
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<td>8-1-23</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
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<tr>
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<td>9-1-23</td>
<td>2,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. H. Boynton</td>
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<td>10-1-23</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1,000.00</td>
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<td>S. H. Boynton</td>
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<td>1-1-24</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. H. Boynton</td>
<td>2-1-23</td>
<td>2-1-24</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
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**Total** $39,003.49
### ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

September 5, 1925

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Due from New Orleans convention committee</td>
<td>$2,610.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due on open accounts</td>
<td>758.42</td>
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<tr>
<td>Due on C. O. D.'s</td>
<td>1,578.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Due from departments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>$176.46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>378.75</td>
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<td>Checks returned by bank for collection</td>
<td>205.57</td>
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**Total**: $5,708.01
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<thead>
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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cashier national headquarters</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legislative vice chairman</td>
<td>550.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chairman—Rehabilitation</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>W. Miller—rehabilitation</td>
<td>300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. B. Williams—secretary to national commander</td>
<td>600.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frederick C. Painton</td>
<td>150.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Valentine Coloma</td>
<td>290.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. R. Myers—Otter Lake Billet</td>
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<td>J. W. Scovel—Legionville, Kansas, Billet</td>
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<td>Edwin Hollenbeck—Philadelphia, Pa., Billet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emma Puschner</td>
<td>250.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ed Lewis—News Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. C. Brown—rehabilitation</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ike Horton</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<td>Robert Byers—child welfare</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. H. Hilkene</td>
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<tr>
<td>O. B. Freeman—rehabilitation, Dallas, Texas</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>T. V. Dowd</td>
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<td>G. H. Raushkolb</td>
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<td>J. P. Mulcare</td>
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<td>W. T. Kroll</td>
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<td>N. W. Engel</td>
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<tr>
<td>H. E. McCullough</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. A. Hartman</td>
<td>200.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>R. M. Tulson</td>
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<tr>
<td>F. E. Leister</td>
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<tr>
<td>P. J. Cantwell</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>P. E. Fox</td>
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<tr>
<td>W. R. Hudson</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Everett Borton</td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. A. Traylor</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
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**Total working funds:** $18,400.00

**Endowment Fund General**

<table>
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<th>Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>M. A. Traylor</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
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**Amount forward:** $22,400.00
### Statement of Working Fund

**September 5, 1925**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Endowment Fund</th>
<th>Amount forwarded</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Field secretaries</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>F. M. Murrill</td>
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<tr>
<td>P. E. Seidler</td>
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<tr>
<td>R. H. Stratton</td>
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<tr>
<td>F. B. Streeter</td>
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<tr>
<td>F. E. Bury</td>
<td>150.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>W. R. Kemp</td>
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<tr>
<td>L. D. Tabor</td>
<td>150.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jarvis Price</td>
<td>150.00</td>
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<td>R. G. Bishop</td>
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<td>W. P. Simons</td>
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<td>H. H. Fenley</td>
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<td>J. L. Moore</td>
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<td>L. S. Ray</td>
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<tr>
<td>G. H. Fritsche</td>
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<td>B. J. Getzoff</td>
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<td>Paul Jordan</td>
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<td>G. D. Hubbard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sam Whistler</td>
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</tbody>
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**Total** | **$28,768.43**
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
Indianapolis, Indiana  

SCHEDULE NO. 7  

ACCOUNT PAYABLE  
September 5, 1925

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company/Individual</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annin &amp; Company</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. C. Brass</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bardach &amp; Gran</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baldwin &amp; Miller</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western Newspaper Union—Indianapolis</td>
<td>$1.20</td>
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<td>Western Newspaper Union—Chicago</td>
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<tr>
<td>Irons &amp; Russell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shaw-Walker company</td>
<td>$25.21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Engraving company</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indiana Paper company</td>
<td>$4.33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indianapolis Engraving company</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luce’s Press Clipping bureau</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southwest Press Clipping bureau</td>
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<td>C. F. Bretzman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hoosier Photo company</td>
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<tr>
<td>Begley Stereotype company</td>
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<td>Inland Stamp andStencil company</td>
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<td>Wm. B. Burford</td>
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<td>Library bureau</td>
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<td>L. C. McCollum</td>
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<td>Paul Davis</td>
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<td>Western Union Telegraph company</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Excise tax</td>
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<td>H. K. Martin</td>
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Total: $3,969.90
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
Indianapolis, Indiana  

SCHEDULE No. 8  

DEPARTMENT CREDITS  
September 5, 1925  

<table>
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<td>California</td>
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<td>Florida</td>
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<td>Illinois</td>
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<td>Indiana</td>
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<td>Kansas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
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<td>Louisiana</td>
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<td>North Dakota</td>
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<td>Ohio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
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<td>Tennessee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
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<td>Vermont</td>
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<td>Virginia</td>
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<td>Washington</td>
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<td>West Virginia</td>
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<td>Wisconsin</td>
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<td>Wyoming</td>
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$1,640.00
The American Legion
National Headquarters
Indianapolis, Indiana

Schedule No. 9

Legion Endowment Corporation Account
September 5, 1925

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Endowment Subscriptions to date</td>
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<td>Cash transmitted to corporation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenses paid by national headquarters Sch. No. 10</td>
<td>$442,911.67</td>
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<tr>
<td>Balance — Accounted for as follows</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subscription receivable</td>
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<td>Cash in bank</td>
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<td>$51,531.92</td>
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THE AMERICAN LEGION
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
Indianapolis, Indiana

SCHEDULE NO. 10

ENDOWMENT DRIVE EXPENSE
January 1, 1925, Through September 5, 1925

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<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Endowment Corporation, organization expense</td>
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**Total**—per Sch. No. 15  **$442,611.67**

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**Total**—per Sch. No. 15  **$442,611.67**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Hotel</th>
<th>Meals</th>
<th>R. R. Fares</th>
<th>Misc.</th>
<th>Salaries</th>
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<td>394.18</td>
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## Endowment Fund—Field Men Expense

January 1, 1925, Through September 5, 1925

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Hotel</th>
<th>Meals</th>
<th>R. R. Fares</th>
<th>Misc.</th>
<th>Salaries</th>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$27,383.96</strong></td>
<td><strong>$25,767.96</strong></td>
<td><strong>$24,290.17</strong></td>
<td><strong>$15,479.89</strong></td>
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**THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS**

**Indianapolis, Indiana**

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**SCHEDULE NO. 12**

---

**STATE CAMPAIGN OFFICE EXPENSE**

January 1, 1925, Through September 5, 1925

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<th>State</th>
<th>Total Expense</th>
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<th>Telephone and Telegraph</th>
<th>Postage and Office Exp.</th>
<th>Express</th>
<th>Traveling</th>
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<td>4,712.22</td>
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<td>596.44</td>
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<td>245.88</td>
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## STATE CAMPAIGN OFFICE EXPENSE

January 1, 1925, Through September 5, 1925

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Total Expense</th>
<th>Pay Roll</th>
<th>Telephone and Telegraph</th>
<th>Sundry and Office Exp.</th>
<th>Postage and Express</th>
<th>Traveling</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
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<td>520.79</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1,201.29</td>
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<td>520.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>1,797.27</td>
<td>658.55</td>
<td>1,897.70</td>
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<td>978.55</td>
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<td>47.65</td>
<td>71.00</td>
<td>837.35</td>
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<tr>
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<td>113.00</td>
<td>46.86</td>
<td>41.48</td>
<td>50.67</td>
<td>837.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>46.25</td>
<td>46.16</td>
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<td>480.46</td>
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<td>50.72</td>
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<td>201.87</td>
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<td><strong>$25,957.73</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,644.08</strong></td>
<td><strong>$32,034.15</strong></td>
<td><strong>$9,140.18</strong></td>
<td><strong>$14,684.96</strong></td>
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</table>
### Ratio of 1925 Paid Memberships to 1924 Paid Memberships Within the Limits of Continental United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Paid Memberships Dec. 31, 1924</th>
<th>Paid Memberships Sept. 5, 1925</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>402</td>
<td>634</td>
<td>132.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>17,152</td>
<td>20,266</td>
<td>118.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>9,514</td>
<td>116.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>2,713</td>
<td>113.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
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<td>2,022</td>
<td>107.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>8,544</td>
<td>8,819</td>
<td>103.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas</td>
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<td>15,624</td>
<td>102.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>2,777</td>
<td>2,834</td>
<td>102.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>4,711</td>
<td>4,778</td>
<td>101.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>3,659</td>
<td>3,600</td>
<td>101.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>3,511</td>
<td>3,792</td>
<td>100.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>46,638</td>
<td>46,798</td>
<td>100.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>11,940</td>
<td>99.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>4,651</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>97.34</td>
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<td>697</td>
<td>96.27</td>
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<tr>
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<td>92.53</td>
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<td>92.16</td>
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<tr>
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<td>13,571</td>
<td>88.32</td>
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<td>87.98</td>
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<tr>
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<td>5,769</td>
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Amounts forward: 523,804 500,369
RATIO OF 1925 PAID MEMBERSHIPS TO 1924 PAID MEMBERSHIPS WITHIN THE LIMITS OF CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES:

<table>
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<th>Department</th>
<th>Amounts forwarded</th>
<th>Dec. 31, 1924</th>
<th>Sept. 5, 1925</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Mexico</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Georgia</strong></td>
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<tr>
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IN TERRITORIES, ISLAND POSSESSIONS, ETC., OF THE UNITED STATES:

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<th>Amounts forwarded</th>
<th>Dec. 31, 1924</th>
<th>Sept. 5, 1925</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>669</td>
<td>74.47</td>
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<tr>
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<td>109</td>
<td>40.23</td>
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<tr>
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IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES:

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<th>Sept. 5, 1925</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>125.37</td>
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<td>63</td>
<td>98.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>532</td>
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<td>95.68</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1,843</td>
<td>110.36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grand Total: 638,446 / 593,492 = 92.96

* Trophy winner in 1923 with percentage of 197.7
** Trophy winner in 1924 with percentage of 151.5
*** Trophy winner in 1925 with percentage of 163.8
### Schedule No. 14

#### Ratio of Paid Memberships to Eligible Ex-Service Men

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Eligible Ex-Service Men</th>
<th>Paid Memberships</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>31,857</td>
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<td>37.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>56,800</td>
<td>20,266</td>
<td>35.58</td>
</tr>
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*Amounts forwarded* 3,719,272 543,020
Schedule No. 14

(Ratio of paid memberships to eligible ex-service men)

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National Treasurer.
SECTION II

REPORTS OF

National Americanism Commission
National Rehabilitation Committee
National Legislative Committee
Report of the National Americanism Commission

Frank C. Cross, National Director Colorado

To Serve Until December 31, 1925:
E. K. Bixby, Chairman Oklahoma
Peyton Hoge, Jr. Kentucky
Augustus H. Gansser Michigan
John J. Tigert D. C.
Alex Guerry Tenn.

To Serve Until December 31, 1926:
C. P. Gordon Landon Vermont
G. C. Blanton Alabama
A. D. Farrior Colorado
Frank Steh South Dakota
John B. Jessup Delaware
Robert W. Smith Ohio
Paul Davis Idaho
George W. Nilsson Arizona
Charles M. Herlihy Massachusetts
C. Thomas Busha Montana

To Serve Until December 31, 1927:
Herbert W. Bowman New York
John J. Bullington Illinois
Alexander Fitz-Hugh Mississippi
Harrison Fuller Minnesota
R. H. Burton Smith Iowa
John E. Booth Utah

In Memoriam

JOHN L. RILEY

Soldier, veteran of the World war, educator, member of the National Americanism Commission, term unexpired. Mr. Riley died in New York, January 13, 1925. With his death, the Americanism Commission of The American Legion lost one of its ardent workers. His devotion to the purposes and ideals of Americanism has done much to accomplish the success enjoyed by the National Americanism Commission. We will live in his memory and his spirit will guide us in our endeavors to accomplish the many things yet to be done in our fight for true Americanism.
Introduction

The Seventh Annual National Convention of The American Legion brings to a close the work of the National Americanism Commission for the period between October 1924 and October 1925. It is an honor to present to you this report of the accomplishments of the commission for the twelve-month period, and to submit a program of activities for the year that confronts us.

A most notable change in the personnel of the National Americanism Commission took place on July 1, of the present year, with the resignation of Mr. Garland W. Powell as national director. Mr. Powell had been in the service of the commission for approximately five years, and had officially borne the responsibilities of national director since the fall of 1922. A knowledge of the excellent ability and superior devotion which he brought to the work is not confined to members of The American Legion. He has added real sinew to an arm of service which The American Legion may be justly proud to possess. A precedent of unselfish accomplishment has been established under him that must be an inspiration to his successor.

This report, wherein it records the accomplishments of the National Americanism Commission during the past year, is essentially the restatement of an account prepared by Mr. Powell. The portions which bear upon the future and which elaborate on viewpoint are more particularly the work of your present national director.

Americanism is a term of vast significance. In its larger conception, it embraces every phase of an individual's relation to the community, state, and nation. Primarily it begins in the home. No man can be simultaneously a good citizen of the nation and a poor citizen of the state, or community; nor can he fully discharge his obligations as a citizen unless he preserves the ideals and traditions of American home-life at his own fireside. Therefore, it is of paramount importance that The American Legion give particular attention to the promotion of family integrity and community spirit. The National Americanism Commission urges a thoughtful consideration of every statement in the preamble to the constitution of The American Legion upon every member of the organization, for herein is found the catechism of our work.

Americanism demands vigilance. We must be ever alert to the influences which teach false doctrine and constantly seek the overthrow of organized government. Our chief weapon against these influences is the white light of publicity. We believe in the use of forceful restriction only when forceful overthrow is advocated. The National Americanism Commission, seeing in the Youth Movement a renewed effort on the part of Communism, calls upon every loyal member of The American Legion to report immediately any activity which may have as its motive to undermine the foundations of our government. These activities can seldom continue when public attention is directed upon them.

Americanism demands an open mind, but not a readiness to run amuck with the ideas of a revolutionary age. We must seek the level ground between the mire of reactionism and the crags of extremism.

The history of the National Americanism Commission is replete with conspicuous accomplishments wherein great national campaigns have been conducted and the co-operation of other organizations has been enlisted to further good citizenship on a national basis. The precedent must not be ignored. The time has come, however, when greater emphasis must be placed on the less conspicuous work that remains to be done in every local community. The theatre of operations for Americanism activities must penetrate more thoroughly into the local posts of The American Legion. The machinery of the Americanism Division should be complete in the nation, in every state, and in every community into which The American Legion extends; and a closer co-ordination among the units of the machinery should be sought.

A program of great vision and magnitude has been evolved for the com-
Organization

It is recommended that the internal organization committee of the convention be presented with a copy of the original organization plan of the National Americanism Commission, to wit: That the National Americanism Commission be composed of fifteen members, five of whom are to be elected each year for terms of three years by the National Executive Committee; and, that the internal organization committee be requested to bring the original plan before the convention for adoption. Fifteen members have been found to constitute the most workable number for the commission. With more members it becomes unwieldy. The present numerical composition of the commission resulted from a complication of resolutions and was never intended.

The National Americanism Commission, furthermore, recommends a resolution to the effect that each department organize its Americanism work after the plan of the national organization. We believe that an Americanism commission in each department, constituted similarly to the national commission, will greatly improve the effectiveness of our work. It would be impossible, of course, to employ a director on salary in most departments. If any department were disposed to pay a salary, however, it would be at full liberty to do so.

The American Legion Auxiliary

The National Americanism Commission has always received the fullest measure of support in its undertakings from the American Legion Auxiliary. Much of the success which has been achieved would have been impossible without this support. Our thanks are especially due to Mrs. Clare Oliphant, President of the Auxiliary, and to Mrs. Ruth McCurry Brown, national chairman of Americanism, for their excellent cooperation.

The future must see no diminution of the close and cordial relations which have existed throughout the past year. The divisions of Americanism in The American Legion and its Auxiliary should be made to function as one whenever possible.

American Education Week

American Education Week has become a national institution. Its value to the cause of Americanism, patriotism, and education can hardly be estimated. It concentrates the thought of the nation on matters which are of utmost importance to its present and future welfare.

In 1924, more than one hundred and fifty organizations joined The American Legion in the promotion of the week and it is safe to estimate that practically every community in the nation was reached in a more or less degree. The real burden of preparing the program and of carrying it into effect has always rested upon The American Legion, which has, however, enjoyed the most valuable support of the National Education Association and the United States bureau of education.

The program for 1925 is as follows:

Constitution Day

Monday, November 16.

“The Constitution is the bulwark of democracy and opportunity.”
1. Unity, justice, tranquility, defense, welfare and liberty.
2. Our constitution guarantees these rights.
3. Our constitution is the expression of the will of the people.
4. One constitution, one union, one flag, one history.
Report of the National Americanism Commission

Slogans—Ballots, not bullets.
Know the constitution.
Visit your schools to-day.

Patriotism Day
Tuesday, November 17.
“The flag of the United States of America is the symbol of the ideals and institutions of our republic.”
1. Our flag insures the sanctity of life and the security of property.
2. Quicken the sense of public duty.
3. Voting is the primary duty of the patriot.
4. Our national honor must be preserved from unjust attack.
Slogans—America first.
Vote at all elections.
Visit your schools to-day.

School and Teacher Day
Wednesday, November 18.
“It is not too much to say that the need of civilization is the need of teachers.”—Calvin Coolidge.
1. The teacher is a nation builder.
2. The school is the foundation of democracy.
3. Provide for the needs of your schools.
4. Trained teachers require adequate compensation.
5. The teaching of patriotism is the duty of all public servants.
Slogans—The better the teacher the better the school.
Visit your schools to-day.

Conservation and Thrift Day
Thursday, November 19.
“The forests of America, however slighted by man, must have been a great delight to God.”—John Muir.
1. Conserve our national resources.
2. Prevent forest fires.
3. Industry and thrift spell prosperity.
4. Saving insures happiness.
Slogans—Plant a tree.
Work and save.
Visit your schools to-day.

Know Your School Day
Friday, November 20.
“Progressive civilization depends upon progressive education.”
1. Schools must progress with the times.
2. Preparation for modern day life demands a broader course of study.
3. The school must be kept abreast of science and invention
4. A little invested in education saves much expended on crime, poverty and disease.
Slogans—Good schools for all communities.
Make your schools livable.
Visit your schools to-day.

Community and Health Day
Saturday, November 21.
“Physical education means health and strength.”
1. The school is a community center.
2. Equality of opportunity for every American boy and girl.
3. Public library service for every community.
4. Proper food and rest for children.
5. A health officer for every community.
6. Adequate parks for city, state and nation.

Slogans—A square deal for the country boy and girl.
A sound mind in a sound body.
Visit your neighbor to-day.

For God and Country Day

Sunday, November 22.

"Religion, morality, and education are necessary for good government."
1. Education in the home.
2. Education in the school.
3. Education in the church.

Slogans—A godly nation cannot fail.
Visit your church to-day.

Legislative Program For Education

Our legislative program for education, which was first drafted with the creation of the National Americanism Commission, has been expanded to include several new subjects. This program now stands as follows:
1. Compulsory education.
2. English as a medium of instruction in our schools.
3. Instruction in American history and civil 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.
9. Course in citizenship.
10. Courses in the constitution of the United States and the constitutions of the states.
11. Physical education.
12. Flag contest.

Community and Civic Betterment Bureau

It is earnestly urged that every device be used to bring the work of the Community and Civic Betterment Bureau more universally to the attention of the members of The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary. A store of information has been accumulated by the bureau which is now available to call. There is hardly any type of service that it is not prepared to render either directly, or through the co-operation of other agencies which have expressed a willingness to assist.

The service that it is ready to offer ranges from abstract information to concrete suggestion. The national, state and local publications, of The American Legion, are urged to help the Americanism commission to bring the services of the Community and Civic Betterment Bureau more directly to the attention of our membership.

Essay Contest

The American Legion National Essay Contest is held annually under mandate of the national convention, and has taken rank as the foremost undertaking of its kind in America.

The subject for the contest in 1924 and 1925 is "Why has The American Legion, an Organization of Veterans of the World War, Dedicated Itself, First of All, "To Uphold the Constitution of the United States."

The winners of the contest in 1923 and 1924 were as follows: First, Robert Krumholtz of Ohio; second, John S. Miller of Virginia; and third, Grace Nichols of California.
Our next contest will open co-incidentally with American Education Week, and will continue until the last week in March. The subject will be chosen to co-ordinate with the idea of the flag contest which was authorized at the last session of the National Executive Committee. These two contests will be carried on concurrently in the belief that each will supplement the influence of the other for a more courteous respect toward the flag of the United States.

The Story of the American People

One of the greatest accomplishments in Americanism, recorded by The American Legion, is the publication of "The Story of the American People". The National Americanism Commission faced difficulties which seemed almost insurmountable when it undertook to secure the preparation and publication of a history that would be free from the bias and misinformation too prevalent in current texts, in view of which the preparation of a new text was directed by the national convention at St. Paul.

The four primary purposes of the new history were to be as follows:
1. To teach the same elementary history through all our country.
2. To teach the views of many leaders rather than of one writer.
3. To tell truth briefly but without offense.
4. To build up character and a broad patriotism.

We believe that "The Story of the American People" conforms to these purposes, and is better fitted to accomplish the aims which are here set forth than any American history which has ever been written. We do not assert that it is perfect. Perfection is unattainable.

The publication of the history has been given over entirely to a commercial firm. The National Executive Committee has decided that The American Legion can take no profit whatsoever from it. We must not forget, however, that it is our idea, nor must we forget the purpose for which it was brought into existence. The American Legion should actively sponsor its adoption throughout the country.

No history could be written that would be immune to criticism. We must expect that "The Story of the American People" will meet with criticism, if for no other than commercial reasons. It is our business to defend it against criticism wherever such defense is necessary. We believe, however, that it will stand on its merits in the consideration of every fair-minded and patriotic citizen of the United States.

Americanism Conference at Omaha

The idea of an Americanism conference, or school, in Omaha just prior to the convention originated with Mr. R. H. Burton Smith of Sioux City, Iowa. Mr. Burton Smith is chairman of the Americanism committee for the Department of Iowa, and a member of the National Americanism Commission. The Americanism conference was arranged to be held in three sessions, namely: from ten to twelve o'clock in the forenoon, from two to five o'clock in the afternoon, and from eight to ten o'clock in the evening of October 4.

The program announced a series of short lectures by notable men who are authorities on specific topics relative to American citizenship with ample time provided for a thorough discussion from the floor of the topics introduced by the speakers, and for the presentation of independent ideas.

The primary aim of the commission in arranging for the Americanism conference was to bring about personal contact among members of The American Legion who are particularly interested in our activities. It was intended to serve as a vehicle for the exchange of ideas, for the attainment of better understanding between the National Americanism Commission and the workers in the field, and for the realization of a unified program of Americanism activities on the part of our entire organization. It is also hoped that it has served to direct attention to the urgent need for a complete Americanism unit in every department, and to the advisability of having an Americanism officer in every post.
"Service" an Americanism Text-Book

Since the last report of the National Americanism Commission, "Service", an Americanism text-book, has been completed and issued free of cost to all posts, Auxiliary units and officials of the departments of The American Legion. The demand for this book has made it necessary to undertake a second edition, which is now in preparation by the author, Mr. Garland W. Powell. The second edition of the book should be ready for distribution on or about the first of January.

Several states have considered the adoption of "Service" as a text-book for use in high schools. A resolution has been passed by the National Finance Committee authorizing a second edition of the book to be sold at cost, in order that such adoption be accelerated.

The new edition will contain eight new chapters, and there will be a revision of much of the material contained in the first edition. It will be bound in a stiff cloth binding.

Holidays

The American Legion should continue to take an active part in the observance of all holidays of a patriotic nature or of national scope. There is no medium, through which good citizenship may be promulgated, more easily available than a widely observed commemorative day or celebration. It serves to unite the citizenry of the nation in a common interest, and thus serves to strengthen the group spirit. It creates a psychological atmosphere in which men and women are peculiarly susceptible to dominant ideas. It is the purpose and responsibility of The American Legion to foster dominant ideas which will serve to develop loyalty, industry, and generally better citizenship.

It is suggested that the list, designated in "Service" as national holidays, be extended to appear as follows:

- Arbor day.
- Americanism day.
- Mother's day.
- Memorial day.
- Independence day—Citizenship day.
- Labor day.
- Constitution week.
- Columbus day.
- Armistice day.
- Christmas.
- Washington's birthday.
- Flag day.

Disaster Relief

It has been proposed that the Americanism commission form within itself a disaster relief bureau. After thoughtful consideration, the commission announces the resolution which follows:

"WHEREAS, the activity of many posts of The American Legion in lending assistance and bringing relief to those communities recently suffering disaster has demonstrated to the Americanism commission the possibility of rendering a great public service by the organization of a disaster relief bureau of The American Legion to function with local organizations and the American Red Cross; now, therefore,

"BE IT RESOLVED, That the committee on internal organization of the national convention pass a resolution authorizing the organization of a disaster relief bureau, as a part of the National Americanism Commission, to function under the direction of the national director of Americanism; that this bureau, when organized, cause a survey to be made through the posts, with a view to determining the character of assistance which may be given, the manner in which it may be rendered, and formulate a general plan of
co-operation with local organizations and the Red Cross in furnishing man-
power for emergency relief and policing, securing supplies and any other ser-
vice within the power and ability of the individual posts to render."

**Junior All-American Baseball**

The basic purpose which should motivate The American Legion to organ-
ize a Junior All-American Baseball League is to promote citizenship through
sportsmanship. A fundamental of good citizenship is fair play. If fair play
in athletics can be drilled into a boy so that it becomes a part of him, the
spirit of fairness is virtually certain to carry over into the business and
political relations of his manhood. A popular athletic program would afford
The American Legion the best possible medium through which to teach the
principles of Americanism. Under cloak of a sport code, we would inculcate
more good citizenship in a boy during one year than would be possible in
five years of direct appeal.

The Junior All-American Baseball League is an idea which has every
attribute of nation-wide popularity. Even though it did not have great pos-
sibilities for the promotion of better citizenship, it would provide The Ameri-
can Legion with a most desirable and effective type of publicity. Sport
invites almost universal interest. It is not unreasonable to predict that
many capable men, veterans of the World war, would be attracted to our
ranks by the program which is here presented.

The organization of the Junior All-American Baseball League has been
carefully planned and a detailed report may be secured from the Americanism
commission. In effect the plan is as follows: Teams would be formed in
each community in the United States where there is a post of The American
Legion. These teams would play first for district championships. District
champions would next compete for department titles; and play continued be-
tween department and section champions until the field had narrowed to
to four teams in the country. These regional champions would then play off
the junior world's series at the national convention of The American Legion,
and suitable awards be made to the winning team.

Commissioner John Griffith of the Big Ten Athletic Conference and exec-
utive vice-president of the National Amateur Athletic Federation has pledged
his active support to the program. He believes that the junior baseball league
should be used as a nucleus for a Legion athletic program which would in-
clude the organization of physical competition in general. He points out
that there are hundreds of thousands of young men in the country who have
no part in any definite athletic program. These men are not in school, and
they are not connected with any of the agencies, such as the Y. M. C. A., that
cultivate team athletics. These men need attention.

The management of an undertaking such as has been briefly set forth
would require the employment of a competent director of athletics and a bud-
get. We believe, however, that the benefits to the youth of the nation, the
furtherance of our ideals of citizenship, the favorable publicity for The
American Legion, and the increased interest in national conventions would
more than repay the required effort and expense. The National Americanism
Commission recommends a very careful consideration of the project.

**Boy Scouts**

No single activity, which has come under the supervision of the Com-
munity and Civic Betterment Bureau, has gone further than our co-operation
with the Boy Scouts. Under mandate of several national conventions, the
work has been raised to a place of prime importance.

From every part of the country reports have been received of instances
in which posts of The American Legion have undertaken the actual organiza-
tion of Boy Scout troops, or have become sponsors for the movement. In one
department, alone, more than one-third of all posts have adopted Boy Scout
troops with the result of heightened enthusiasm in both ranks. A recent
survey of one hundred posts, chosen at random, reveals that fifty-five have undertaken some type of boys' work. In nearly every case the work has had connection with the Boy Scouts.

In one city there is a Court of Honor, the supreme executive group in local Boy Scout activities, which is composed entirely of Legionnaires. Many other communities can point to similar achievements in co-operation. A Legion post in a mid-western city has established a school to develop leadership for Scout work.

It would be utterly impossible to point out even an appreciable percentage of the instances in which The American Legion has entered this field. The interest is increasing. In the past year various literature on Boy Scout work, including a special bulletin, has been sent out from the Community and Civic Betterment Bureau.

A much larger program of encouragement has been worked out for the future. Negotiations have been entered upon with national headquarters of the Boy Scouts to place a special representative in the bureau, through whom a better co-ordination of effort may be accomplished. The magnitude to which the work may grow can hardly be prophesied.

National Boys Week

The commission has co-operated in the past year with those organizations which conduct National Boys Week. It is suggested that the co-operation continue. National Boys Week is an excellent movement and well deserves the support of The American Legion and all good American citizens.

All-American Conference

In the All-American Conference a movement was initiated by the Americanism commission of The American Legion, which holds promise for a much better co-ordination of efforts of the various organizations in the United States that are working to oppose radicalism and to foster better citizenship. The accomplishments, so far, have been largely of a preliminary nature. The Americanism commission expects to continue the leadership which it has taken in the movement. Further conferences of the representatives of the sixty-eight organizations, which have endorsed the project, are anticipated. The commission is very much gratified by the co-operative spirit which has been displayed.

Traffic Conference

The secretary of commerce of the United States invited The American Legion to participate in a National Traffic Conference, which took place in Washington on December 15-16, 1924. The purpose of the conference was to concentrate attention on safety problems. Many avoidable accidents in traffic of every kind had made it virtually necessary to give attention to their causes. The conference was attended by the foremost traffic experts of the country.

The National Americanism Commission affirms the pledge of the national director to the secretary of commerce that The American Legion will lend every support to the plans which emanated from the conference.

Get-Out-the-Vote Campaign

The national convention of The American Legion, at St. Paul, directed the Americanism commission to make a campaign to register a popular vote in the presidential election of 1924, which would be more representative of the nation. The fact that it was necessary to wage this campaign coincident with American Education Week, made it very difficult. Its success, however, was almost more than could have been anticipated.

Very much of the credit for the efficiency of the campaign must go to the National Manufacturers' Association, which spent many thousands of dollars in the preparation of literature and tags to be circulated by us. Our
Report of the National Americanism Commission

part in the campaign was practically without expense. The National Manufacturers' Association deserves a most cordial expression of thanks from The American Legion for its unselfish and almost unrecognized participation.

We are pleased to believe that the campaign had the desired effect toward the registration of a larger vote. In certain communities posts of The American Legion held contests through schools, and awarded prizes to those who were responsible for getting the most voters to the polls. Tags were used to identify the voters who had been solicited by each team.

Harmon Foundation

The National Americanism Commission wishes to continue co-operation with the Harmon Foundation. Through the co-operation and assistance of this foundation we have obtained playgrounds in several communities, from which a call had been made upon us.

The Harmon Foundation has recently come before us with the proposal that we co-operate with them in the assignment of a fund which it has set aside for needy students. The National Americanism Commission is glad to accept a part in this work.

Woodrow Wilson Memorial

The National Americanism Commission wishes to express a vote of thanks to the board of directors of the Woodrow Wilson Memorial in appreciation of the action of the board in postponing a drive for funds until the completion of the endowment drive of The American Legion.

Speakers' Bureau

The speakers' bureau was given over to the service of the Endowment Executive Committee, in the early part of the present year, to assist in the campaign for a disabled veterans' and war orphans' fund. It is still under the control of the endowment organisation, but will revert to the Americanism Commission when it has completed the service for which it was conscripted.

The speakers' bureau is a very important adjunct of the Americanism Division. It is the most potent weapon that we have for combating radical activities. It is prepared to meet un-American propaganda wherever such operations become manifest. It is an effective medium through which the sound doctrines of constitutional government may be brought emphatically into consciousness of the nation.

The speakers' bureau should be preserved and strengthened. Further mention will be made of it in the budget.

Radio

Upon the return of the speakers' bureau to the National Americanism Commission, short radio speeches, suitable for various occasions, will be issued through the medium of our speakers' letter. With the assistance of the departments of The American Legion, arrangements are to be undertaken with radio companies throughout the United States to broadcast short addresses by our speakers, whenever the occasion demands.

These addresses should be especially effective on nationally observed holidays. Many thousands of American citizens might thus be induced to give serious thought to the original intent and spirit of certain holidays which are now too generally used as mere occasions for frivolity and merrymaking. It is an opportunity to spread the doctrines of Americanism, which The American Legion cannot afford to overlook.

Motion Pictures

The national convention at St. Paul directed the Americanism commission to undertake a campaign, through the medium of motion pictures, to
promulgate the tenets of good citizenship and to disseminate information relative to flag etiquette.

The matter has been given very careful study by a sub-committee of the commission. It is not a project which can be undertaken in a casual manner. Two possibilities have been investigated with special care: the contrivance of some spectacular performance which would present the flag code as a news reel feature; and the formation of a subsidiary corporation for the production of patriotic films. A full account of the investigation is contained in a special report.

Naturalization

It is exceedingly desirable that the process of naturalizing aliens into citizenship be made as impressive as possible. The naturalization ceremony as set forth in "Service", has been compiled after a thorough investigation of ceremonies in many parts of the nation. It embraces the best features from all, and is recommended for universal use.

In several states The American Legion has co-operated very effectively with local organizations of barristers in the introduction of the ceremony. A joint campaign of national scope to promote its adoption was a project under special consideration at a recent conference between the national director of Americanism and members of the committee on American citizenship of the American Bar Association. Rapid advancement should result from our co-ordinated efforts.

Flag Code

The National American Commission urges upon the congress of the United States a joint resolution for the adoption of the flag code, as the official code for the use of congress. We believe that uniformity in the display of the flag and the courtesies rendered it, is most desirable for the nation as a whole. As we conceive it, however, it would be inadvisable, if not impossible, to make any code mandatory upon our citizenry. The adoption of an official code for use at the national capital would contribute very much toward the realization of our objective. Such official recognition of the flag code would effectively stop all controversy as to its authority.

American Made Flags

The Americanism Commission urges the purchase of flags of the United States which have been manufactured within the boundaries of the nation. It, furthermore, urges that these flags be made, in every instance, of material of good quality and fast colors.

Star-Spangled Banner

The National Americanism Commission reaffirms the stand which it has previously taken, to wit: That "The Star-Spangled Banner" should be recognized as the national anthem of the United States of America.

A joint resolution was introduced in the last congress to secure the official recognition of "The Star-Spangled Banner" as our national anthem; but, because of the inevitable congestion of legislation in a short session, it was tabled.

Rural and Urban Hygiene

We heartily endorse and offer our co-operation to the United States public health service. We appreciate the vital importance to the nation of physical fitness on the part of our citizens. We pledge ourselves to assist actively in the dissemination of educational literature, which the public health service has prepared, and to work for the principal objectives in its campaign.
Public Relations

The National Americanism Commission of The American Legion has enjoyed the most cordial relations with the foremost patriotic, civic, fraternal and religious organizations of the nation. These organizations merit the heartiest good-will of The American Legion for the co-operation which they have given. The Americanism commission wishes to extend a vote of thanks to them.

Pennsylvania School Award

A campaign has been carried on through the various departments in the past year, in the interest of the Pennsylvania school award. The success of the campaign has been mediocre. Inasmuch as the sale of medals is involved, the matter has never come, except incidentally, under the jurisdiction of the Americanism Division. It should be primarily the concern of the Emblem Division, and it is suggested that the change be made to put it where it rightly belongs.

National Defense Day

The National Americanism Commission has given considerable attention, in the past, to the furtherance of American ideals on National Defense day. We still believe that the day offers peculiar advantages to our propaganda. Nevertheless, after careful consideration, we have come to the decision that the observance of the day lies more directly within the jurisdiction of the National Military Affairs Committee. In referring the observance of the day to the National Military Affairs Committee, we pledge our cordial cooperation in every possible way. We hold ourselves in readiness to assist in the diffusion of the idea that our national security depends upon our unrelaxing preparedness.

Unemployment

The Americanism commission has remained in readiness to assist unemployed veterans of the World war to find employment. There is little unemployment at the present time, but should an emergency again arise we shall be prepared to meet it.

Extreme Pacifism

The National Americanism Commission has waged an active campaign against the extreme pacifist who would reduce the United States to a nation with neither spirit nor means to resist its enemies. The Russian soviet, the Communists and the revolutionary radicals of the world have lent every support to the spirit of extreme pacifism in America. But the campaign is weakening. Under the leadership of the women’s Auxiliary of The American Legion, the Conference on National Defense as Peace insurance, was held in Washington, D. C., during the latter part of February this year.

It was an effective move against the organizations of women who were sponsoring “The Slackers Pledge.” The American Legion should heartily endorse the Auxiliary for the excellent work which it has accomplished. It is in a better position to combat extreme pacifism than is the Legion itself. We owe thanks to the officers of the organization who made the national defense conference such a remarkable success.

Communist and Radical Activities

A number of instances have recently come to our attention which indicate a renewed effort on the part of the communists and radicals in America to spread propaganda among the youth of the nation.

An extensive survey of this operation is now under way, and the results will soon be ready for publication. The evidence, so far in our possession,
makes it imperative that we reaffirm our active antagonism to all un-American propaganda.

**Recognition of Soviet Russia**

The commission reaffirms its stand as announced on two previous occasions against the recognition of Soviet Russia by the government of the United States.

**Immigration**

The Americanism commission reaffirms its resolution with respect to Japanese immigration.

A sub-committee has been appointed to investigate the smuggling of aliens into the United States. The report of the committee will be made at the convention.

**Criminal Aliens**

The National Americanism Commission believes that a law should be passed by the congress of the United States, requiring the deportation of aliens convicted of a felony.

**Registration of Aliens**

The National Americanism Commission again urges the passage of legislation that will require the registration of all aliens within the boundaries of the United States.

**Narcotics**

The National Americanism Commission reaffirms its conviction that The American Legion should do all in its power to assist in curbing the traffic in narcotics.

**Conclusion**

The National Americanism Commission is, in a sense, a sales unit. It was conceived, and is committed, to sell the ideals of The American Legion to the nation. The procedure of salesmanship, whether it is concerned with an article of merchandise or an idea, varies but little. The four steps are as follows:

1. To attract attention.
2. To arouse interest.
3. To create a desire.
4. To secure action.

The first step is often very difficult in our work. Americans have become apathetic to the monotonous appeal of the patriotic exhorter. The utmost ingenuity is frequently necessary to obtain publicity in the campaigns which the national convention has directed us to undertake. American Education Week and the National Essay Contest require greater and greater expenditures of effort as year succeeds year.

The effectiveness of the second step depends on the vitality of the program to which publicity has been given. It must contribute to a need; it must have force and continuity. No amount of publicity can put over a program that is weak and ill-conceived.

The third step approaches the limit of effective influence from national headquarters. The merchandise has passed from the possession of the wholesaler into the possession of the retailer. The posts and the individual members of The American Legion are the retailers of the spirit of patriotism and service which we are associated together to foster and perpetuate. It rests largely upon them to create a desire on the part of the public to participate.
in our campaigns for better citizenship and in our efforts to make every American community a better place in which to live.

The last step involves the final acceptance of our program by the public. The community actively espouses the ideals of American Education Week; it endorses and encourages the National Essay Contest; it supports the organization of a Boy Scout troop; it accepts the leadership of The American Legion and lends itself to the furtherance of whatever may be the program of the hour. Then has The American Legion accomplished the objectives for which it was brought into existence. These objectives can never be attained, however, until the post realizes the responsibility that rests upon it. The post that operates without an Americanism officer is as incomplete as a newspaper office without a circulation manager or an insurance company without an agent. We must make our sales organization complete.
Report of the National Rehabilitation Committee

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Adam Bowman, Johnson City, Tenn.
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George H. W. Rauschkolb, St. Louis, Mo.
William T. Kroll, Minneapolis, Minn.
John C. Keene, Denver, Col.
James P. Mulcare, San Francisco, Calif.
Norman W. Engle, Seattle, Wash.
W. R. Hudson, Dallas, Texas.

During the administrative year just now coming to a close the National Rehabilitation Committee has, as in former years, applied itself to the welfare of disabled men and women veterans, and also to the problems of veterans in need or in distress generally, in so far as time and personnel has permitted. It carried forward to the national legislature the extensive program for extension and clarification of existing statutes mandated, by the Sixth National Annual Convention. Not all of this program was adopted into law, the whole effort being somewhat difficult on account of the shortness of the last session of the congress.

Many of the legislative proposals of the St. Paul convention now appear upon the statutes, while others are left for future effort.

Co-operation with Veterans' Bureau

Your committee has closely co-operated with the director of the United States Veterans' Bureau, and as a result some of the more important opinions of the Sixth Annual National Convention have borne fruit through the
promulgation of bureau regulations which are now reacting in a beneficia
manner upon our disabled comrades. Many necessary proposals have been
taken to the bureau as a result of the opinions of the chairman of the Na
tional Rehabilitation Committee, and many others have been carried
forward as a result of observations made by the general members, field sec
retaries and state departments of the Legion, which were based upon their
experience with the operation of the bureau in its field agencies.

Many individual claimants have appeared in, or have been sent by
Legion agencies to, our Washington office for personal assistance in the advoc
acy of their claims, and many hundreds of claims have been forwarded
through the Washington office for advocacy before the central office agencies
of the bureau.

Veterans’ Bureau Shows Progress

It is the feeling of the chairman of the National Rehabilitation Com
mittee that the present director of the veterans’ bureau and his responsible
assistants have made more progress during the present year toward bene
ficially administering the laws than in the year prior to the St. Paul conven
tion. The chairman and the committee generally have confidence in the
director. He has made the progress which would normally be incident to the
passage of a year, and in addition has effected some reorganizations in the
bureau and has emitted a number of liberalizing regulations, all of which
have conformed to the opinions of the National Rehabilitation Committee
and the Legion in general.

Hearty Legion Support Given

During the year the committee, in line with the decentralization of
Veterans’ bureau activities has relied more and more upon its field members
and upon the Legion organizations in the states for advice and practical
help in issues and in the solution of individual cases or groups of cases. The
cooperation, support and advice of the general and advisory members of the
committee has been effective and constant. The field secretaries have not
only aided those general members to whose field committees they have been
appurtenant, but they have been of great assistance to the chairman in
affording data based upon their field experience which has enabled him to
represent truly to the director such conditions in the field as were both
satisfactory and unsatisfactory.

In the trying periods incident to reorganization and decentralization of
cases ratings, claims appeals and the co-ordination functions of the bureau
trough which it and this committee are just now passing, the helpful co
operation and advice of the field members and secretaries of this committee
to both the committee itself and to the bureau has helped to smooth the
way in what is at best always a tedious procedure. There has hardly been
a year since the passage of the veterans’ bureau bill in August of 1921 when
the Legion and the bureau have not had to pass together through one or
more of these episodes incident to more completely carrying this service to
the disabled out through the country.

Legislation

Immediately upon the conclusion of the Sixth National Annual Con
vention, the National Rehabilitation Committee carried forward the obli
gations laid upon it by that convention to secure certain legislative changes
for the benefit of disabled veterans of the World war, and to urge upon
the director of the veterans’ bureau a number of administrative liberaliza
tions. The program laid down by the St. Paul convention was elaborate,
both as to administration and legislation, and it followed that great activity
was necessary in order to secure the desired amendments to the laws in
view of the shortness of the ensuing session of the congress. This com
mittee prepared several legislative bills, the first of which comprised the
legislative proposals of the St. Paul convention in general, and it was intro
duced in the House of Representatives by Legionnaire Royal C. Johnson, a member of the congress from South Dakota, who is also chairman of the House Committee on World War Veterans Legislation, as H. R. 10271. The bill was presented on December 4, 1924, immediately after the congress convened, and was referred to the Committee on World War Veterans Legislation for consideration by that committee. The bill took the form of amendments to the World War Veterans' Act, 1924, and each of the suggestions of the St. Paul convention was placed in this bill as an amendment to the proper and pertinent section of the then existing law.

The Christmas holidays then ensued and it was not until February that our legislation had been considered fully by the veterans' committee of the house. All of the sessions of that committee were attended and participated in by the chairman of the National Rehabilitation Committee and by the vice-chairman of the National Legislative Committee or his representative. The chairman of the National Rehabilitation Committee was heard at length by the house committee in the consideration of this legislation and was able to explain in detail the desirability of effectuating the Legion's proposals by means of satisfactory amendments. There also appeared before the committee in these hearings the director of the veterans' bureau who, in addition to presenting certain proposals tending to make more convenient the operation of the bureau, expressed himself definitely and vigorously as favoring most of the proposals of the Legion in principle, and in detail wherever he was able to express himself as to the latter.

There were included in this bill, H. R. 10271, written by the Legion, the several proposals for legislation of the Disabled American Veterans of the World War, as approved by its national convention for the year 1924. Thus there was before the committee of congress only the one general legislative document. Captain Thomas Kirby, of the Disabled American Veterans of the World War, and Captain Edwin Bettelheim, of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, appeared before the committee, earnestly advocating the passage of the proposed measure.

So soon as the house committee had concluded its hearings your National Rehabilitation Committee became spontaneously cognizant of two things—the time was short, since the congress would expire by statute on March 4, and it felt from its daily observations gathered from the hearings and through its contact with members of the house that it knew about which suggestions of the Legion might reasonably be incorporated in such bills as would be finally presented on the floor of the house by the veterans committee. Thus your committee, with the aid of the legislative expert from the veterans' bureau, Mr. J. O'C. Roberts, a Legionnaire, undertook to complete the preparation of another complete legislative measure which it was thought would meet with the approval of all of the members of the house committee. This informally prepared document was informally presented to the house committee and shortly thereafter (February 16, 1925) the drafting sub-committee of the house committee presented to the whole house, H. R. 12308. This measure did not contain all of the features incorporated in the informally prepared document but it did comprehend the most important of the clarifications and extensions advocated by the Legion, and it also contained as an amendment to section 10 of the World War Veterans' Act, 1924, a provision for the setting up of a permanent medical service within the veterans' bureau. A stabilized medical service has been advocated by the Legion during the last two years in the interest of securing constant and improved clinical conditions for our hospitalized veterans.

In the meantime, simultaneously with the introduction of the house bill, H. R. 10271, the same bill was also introduced in the senate by David I. Reed, a Legionnaire from Pennsylvania, but in the press of senate business and in the inability of the Senate Finance Committee to take it up, it was permitted to lie dormant awaiting action from the house side.

During this period of the session your committee had not been given much encouragement in the senate as to the passage of any measure on
account of time limitations, together with the fact that the general program of the administration was meeting with difficulties.

**Senate Strikes Out Important Features**

However, upon the passage of the house bill on February 28 without a dissenting vote, the Senate Finance Committee took it up and on Tuesday, March 3, the Senate passed the bill, but struck out a great number of the beneficial sections approved by the house, including the permanent medical service for the veterans’ bureau, the reinstatement of lapsed term insurance by disabled veterans without the necessity of paying back premiums, the elimination of the restricting dates for entering into and terminating vocational training, and the permanent rate of compensation for arrested cases of tuberculosis.

These eliminations caused the house to demand a conference but this conference was informally declined by the Senate. The members of the house committee were disposed to feel that under these conditions the whole bill should be thrown out and an effort made early in the Sixty-ninth Congress to pass it intact, but the National Rehabilitation Committee and the National Legislative Committee of the Legion were of the opinion that the bill as shortened in the Senate should be accepted by the House in view of certain legislation approved by both the House and Senate in the interest of certain of the so-called willful misconduct cases, the liberalization of section twenty-three which is that section involving the forfeiture of compensation, etc., on account of offenses committed in the military service, the clarification of the burial allowances section, and several other advantageous provisions of the house bill which the Senate had also approved.

**Changes Made by New Bill**

Regret is expressed that it was not possible to write into the statutes more of the legislative proposals of the Sixth National Annual Convention. There follows a brief which sets out the characteristics of those of the Legion’s proposals which were finally adopted by both Houses of Congress and approved by the President of the United States on March 4, 1925, as Public 628, 68th Congress.

1. Authorization for trial by jury in insurance suits.
2. Provides for bill in the nature of a bill of interpleader by the government where rights of different persons are in dispute.
3. Provides for appeals to circuit courts of appeal, the decisions of which are made final except where there is a constitutional question or where such court certifies the question to the Supreme Court of the United States.
4. Provides that the amendments shall be applicable to pending as well as future suits.
5. Consolidates sections twenty-three, thirty-one and 208 of the World War Veterans’ Act, 1924, in one section, liberalizing the provisions and eliminating the inconsistencies.
6. Makes forfeiture provisions of section twenty-three applicable only to disabilities incurred in enlistment in which discharge was granted or finding of guilt was made.
7. Provides that section twenty-three shall be applicable to conscientious objectors only where they refused to perform military duty or to wear the uniform, and inapplicable to aliens, allied or neutral, if their service was honest and faithful and they were not discharged prior to November 11, 1918, on their own solicitation because of alienage.
8. Removes denial of insurance from the operation of section twenty-three except where death is inflicted as a lawful punishment for crime or military offense.
9. Provides that discharge of a person for having concealed the fact that he was under age at the time of enlistment shall not bar the benefits of the act if service was otherwise honorable.
10. Provides for the installation of telephones in quarters of medical officers of hospitals where it is necessary for such officers to be in constant touch with hospitals.

11. Makes payment of compensation for paralysis, paresis, or blindness mandatory irrespective of whether such diseases are the result of willful misconduct, and without regard to whether or not ex-service men suffering with these diseases are in hospitals or in need of hospitalization; strikes out constitutional lues from the first proviso of section 200, but adds a provision under which any person who is helpless or bedridden as the result of any disability shall not be denied compensation by reason of willful misconduct.

12. Authorizes the payment of funeral expenses where "in the judgment of the director" the veteran does not leave sufficient assets to meet the expenses of burial and funeral and the transportation of the body; makes allowance available for "funeral" expenses as well as burial expenses; provides funeral allowance for Spanish American war nurses.

13. Eliminates language which makes the burial and funeral allowance payable only in the event such expenses are not otherwise provided for.

14. Provides for payment of transportation expenses to place of burial within the continental limits of the United States, its territories or possessions, for veterans dying while receiving training or hospitalization by the bureau.

15. Includes insurance among the items which shall not be deducted from the sum allowed for burial.

16. Provides for payment of compensation to parent, child, or widow, irrespective of the receipt of pension on account of the death, disability, or service of some other person.

17. Includes adjusted compensation among those items the receipt of which shall not bar the payment of compensation.

18. Amends section 202 (six) to provide for the furnishing of special clothing made necessary by the wearing of prosthetic appliances.

19. Specifically provides for furnishing dental appliances for persons suffering with service connected disabilities.

20. Provides for apportionment of compensation to chief officers of institution where insane persons are located, or to the disabled man's wife, children, or dependent parents, in accordance with regulations.

21. Provides for furnishing dental appliances to men with service connected disabilities of less than ten per cent.

22. Authorizes the director to furnish hospitalization in contact hospitals in the insular possessions of the United States under section 202 (ten).

23. Authorizes the director to designate persons at hospitals who shall have authority to make arrests for any crime or offense against the United States committed on the hospital reservation.

24. Amends section 213 to provide compensation for injuries received as the result of training, hospitalization, or medical, or surgical treatment, awarded under the rehabilitation act, or the war risk insurance act, or the World war veterans' act. Under this amendment trainees injured during training awarded by the Federal Board are within the purview of this section.

25. Provides for payment of compensation under section 213 for persons injured during examination ordered by the bureau under section 303, war risk insurance act, or section 203, World war veterans' act.

26. Extends time for making application under section 213 to two years after injury or two years after the passage of the act, whichever is the later date.

27. Provides for subrogation of the government to the rights of claimants in cases where compensation is payable under section 213.

28. Restores many insurance provisions relative to insurance which were left out of the World war veterans' act, 1924.

29. Provides for payment of insurance in a lump sum to the estate
where no beneficiary is named or the designated beneficiary dies before receiving all installments.

30. Eliminates the words "if any" from section 304, thus permitting reinstatement of insurance within three months after lapse provided the insured is at time of reinstatement in as good health as at time of lapse.

31. Eliminates necessity for actual proof of service connection where disability is connected with the service for compensation purposes in the cases of disabled veterans desiring to reinstate their insurance under the terms of section 304.

32. Increases allowance for attorneys' fees to ten per cent of the amount recovered. Provides that the fee shall be paid by the bureau out of the award to beneficiary; provides penalty for attorneys who make charges in excess of the fee allowed by the statute.

33. Provides penalty for false statement in connection with applications for training.

34. Authorizes the director to release to trainees who have completed their courses and are about to enter employment such equipment, supplies, and books as may be prescribed by regulation.

35. Provides punishment for guardians who embezzle funds of their wards, making it a federal offense punishable by a fine of $2,000 or imprisonment at hard labor for not more than five years, or both.

Important Bureau Orders, Regulations and Legal Decisions
Issued Since the Sixth Annual Convention

Regulation No. 81 was issued under date of October 14, 1924, and relates to the payment of insurance claims and the adjustment of insurance premium accounts of insurance contracts formerly terminated because of the discharge or dismissal from the service of the insured on the ground of mutiny, treason, spying, and offenses involving moral turpitude or willful and persistent misconduct, but of which offense the insured was not found guilty by court-martial. This regulation is based on section twenty-three, World war veterans' act, and considerably liberalizes the existing statute as to the payments on insurance contracts held by veterans.

This regulation was amended by regulation No. 102 to cover the provision in the amendment to the World war veterans' act, 1924, dated March 4, 1925, to include the insured who were discharged or dismissed from the service because of being an enemy alien, conscientious objector, deserter, or who concealed the fact of being a minor at the time of enlistment, so that these classes may now receive the benefits of their insurance.

Regulation No. 85 details the administrative processes through which hospital treatment for veterans of the Spanish-American war, Philippine insurrection or Boxer rebellion; veterans of the World war whose disabilities are not service connected, and veterans of any war, military occupation, or military expedition since 1897 are cared for under the provisions of section 202 (ten) of the World war veterans' act.

General order number 292 defines in detail the procedure to be followed in effecting hospitalization under the provisions of this regulation.

Regulation No. 86, "Effective date of compensation awards" is in conformity with the provisions of section 205 and section 210, World war veterans' act, 1924, governing the effective date of an original award of disability or a revised award of disability compensation, or the reopening of a discontinued award of disability compensation. This has the effect of preventing the sudden termination or reduction of compensation.

Regulation No. 92 authorizes an additional allowance of fifty dollars per month for nurses or attendants as provided for in section 202 (five), World war veterans' act, 1924. Previous regulations and laws provided fifty dollars per month for beneficiaries who were armless, legless, or blind, but only twenty dollars per month for persons who were otherwise helpless or in need of an attendant.
Regulation No. 93, issued on January 9, 1925, as amplified by regulation number 105, provides for compensation of veterans during hospitalization when suffering from paralysis, paresis, blindness, and constitutional lues when service connected or aggravated, without regard to whether the disabilities may have been incurred through willful misconduct. The last modification of the law strikes out the provision for constitutional lues, and compensation only during hospitalization, but the first proviso of section 200 now provides that no person suffering from paralysis, paresis, blindness, who is helpless or bedridden, may be denied compensation by reason of willful misconduct. This provision of the law of course refers to disabilities of service connection or aggravation.

Regulation No. 97 extends the time limit for appeal from the decision of the claims and rating boards from four months to six months on the part of a claimant, guardian, or agent duly authorized.

The regional offices of the bureau are by the terms of this order limited to fifteen days in the matter of appealing on behalf of the government. For example, should a claims and rating board make a decision favorable to the claimant which is thought by proper authority of the bureau to be unsound, this authority must note an appeal to higher authority within fifteen days or the decision of the claims and rating board will stand.

Regulation No. 99, “Transportation and traveling expenses of bureau claimants and beneficiaries,” issued on March 13, 1925, gives to the regional offices permission to authorize travel of claimants and beneficiaries within the regional territory, and outside the regional territory when authority exists thereof, which authority was formerly vested in the district offices.

Regional managers are given authority to admit and transfer patients between hospitals within certain extraregional limitations. Suboffices are given authority for admission to hospitals within their respective territory and extraregional hospitals upon prior authority from the regional office. Medical officers in charge are given authority to effect transfer of patients to other veterans' bureau hospitals without the intervention of the regional office concerned. Authority is also given medical officers in charge of hospitals to effect the return of eloped insane patients to hospitals with attendants if required, and to effect the discharge of patients from hospitals in accordance with transportation regulations without reference to the regional office.

Regulation No. 103, issued April 8, 1925, authorizes the use of other than government hospitals in the insular possessions of the United States for veterans of the Spanish-American war, Philippine insurrection, Boxer rebellion, etc., in accordance with the provisions of section 202 (ten), World war veterans' act, which provides for hospitalization without respect to the service origin of the disability.

Regulation No. 104, dated April 17, 1925, specifically provides for the furnishing of dental appliances in addition to other treatment and appliances, for those suffering from service connected disabilities of less than ten per cent degree.

Regulation No. 106, dated April 25, 1925, entitled “Payment and apportionment of compensation to insane persons,” and Regulation No. 107, dated April 28, 1925, entitled “Apportionment of compensation,” provide the procedure for payment of compensation to insane and other persons in accordance with the provisions of section 202 (seven), World war veterans' act, as amended, including the apportionment of compensation to dependent parents of insane beneficiaries.

Regulation No. 110, dated May 15, 1925, authorizes regional managers to permit claimants to appear in person before claims and rating boards, provided such appearance does not involve any expense to the government. If the appearance of the claimant is required for the “convenience” of the government, regional managers may authorize the necessary travel and
transportation and other expenses, incident thereto, which may be borne by
the U. S. Veterans' Bureau. The term "convenience" means those conditions
where it appears necessary for the claims and rating boards to see the claim-
ant in order to effect a satisfactory rating.

Regulation No. 114, dated July 6, 1925, established a rating section in
the claims division, central office of the bureau, to handle death claims and
to make final ratings on death cases and claims of residents of foreign coun-
tries and those of the territorial and insular possessions of the United States.
These ratings have been previously made by the central board of appeals,
as have also the ratings on permanent total disability compensation, which
latter class has been decentralized to the regional offices. It has been re-
garded as necessary to make final ratings on these death cases through the
instrumentality of this board in central office on account of the close con-
nection between death and payment of insurance awards. This board is
operating in such a way that the awarding of all death benefits is acceler-
crated and not retarded.

General Order No. 86-C, dated November 28, 1924, authorizes the pay-
ment of properly authorized burial claims in the regional offices. This order
also grants authority to regional offices to pay all reimbursement claims for
unauthorized expenses, except where doubt of the propriety of the payment
exists, which cases are to be forwarded to the central office for payment.
By "properly authorized" is meant those claims for funeral and transpor-
tation which arise from deaths in hospitals or where the deceased has been
in receipt of compensation or vocational training. Claims for reimbursement
of funeral expenses of veterans dying with non-service connected disabilities
are, by the instruction of the comptroller general, handled in Washington
in his office.

General Order No. 151-B, issued on November 28, 1924, authorizes re-
gional managers to extend time for filing claims in those cases falling under
the last proviso of section 200. This was amended by General Order No.
151-C, dated April 30, 1925, which authorizes regional managers to extend
the time for filing claim for treatment under section 209. A further and
complete decentralization of authority heretofore vested in central office
relative to the extension of time for filing claims for compensation under
section 209 is now being considered by the bureau. This refers to the extra
two years for good cause shown, as provided by this section.

General Order No. 222-B, dated May 16, 1925, liberalized the fees to be
paid dentists on fee basis for work performed for bureau beneficiaries, thus
enabling the bureau to get a better class of work for its beneficiaries.

General Order No. 290, dated October 7, 1924, covers the recovery of
overpayments in accordance with section 28, World war veterans' act, 1924,
which required that overpayments be adjudicated in central office. The
amendments to this order, General Order 290-A and General Order No. 290-B,
respectively, decentralized to the regional offices the authority to waive
overpayments where the amount involved is not in excess of $300. If the
amount of overpayment does exceed $300, the case is referred to central
office for adjudication.

General Order No. 293, dated November 21, 1924, requires that claimants
be fully advised as to the reasons for the bureau's action in connection with
claims and that they be given every opportunity to substantiate their
claims. The employees of the bureau are instructed to keep in mind in bor-
der line cases the policy will be to give a little more rather than a little
less. This order enunciates that the policy to be pursued should not be
highly technical and rigid, but it should be kept in mind that the burden of
proof rests on the claimant to establish his case in accordance with the law
and that doubtful points should be decided in his favor when such action
does not contravene a statutory provision, and that the bureau will pro-
vide every legitimate assistance to claimants in securing that to which they
are entitled.

General Order No. 296, provides procedure whereby notice that compen-
sation will be discontinued for failure to report for examination will be mailed with the check in those cases where the man is in receipt of compensation, in order that there will be no doubt as to the receipt by the man of the notice that his compensation will be discontinued unless he cooperates with the bureau in presenting himself for examination when requested.

General Order No. 298, dated December 24, 1924, provided that in all cases where the undertaking had been arranged for by the bureau, an inspection of the body and the undertaking will be made by the medical officer whenever possible. Where this is not practicable, by an official of suitable grade and experience, and report of inspection made in accordance with form adopted by the bureau to insure that deceased beneficiaries of the bureau have been properly taken care of and in order to insure that proper burial arrangements for bureau beneficiaries have been properly carried out.

General Order No. 302, dated January 31, 1925, decentralized to the regional offices authority to make permanent and total ratings for compensation and insurance purposes and to make payments of disability compensation of permanent and total character.

General Order No. 311, “Review and reversal of findings of fact,” issued on March 20, 1925, announced that it should be the policy of the director to avoid, as far as might be consistent with the lawful and proper administration of his office, reviews and retroactive reversals of adjudications here-tofore made by properly constituted agencies within the bureau, otherwise than upon appeal in accordance with regulations. The aforesaid order outlines the instruction which should control the practice of claims and rating boards and the central board of appeals in all cases coming before those boards or other rating boards or officers. The instructions are as follows:

“a. Every rating and other finding of fact made by properly constituted authority and unappealed from within the time allowed by regulations shall be presumed to be correct for all purposes, until the contrary is affirmatively shown; and such finding shall not be subject to reversal except in the following instances:

(1) Where an error of law is shown on the face of the record.

(2) Where there is evidence of fraud.

(3) Where the evidence affirmatively shows that the finding could not be correct upon any theory. The fact that the evidence in the file may seem insufficient to support the finding shall not be sufficient to bring the case under this exception. The evidence must negative all reasonable possibility that the finding is correct.

“3. Nothing in this order shall be interpreted to prevent increasing a rating or award previously made or awarding service connection of a disease or injury previously considered as not due to service, where such action is warranted by the facts in the case, and fall within the provisions of the law.”

General Order No. 313, dated April 4, 1925, notified the field that a trainee rehabilitated under section 400 for successfully completing his course under section 402, World war veterans’ act, will be allowed to retain the books which have been properly issued to him in connection with his training in his last employment objective, and that part of the equipment and supplies properly issued in connection with his training, other than books, which is certified to the regional manager by the chief of rehabilitation as necessary to the trainee to permit his entrance into employment or business in line with his training.

General Order No. 316, dated April 17, 1925, created the position of medical supervisors, five in number. These physicians will serve as the personal representatives of the medical director in the field. They will effect a corrective correlation of field activities both in hospitals, regional offices and subofices; will keep the field in touch with the spirit and letter of bureau instructions; and will in turn ascertain the thought of the field in
regard to the necessity for any changes in procedure dictated by experience. They will also have authority delegated by the medical director, to authorize directly in the field, without the necessity of taking the matter up with central office, special treatment, that is, surgical, deep X-ray, or radium treatment, for which prior central authority was formerly necessary. The creation of these medical supervisors was aimed to achieve and direct expeditious medical administration in the field under full authority delegated by the medical director to these physicians.

General Order No. 320, dated May 1, 1925, notified the field that inasmuch as the terms of the second proviso of section 200, World war veterans' act, 1924, which relates to presumptive service connection, do not provide any closing date for receipt of proof, therefore application for such benefits will continue to be received and considered subject only to the time limitation for applications specified in section 209 of the said act. This means that a claimant may be able to prove after January 1, 1925, that he had prior to that date a compensable disability through tuberculosis, neuro-psychiatric disease, paralysis agitans, amoebic dysentery, or encephalitis lethargica. The rating in these cases becomes a question of medical opinion.

By the intent of General Order No. 321, the procedure in the discharge of patients from hospitals under the provision of section 202 (three) of the act is set forth. It is a detailed procedure enabling the discharge of tuberculous patients from hospitals under the provisions of the section referred to, i. e., home treatment for certain beneficiaries having tuberculosis who have been hospitalized for a period of one year. The order provides that they shall receive a rating of at least temporary total for three years and a higher rating if physical condition warrants it.

General Order No. 327, dated June 11, 1925, created in each regional territory containing a hospital or hospitals caring for patients of the bureau, a hospital survey board. These surveys of hospitals are to be made semi-annually, subject to prior approval of the central office. The purpose of the surveys is primarily to insure an available-bed supply, particularly in view of the provisions of section 202 (ten) of the act providing for hospitalization of beneficiaries with non-service connected disabilities. The surveys will also serve to prevent the inconvenience given claimants by prolonged hospitalization for observation. Under the terms of this order recommendation will be made by the survey boards for continued out-patient treatment wherever it is indicated.

General Order No. 308 outlines the procedure to be followed in the treatment of beneficiaries by designated examiners and private physicians, providing for adequate treatment under conditions where it may be furnished to the better advantage of the claimant so that if ill he may report to the nearest regional office, suboffice or salaried examiner.

Circular No. 236, entitled "Responsibility of regional offices for furnishing medical care and treatment to claimants and beneficiaries," outlines the manner of maintaining contact with patients who are not in hospitals, so as to furnish all necessary out-patient relief including nursing follow-up service. This nursing follow-up service in regional and suboffices is further outlined in Circular No. 213, dated March 12, 1925.

General Order No. 308 and Circulars Nos. 213 and 236 are intended to set up and systemize a contact with patients not in hospitals so as to secure the proper kind of medical supervision, advice and treatment. It is an organized effort to bring the treatment to the claimant where the claimant's condition, or difficulties with travel, etc., make it impossible for him to present himself at the out-patient clinics of the bureau.

Circular No. 185, dated January 30, 1925, discusses the relation between chronic bronchitis and tuberculosis for guidance in rating these classes of disabilities in the most liberal manner possible.

Circular No. 146, dated November 14, 1924, instructed the field forces to make re-examination of all claimants prior to January 1, 1925, in cases where the claims had previously been disallowed because of inactive tuber-
tuberculosis of a degree less than ten per cent, in order to determine whether these claimants were entitled to the benefits of the presumption of the new act. The same instructions were issued in regard to neuropsychiatric cases so as to insure a proper review and re-rating of all cases previously disallowed.

Bulletin No. 2, issued by the bureau through the medical council, described the standard and minimum requirements of the American College of Surgeons in regard to hospitals. Bureau hospitals are now required to approximate these standards as rapidly as possible. The survey of hospitals is made by this council in order to assist in approaching these ideal requirements. Among these is a necessity for clinical and staff meetings and other measures which while elevating the type of hospitals, will in turn necessitate and bring about the better care of patients.

Circular No. 237, dated April 14, 1925, authorized the detail of members of staff of bureau hospitals to examining boards convened outside of hospitals, which permits the utilization of experienced physicians in making board examinations, thus insuring better examination of the beneficiaries of the bureau. The smaller offices of the bureau now have the right to call on hospitals for help in effecting examinations.

Circular No. 255, dated May 25, 1925, provides for the re-rating of cases of tuberculosis disallowed under the provisions of former regulation No. 33. These cases had been previously denied service connection by reason of the fact that physicians' report showing examination made within the three year period described in section 300 of the war risk insurance act, as amended, did not cite facts demonstrating the existence of active tuberculous disease sufficient to satisfy the requirements of regulation No. 33, then in effect. By the terms of this circular, these cases will be reviewed and compensation awarded under the provisions of the war risk insurance act, as amended, if the facts are such as to suggest a rating under the said act. The regional offices are instructed to review all cases of this sort previously disallowed and to forward them with the proper accompanying brief for consideration by the central office.

Regulation No. 109, issued May 15, 1925, is of beneficial importance. It provides the assignment of percentage ratings to disabilities of non-compensable degree, either temporary or permanent in nature, and for a combination of such ratings in order to aggregate if possible a compensable rating.

Decision of the General Counsel, dated May 25, 1925, states that where a claimant may be receiving disability compensation for one condition and is hospitalized for observation for another disability as a part of examination, provided by section 203, World war veterans' act, as amended, reimbursement for loss of wages not to exceed eighty dollars in any thirty day period may be paid in addition to any compensation to which the claimant may be entitled, and receiving for his compensable disability already established. The general counsel has further ruled that double permanent total disability is possible in cases where any two disabilities enumerated as permanent total under the statute exist. For example, the decision has the effect of granting a double permanent total rating to a man who may have lost both feet and who is also helpless or bedridden, even if the condition which makes him bedridden might have arisen as a sequella to the factor which deprived him of his feet.

Organization and Claims and Rating Boards

During the close of last year a new field organization was established by the bureau involving the expansion of authority and action from fourteen district offices to fifty-four regional offices. This decentralization was inaugurated in July of 1924 and was completed in April of 1925. Regional offices were delegated authority in practically all matters having to do with the welfare of disabled veterans including the making of all awards and payments (except for death compensation and insurance), the making of all
ratings including permanent and total, and the granting of treatment. Within each regional office one or more claims and rating boards have been established whose function it is to adjudicate the claim for disability, and in so far as possible in personal contact with the claimant. These boards have been vested with practically complete authority in the determination of disability, and regional offices have been granted authority to organize traveling claims and rating boards which travel both to hospitals and to the larger centers of population outside of the cities in which the regional offices are located, for the purpose of adjusting ratings.

To expedite the handling of appeals from these regional boards the central office board of appeals has been decentralized to the several area headquarters. This movement was commenced in January of 1925 and was completed during the following July. This action, together with the decentralization of action on recoveries of overpayments up to $300 in amount, and with the actual physical decentralization of permanent total cases from Washington to the regional offices, which is nearly completed, carries the decentralization operation to its logical end, and through the limitation of case action by central office to that involved in death compensation, insurance, and the handling of such appeals as may be made to the director himself, properly limits the central office functions to those of direction, planning and control.

One of the results of the establishment of the claims and rating boards has been a reduction in the number of appeals cases. During the months of April, May and June of 1924, appeals received by the district appeal boards totaled 9,544, 7,371 and 8,522, and thus during the respective months there were further appealed to the central office board of appeals in Washington 2,298, 2,091 and 2,240 cases, exclusive of course of death cases.

For similar months of 1925, the appeals received by the central office appeal board and by such area branches of the same as had already been sent to the field totaled for April 3,821, May 2,556 and for June 1,118.

As to the condition of appeals cases before the central office appeal board the total number of cases pending June 30, 1924, was in excess of 2,000, whereas on June 30, 1925, there were but 915 cases as the current load.

The operation of the area appeal boards, acting for the director, has resulted in an astonishing elimination of the number of cases appealed from those boards to the director, but it is thought by this committee that this marked decrease may be due in part to the proposition that the claimants may not know in general of their further right to appeal to the director himself.

It is proposed by the National Rehabilitation Committee to station one of its field secretaries permanently at the seat of each area branch of the central appeal board for the particular and exclusive purpose of advocating such claims as are forwarded to these boards by the claims and rating boards of the regional offices, wherever and whenever his services may be desired. By this means it is proposed to extend a very practical and needful form of help to the Legion in each of the departments within the area. In this manner each state may expect to benefit by the claims experience and ability of the rehabilitation secretaries. In some of the areas where there are a great number of active and inactive claims experience may develop the proposition that more than one of the secretaries will be necessary in order that each state may receive complete attention to all of its appeals cases.

Compensation Claims

The numerous modifications embodied in the World war veterans’ act, 1924, appeared to necessitate a complete review of all claims on file, both active and inactive, so that each beneficiary or claimant might be awarded, de novo, such benefits as the law provided or might receive the additional
benefits provided by legislation subsequent to the date upon which the claim had been adjudicated. Accordingly, in the fall of 1924, your committee requested the director to inaugurate such a review. The director appreciated the desirability of this and proceeded to initiate the work. It was and is a stupendous job and it has been found difficult to secure sufficient expert claims examiners and reviewers to place upon the project without interfering with the normal work of the bureau.

It was found that there were approximately 400,000 cases to be reviewed in the central office alone. With a unit of slightly under one hundred claims examiners, reviewers, clerks, etc., this review is little more than one-half completed at this writing. The cases involved consist of approximately 260,000 permanent total and death claims and about 130,000 claims which had previously been disallowed because of the fact that the disability at the time of the rating was determined to be less than ten per cent and thus not compensable, or as not being connected with the service. All of the disallowed claims have been reviewed and approximately 115,000 of the permanent total and death claims have been completed. So far this review has resulted in the approval of about 26,858 awards. Of this number 7,644 are original awards of death compensation and dependency allowance, and 7,986 are awards of compensation and insurance provided under amendatory legislation represented by acts of congress since June 7, 1924.

In addition to the above a volume of correspondence has been carried on by the bureau with a view to informing claimants and bureau beneficiaries as to the additional rights granted under this legislation. There have been released 70,000 letters informing claimants of their rights under the law as to permanent total and death claims. In connection with claims which have previously been disallowed there have been sent out 284,000 letters, mailed to all addresses appearing in the files, making a grand total of about 354,000 letters which have been sent to claimants in order to contact them with the hope of helping them assert their rights. Many thousand claims which under present regulations must be adjudicated in the field have been sent to the regional offices for the purpose of further development and possible rating. This committee has not been able to secure figures as to the actual beneficial results upon these veterans.

The work of this review unit constitutes the first ever made to thoroughly review claims on file in the central office in order to determine whether or not such claims have been properly adjudicated. Thus many claims which were properly disallowed under the original war risk insurance act were brought to light as cases in which awards of compensation or insurance could be made because of the liberalizing provisions of the new laws. It also happened that a considerable number of cases were handled which disclosed a lack of proper action in the original instance. The work of this review is proceeding at the rate of approximately 700 cases per day, and it represents one of the greatest single achievements fathered by The American Legion and executed by the director of the bureau in the history of their joint effort.

During the life of the claims department of the National Rehabilitation Committee in Washington there have been accumulated approximately 11,000 claims. Many of these are inactive because of the impossibility of effecting benefits for claimants under existing regulations. Others have been closed through successful completion, and still others are inactive because of failure on the part of the claimants to prosecute. A studious review of all these claims in the Washington office is now in process. The daily exigencies have not permitted the regular staff of the office to undertake this review heretofore but a determined effort is now being made to canvass every case so as to keep the Legion office current with the review going forward in the veterans' bureau as referred to above.

The actual effects of the World war veterans' act as amended, figured to July 31, 1925, are in rough as follows: There have been 39,433 awards at an accumulated cost of $16,493,896. This grand total included 10,148 awards
resulting from the extension of the presumptive period for service connection for neuropsychiatric disabilities upon which payments have been made in the aggregate of $4,620,501; 10,281 awards due to the extension of the presumptive period for tuberculous cases upon which payments have been made prior to July 31, 1925, of $8,493,489; increased dependency pay for death or disability to that date of $938,638; 335 cases of blindness have been increased from $100 per month to $150 per month; in 937 cases attendants have been approved; eighty-nine cases of total deafness have been increased to a permanent total rating and 348 awards have been made for encephalitis lethargica under the presumption; there have also been rated under the presumption provided by the new act 185 cases of amoebic dysentery and 120 cases of paralysis agitans; under the provision of section 200, 327 cases have received awards on account of diseases resulting from so-called personal misconduct; and in 218 cases compensation has been awarded for paralysis, paresis and blindness as a result of the amendment to section 200 approved by the president on March 4, 1925.

Naturally the disability awards active at any one time have increased as well as the total monthly disbursements. Prior to the World war veterans' act the peak in active disability awards occurred in November of 1922, when 184,222 cases were active. From that date to May, 1924, the active cases decreased to 177,401. Since that time there has been a marked rise in the number until as of June 30, 1925, the records indicate a grand total of 212,057, a net increase of approximately 35,000 active awards. The disbursements on account of death and disability compensation in May, 1924, were $9,796,500, whereas during May of 1925 the disbursements had risen to $12,119,000. During this same period, the permanent total awards increased from 16,489 to 21,878, and permanent partial awards increased from 48,533 to 81,588.

New Disability Rating Schedule

The numerous changes in bureau organization and administration made necessary by the World war veterans' act particularly affected the medical activities, and immediately following the passage of the act the medical service engaged in the preparation of a number of regulations and general orders intended to put into effect the changes of procedure called for by the new law. The pressing necessity of producing regulations of an exigent nature made it necessary, for the time, to postpone the beginning of the preparation of the new schedule of disability ratings required by section 202 of the act, which makes necessary the consideration of the veterans' pre-war occupation in the effecting of his rating. This provision imposed a great constructive task upon the bureau and initially made it imperative that the bureau ascertain what precedents were obtainable and what experience of other governments or associations could be utilized. A notable lack of fundamental studies confronted the bureau from the beginning and much pioneer work upon this schedule of disability ratings was necessary. Its preparation involved the survey and grouping of many thousands of specialized occupations in industry, and the inherent difficulties of the work were increased by the scarcity of precedents.

Its development up to its present form within six months of the beginning of the task was really a creditable achievement considering the enormous volume and great complexity of the job. During this period of operation, however, the rating of veterans has not been retarded on account of instructions that the decisions of the claims and rating boards should be based upon a consideration of all of the facts in the individual case.

Thus the bureau has been permitted to give mature consideration to the many complicated features which had to be properly evaluated in order to produce a rating schedule with values that would be just and equitable. With the application of this schedule to the field in the near future and its subsequent operation it is intended that there will be maintained in the central office a small unit whose duty it will be to study its operation and to make improvements or changes from time to time as may be indicated.
by experience. At one period it was thought that the schedule was practically ready for printing and distribution but there appeared certain inconsistencies which require still further delay.

It is hoped that the new rating schedule will be issued for operation prior to the appearance of this report in print. Too much must not be expected from the operation of this schedule at the start. In its initial application there will be discovered faults which must be corrected as experience dictates. Your chairman has been close to the author of this work during its progress and is of the opinion that it would take years—not months—to produce a rating schedule to follow the reading of the present law which would work a level justice to all.

**Hospital Facilities**

The chairman of the National Rehabilitation Committee subsequent to the St. Paul convention, after advising with competent authorities, estimated that in order to carry out the hospital program proposed by the Sixth Annual Convention of The American Legion it would be necessary to secure the authorization for the appropriation of something like $18,000,000. Your chairman conferred with the director of the veterans' bureau, with the leading members of congress, with the U. S. Federal Board of Hospitalization, and with the president; and it seemed to him that the fiscal program of the administration would not permit the securing of so large a sum of money. The actual submission of the bill covering the appropriation for the erection of new hospitals and extensions to existing hospitals was deferred until there was a meeting of the minds as to what sum would be practicable of fulfilment, and thus on January 14, 1925, Chairman Johnson, of the House Committee on World War Veterans Legislation, introduced H. R. 11633, through which it was proposed to provide the sum of $10,000,000 for additional hospital facilities and outpatient dispensary facilities.

Hearings were initiated on this bill on January 20. The director of the veterans' bureau was the principal of those heard and the representatives of your legislative and rehabilitation committees participated. The bill was finally reported to the house with an amendment which struck out $300,000, authorizing the appropriation of a net sum of $10,000,000 for hospital construction, and this bill was eventually approved by both the house and senate, although none of the money will become available until the opening of the sixty-ninth congress due to the fact that there was not time to get the sum authorized included in any of the appropriation bills during the closing days of the last session of the sixty-eighth congress.

At the present moment all of the construction provided for by the so-called first and second Langley acts is completed, the hospital at Aspinwall, Pennsylvania, just having been turned over to the government. The new hospitals which have been completed provided 1,359 beds for neuropsychiatric patients, 1,148 beds for tuberculous patients and 125 beds for general patients, making possible not only the transfer of patients from certain temporary structures such as existed at Palo Alto, California, for tuberculous patients, but also to transfer patients from hospitals under state and civil control, as in the instance of Minnesota.

In addition to this construction out of the proceeds of specific construction acts, additions through new construction and remodelling have been accomplished from fiscal appropriations, such as the additions at Augusta, Georgia; Sheridan, Wyoming; and Perry Point, Maryland. In toto, the new construction and additions through remodelling have increased the capacity of veterans' bureau hospitals since July 1, 1924, from 15,861 beds to 20,412 beds. Together with this addition in beds there has also been accomplished a general physical improvement in the departments of many of the hospitals, including the formulation of plans for improving the outside surroundings and quarters at hospitals.

The 250-bed hospital at Aspinwall which has just been completed will open for patients in September, and two new hospitals are now under con-
struction, which will be completed within the next six months, including a 234-bed tuberculosis hospital at San Fernando, California; and a 325-bed neuropsychiatric hospital at Great Lakes, Illinois. Also there is now being completed a 207-bed addition for tuberculous patients at Rutland, Massachusetts.

Under the authority of Public Law 197, sixty-eighth congress, $6,850,000 was authorized for hospital construction and funds under this authority were appropriated as of December 5, 1924. From these funds the hospital at San Fernando is being constructed and in addition bids have been requested by the veterans' bureau for a 300-bed tuberculosis hospital at Hot Springs, South Dakota. Plans are being completed to be ready for advertising September 1 for a new hospital at Fort Snelling, Minnesota. Preliminary studies are being made toward the construction of a new general hospital at Portland, Oregon, and several tentative sites have been inspected by the director of the veterans' bureau together with the chairman of your rehabilitation committee in the immediate vicinity of Boston, one of which will undoubtedly be purchased for the construction of a new institution for Massachusetts.

Plans are also being prepared for the building of a 1,000-bed hospital to be located at Northport, Long Island, at a distance of something like 35 miles from the city of New York, on an attractive site consisting of 551 acres, adjacent to the Long Island railroad, to the ocean and to appropriate public highways. Increases in the bed capacity of the new hospital facilities under way at Great Lakes will be effected. It is also likely that a new general hospital will be provided at Fargo, North Dakota.

With the completion of these projects, and with the actual appropriation of funds under the $10,000,000 bill, looking toward the construction of some 4,750 beds additional which are considered necessary to round out the hospital building program it will be possible to transfer many patients now in contract, leased, or otherwise unsatisfactory institutions to modern government-owned hospitals.

Congress has to the present time authorized for hospital construction, not including any funds which have been used from current fiscal appropriations, a grand total of $64,595,000, and under these authorities there has been actually appropriated $51,595,000. In order to effect the wisest possible expenditure of the sums latterly appropriated by congress it became necessary that the construction program be organized along modern, efficient lines. During the past year there was set up a survey unit in the veterans' bureau so that all preliminary surveys and topographical work might be done within the bureau, and thus to secure a better co-ordination between those necessary preliminary phases of the work and the actual construction work to follow. A special study of hospital designs as particularly apply to the needs of the bureau beneficiaries is being made. This continuous study will include extensive reading as to what others have done in private hospital construction, and the study also includes the inspection of existing hospitals of a public and private character, together with consultation with patients and personnel who do the actual work in order to secure first hand opinions of those best suited to pass judgment upon the adequacy of the facilities.

It is hoped that this study will result in the development of buildings better suited to the needs of the various classes of patients, a more intelligent allocation of space, and, as an incident, a reduction in the cost per bed of the institution.

These investigations and the plans built thereupon have already resulted in a reduction in the per bed cost of certain standard buildings. The acute buildings formerly used cost about $4,000 per bed, while the one now developed by the bureau may be built at something like $2,250 for each bed. Effective changes of designs in buildings for tuberculous patients have become evident. In other times it had been customary to design each building for one class of cases only which made it impossible to utilize, say an ambulant
building, for semi-ambulant or infirmary cases. These plans forced many of
the buildings to become obsolete due to a change in the classification of
patients.

The separate building as now designed may care for practically any
class of patients and may be used independently of any central building to
the end that use may be made at all times of every bed. This flexibility is
resulting not in an increased cost but in a decreased cost per bed. Equipment,
it is planned, will be installed in the new facilities only after painstaking
study has been made as to the needs.

One of the interesting items of installation for the good of patients has
been that of radio equipment. This work started about a year ago and
today all but a few of the hospitals have been furnished with radio sets
including loud speakers and individual head sets. Radio equipment is now
considered an adjunct to hospital construction and all new hospitals are
being wired for such equipment as a part of the original construction.

The chairman of the National Rehabilitation Committee has from time
to time during the past year been able to visit and inspect hospitals of a
modern and improved character being operated by state governments and
by private organizations. These inspections have convinced him that still
further improvement may be made in the hospitals still to be constructed
by the veterans’ bureau, and he earnestly recommends to the director that
added opportunities be provided for the medical experts of the bureau and
to the officers in charge of construction as well as those charged with the
duty of equipping these institutions which will permit them to visit and
study the construction, equipment and operation of these institutions which
have only reached their present state of effectiveness through many more
years of experiment, research and gradual development than have yet been
counted in the history of our not yet mature effort for disabled veterans of
the World war.

Hospitalization

The enlargement of government facilities during the fiscal year 1925
has resulted in a certain increase in the occupancy of bureau hospitals. At
the beginning of the year there were in civil and state hospitals 4,786
patients, representing 21.12 per cent of the total load. Shortly after the
beginning of the fiscal year 1926 there were 4,282 patients in outside hos-
pitals, a reduction of 504 cases. This latter figure does not represent a
great numerical decrease but it should be noted that at the present time
there is less than sixteen per cent of the total load in state and civil
institutions. This reduction has been effected principally by means of the
transfer of insane cases.

During the fiscal year 1925 material progress was made in carrying out
the policy of hospitalizing beneficiaries so far as possible within or near to
their home states. On July 1, 1924, there were 21,730 patients remaining
in all hospitals. Ten thousand and seven or forty-six per cent of these were
hospitalized outside of their home states. In May of this year the reports
show that 29,424 patients were hospitalized, and that only 4,969 or 18.9
per cent were hospitalized outside of their actual or claimed state of
residence. It is thought that this must produce a more satisfactory situation
for the patient as well as for his family.

With the continued study of hospital problems it became evident to the
bureau and its expert medical advisers (the director’s medical council) and
to the National Rehabilitation Committee that certain injuries are extremely
difficult of diagnosis and the frequency with which these difficult cases ap-
ppeared led to the establishment of diagnostic centers, two of which have
already been placed in operation, one at Cincinnati, Ohio, and the other at
Washington, D. C. The best available outside diagnosticians, clinicians,
internists and surgeons procurable in the localities involved have been at-
tached to the staffs of these two clinics. Selected problem cases have been
sent to the clinics in order that diagnoses may be made with care and
studies and in order that correct decisions regarding treatment may be
made. At Cincinnati the patients are only permitted to remain in the clinic long enough for the diagnosis to be completed and for treatment to be prescribed. At the Washington clinic, because of the greater facilities, the problem cases requiring treatment or operations following diagnosis may remain in that hospital in order that these phases of their progress may be carried on under the supervision of, and actually at the hands of the specialists who serve on the consulting staff of that institution.

At the Washington clinic facilities have been made available for the handling of the cases of women veterans. These diagnostic clinics handling many difficult cases not only provide, where possible, a correct diagnosis and treatment, but a system is now in effect whereby the rating boards of the bureau actually go to the clinics and there rate the beneficiaries where all of the elements involved may be at the disposal of the rating officers.

An attempt has been made to increase the use of food and vegetables, poultry and dairy products furnished by the hospital farms. With progressive extension of agricultural and animal husbandry activities in connection with bureau hospitals there should not only result, by the employment of physically able patients in these activities as a therapeutic measure, an improvement in their condition, particularly in neuropsychiatric hospitals, but there should also inevitably result a reduction in the cost of the hospital messes and a resultant improvement in the patients' dietary by the use of food supplies fresh from the hospital agricultural tract.

The chairman of the National Rehabilitation Committee has been able to observe in his visits to private and state institutions for mentally afflicted persons a considerable employment of psycho-neurotic patients, when physically able, in these practical outside therapeutic activities, and he here submits as a part of this report some observations for the consideration of the Seventh National Annual Convention on this head.

The experience of this committee seems to indicate that the two therapeutic measures of neuropsychiatric hospitals, both federal, state and private, which have given the best results in the treatment of mental disorders are work and water. Each of these measures has been variously advocated and opposed. Hydro-therapy has been stressed only during the last few years. Work as a therapeutic measure has been barely mentioned; and in many instances those who dare to mention it, particularly with respect to veterans, have been severely criticized by well-meaning but sometimes short-sighted persons.

Generally competitive games and various forms of amusement have been the nearest approach to industrial treatment of the insane. Calisthenics, gymnastic movements, competitive games and entertainments have their place in the treatment of mental disorders, especially as leading toward the more substantial forms of occupation. In all neuropsychiatric cases fatigue from some form of occupation or activity is necessary for a natural and refreshing sleep. Exercise stimulates a better appetite and this results in that better physical condition necessary to a healthful mental attitude.

It has been said that the curative value of employment for mental disease was recognized by the Egyptians before the opening of the Christian era. Contemporary writers on neurology say that in the middle of the eighteenth century great success was achieved by the British empire in the cure of insanity by giving full employment to the remaining faculties of the patients. Many of them worked on farms and their occupations were varied and the labor divided in a diversified manner. The program included employment, entertainment, and exercise.

A great mental specialist of New York has said that every means should be taken to seduce the mind from unhappy and favorite musings, particularly with melancholy and fault-finding patients. He states that they should freely partake of bodily exercises and that of the modes by which bodily exercise is best given regular employment at some worthwhile occupation is the most efficacious.

The superintendent of the Eastern Lunatic Asylum of Virginia, at Wil-
liamsburg, said as early as 1845 that “no class of patients is so happy as the laborers; no other convalescents recover so rapidly and favorably; many of these would be completely miserable without labor and their recovery retarded. The patient enters by it into accustomed channels of thought and action, and the mind performs rationally at labor, if insane everywhere else.”

These observations, in substance, are concurred in by all of those qualified to judge with whom your committee has come into contact.

It is not thought advisable to attempt to employ insane patients simply to save additional personnel at an institution. The patients, their friends and relatives should be informed by all concerned that the purpose of employing the patients is to give them a different outlook on life to better fit them for living outside of the institution. Deterioration and permanent hospitalization are inevitable wherever patients cannot be induced to occupy part of their time at some worthy and beneficial occupation. It seems to your chairman that it is a mistake to merely attempt to keep mentally affected patients alive by furnishing shelter and food, and with the using of restraint to prevent injury to themselves or others. Seclusive sluggish and inactive cases will spend much of their time in idleness and brooding. The active, restless and destructive patients frequently are restrained by strait-jackets, camisoles, etc., although this practice is no longer in general effect in the neurosychiatric institutions of the veterans' bureau.

With the advance of occupational therapy there will be more and more patients employed and from a therapeutic viewpoint, since the patient is willing, it matters little whether he works in an occupational therapy class or in some of the essential industries of the hospital community. Some patients by their own preference would rather be occupied in some of the hospital industries than to spend their time in the therapy classes. Certain types of mental diseases require the expenditure of considerable physical energy and the procedure of studying and learning some new occupation is not conducive to their mental welfare, their minds having already been overburdened in many cases by endeavoring to make adjustment at a higher level than their original mental endowment permitted. A great many patients prefer labor work, and it is probably best for certain types such as the healthy young muscular man with low mental endowment. This type is often found willing and anxious for this outside work and it is believed that it is better for his mental and physical welfare to be kept out of doors than sitting in the yard stringing beads.

It is believed that the type of work which each individual should perform must be prescribed by a competent physician. Neuropsychiatric patients of veterans' bureau hospitals should not be compelled to perform work in the hospital for an economic purpose or to take the place of or carry on the duties of a regular employee except where there is a therapeutic indication for such occupation. I have been advised by the Commissioner of Insanity of the State of Massachusetts that a majority of the patients prefer to be occupied and that they frequently volunteer for work. At St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington, D. C., where there are 4,000 patients under treatment and where over 900 beneficiaries of the veterans' bureau are being cared for, as many patients as possible are assigned employment by the physicians. While preference is given to the bureau's patients in permitting them to make the greatest use of the occupational facilities which have been furnished by the bureau, many patients are assigned for employment in the essential industries of this hospital community. While no patient is forced to work every inducement to be occupied is offered and the policy granting of special privileges consistent with their condition for work is adhered to. The underlying theory is therapy rather than a consideration of economy but unquestionably the employment of patients is beneficial to the institution in an economic sense. No employment of patients here is permitted for the personal use or convenience of the staff or of other employees. It has been found that many of these patients prefer work in the dairy and on the farm.
as well as in the laundry, about the grounds and in the shops, rather than work in more sedentary occupations such as the occupational therapy classes.

The foregoing is written with the profound conviction that where patients of the veterans' bureau are physically able without detriment they should be encouraged as a regular regimen under prescription and proper supervision to work in the outdoor industries essential to the operation of the hospital, particularly in agricultural, horticultural and animal husbandry work.

The effect of the hospitalization provision of section 202 (ten), World war veterans' act, 1924, immediately became observable upon the passage of the act. The hospital population increased from 22,467 on June 7, 1924, to a maximum of approximately 31,000 in February of 1925. This load subsequently subsided to around 26,000 hospital occupants. At the time of the passage of the World war veterans' act it was estimated that some 5,500 men might at any one time take advantage of the provisions of that act, which provided that veterans requiring hospitalization could receive it in government institutions without respect to the origin of the disability which made hospitalization necessary.

Current figures indicate that of the existing hospital load something like 4,987 are veterans whose disabilities are not service connected. This represents approximately nineteen per cent of the total hospital load. Our experience has shown us that some of these men are awarded compensation after observation and contact and no doubt a number of those now hospitalized will later receive compensation, but it is markedly true that if it were not for the liberal hospitalization provisions of the law the bureau could not legally take care of any considerable number of these patients.

In an effort toward establishing methods and conditions of treatment which would be conducive to the greatest improvement and care of patients in hospitals there have been placed at convenient points throughout the United States medical supervisors of the veterans' bureau who are charged with the responsibility of standardizing and bettering the treatment afforded. These physicians are not continuously stationed in the field but periodically they return to central office as medical administrators and are thus able to apply their knowledge and experience gained from field contact to the problems of hospitalized veterans and they also become familiar with and help to mould current central office policy with respect to the clinical welfare of veterans. The National Rehabilitation Committee is continually in co-operative contact with the medical division of the veterans' bureau in a joint effort toward better hospitals.

Congressional Inspection of Hospitals

The report of this committee to the Sixth Annual Convention stated that under the terms of House Resolution No. 351, adopted during the last session of congress, the House Committee on World War Veterans Legislation was directed to make a survey of all institutions in which former service men and women were placed. It was directed that subcommittees of the house committee, operating under certain members as chairmen, should effect this inspection during the congressional recess. It was further reported that the chairman of the National Rehabilitation Committee had been invited to accompany these subcommittees as a representative of The American Legion and that provisions had been made for his actual expenses while traveling.

Accordingly your chairman was able subsequent to the St. Paul convention to visit some eighteen or twenty veterans' bureau hospitals and branches of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, thereafter rendering his observations as to conditions found to the congress. These hospital visits have enabled the National Rehabilitation Committee to more completely familiarize itself with the care which our veterans are receiving in the hospitals and to speak with more force and intelligence in conveying to the director the recommendations of the members of the committee which
proceeded from the field from time to time as to the conduct of these institutions. A consolidated report of the congressional subcommittees appointed, and the chairman of the National Rehabilitation Committee, has been made to the congress but has not been published for distribution as yet.

Medical Service

The Sixth Annual Convention of The American Legion at St. Paul directed the National Rehabilitation Committee to exert itself toward securing a permanent and stabilized medical service within the veterans' bureau, to the end that the general medical service of the bureau, in the administrative offices and in the hospitals, dispensaries, and clinics, might be progressively improved. After extensive conferences with the director of the bureau, with members of the director's medical council, and with the medical advisers of the National Rehabilitation Committee, your committee collaborated in the writing of H. R. 10584, entitled a bill to improve the efficiency of the medical service of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau. This measure was introduced by Mr. Homer P. Snyder, member of congress from New York, and referred to the House Committee on World War Veterans' Legislation.

The proposed measure was by that committee referred to a subcommittee of which Mr. Snyder was chairman. Mr. Snyder's subcommittee held hearings upon this bill at which were present the director of the veterans' bureau and his assistants, together with the representatives of the National Rehabilitation and National Legislative Committee of the Legion. As heretofore reported, the provisions of this bill were in substance incorporated in the general legislative measure for the disabled which was passed by the house of representatives, but it was amended by elimination in the senate. The provision for the permanent medical service was thus not incorporated in the law during the last session.

The National Rehabilitation Committee feels that better service will be afforded disabled ex-service men and women who require medical care or diagnosis through the conversion of the present medical service of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau into a permanent establishment. This it is thought would be accomplished by the attainment of three major objectives—experience, stability and mobility.

Experience—The service of the more highly qualified physicians employed by the bureau, who, under the present unsettled conditions and uncertain future, are leaving the service for more promising careers elsewhere, will be retained. Thus the experience gained by them in the war and during the past six years, together with their intimate knowledge of the veteran's needs and sympathetic understanding of his psychology will be preserved to become a basis for further advance. On the other hand, the less desirable type of medical officer will be eliminated by examination and the appointment of physicians who have failed professionally and seek government positions will be prevented.

In relieving the experienced and efficient medical officers of further anxiety as to their future by making the tenure of office permanent with good behavior and high standards of professional attainment and the provision for promotion at regular intervals based upon examination, they will be enabled to concentrate upon the larger problems of the medical service as well as the details of their particular positions. Recent graduates of class A medical schools will also be attracted to the service as an honorable career rather than the character of men who now apply, the average of whom is fifty-four years old.

Stability—A permanent organization provides the advantage of continued functioning throughout all its parts from the chief down, in spite of possible changes which may occur in the positions of the director, deputy director, or the various assistant directors of the bureau with the reorganization which might be incident to such changes, resulting in temporary or more or less permanent cessation of progress.

Mobility—Better service will be rendered by prompt response to per-
sonnel emergencies by the provision of the usual allowances which accompany a commissioned status, such as payment for the transportation of dependents and personal effects. At present this problem is one of the most embarrassing to the bureau on account of the delay in filling a vacancy which may occur through death, resignation or otherwise because of the natural reluctance and frequent financial inability of a medical officer to suddenly move his family and household effects from the station where he is on duty to a distant point at his own expense.

During the last several months this committee has attempted to place the necessity for providing for a medical corps through legislation before every state department of the Legion with the suggestion not only that the matter be canvassed at the department conventions of the organization but that all members of the national legislature from the various states be acquainted with the pressing necessity for stabilizing and making permanent the medical service of the bureau.

It should be stated that no organization in any land or at any time has ever been faced with so large a medical problem as that which confronts the veterans' bureau. Under the present system several hundred of the better class of medical men of the bureau have sought other fields. One of the potent reasons for these changes in personnel is that the bureau service is not made as attractive or permanent as it should be and that provision is not at present made against disabilities due to accident or the advancement of years. The Legion would be failing in a signal duty if it did not aid in vesting the medical service of the veterans' bureau with all of the dignity, emoluments and advantages necessary to the securing and retention of the highest type of medical personnel.

Women Veterans

The committee has continued during the past year to canvass with the veterans' bureau the present needs and future requirements of disabled women veterans of the World war. Adequate provision has been made for the hospitalization of the cases which have come to the attention of the bureau or of the Legion, but as stated in the last annual report of the National Rehabilitation Committee it has been impossible to forecast with certainty what the future load for hospitalization or clinical care would be or where it is likely to be concentrated if the load finally becomes greater than it is at present. The director is desirous of providing special provisions necessary to the care of women veterans and as rapidly as definite information becomes available upon this subject special provision will be made for their care. It should be noted that in the plans for the erection of the new tuberculosis hospital at San Fernando, California, a separate modern building for the accommodation of 128 women veterans is under construction.

Report was made to the Sixth National Annual Convention that there were approximately 36,000 women who served with military status during the World war. A careful check of these figures shows that 34,047 is a more nearly exact number. Report was also made that of these veterans there were at the close of the fiscal year 1924, 1,379 receiving disability compensation. This figure has now increased to about 1,645 cases, where there are active awards in the interest of women veterans, or an increase of 266 cases for the year. Report was further made that 310 of these women veterans were receiving hospitalization by the veterans' bureau. During the year ending June 30, 1925, the number of cases of women hospitalized has happily diminished to 241. One hundred and sixty-five of these suffer from tuberculosis and the majority of them are receiving hospitalization in government institutions in the west. Exceptions to this are eleven who are at U. S. Veterans' Hospital No. 98, Castle Point, New York; ten in civil institutions in the state of New York; and forty-three who are being treated at U. S. Veterans' Hospital No. 60, Oteen, North Carolina. There are four in the hospital of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers at Milwaukee,
and the scattering few remaining to make up the total are in approved civil and state institutions.

The total number of women veterans afflicted with neuropsychiatric disorders is forty-seven; and in line with the director's policy, announced last year, the great majority of these are in private or state institutions where there are approved diagnostic and treatment facilities for this class of cases, the notable exception being that twenty of these women veterans are at St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington, D.C., which is an interior department hospital and which has an excellent reputation for the care and treatment of mental diseases.

There are thirty-eight women veterans suffering from general disabilities, and these for the most part are receiving hospitalization in Walter Reed General Hospital, Washington, D.C.; Edward Hines, Jr., Hospital, Maywood, Illinois, and Fitzsimmons General Hospital, Denver, Colorado. The balance of these cases are for the most part in civil or state institutions, three of them, however, being in hospitals attached to branches of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers.

Since the last annual report of the National Rehabilitation Committee, the comptroller general of the United States has issued a decision which makes all government hospitals, such as army, navy, marine corps, public health service and interior department institutions, available as "government facilities" for the purpose of providing general hospitalization authorized under section 202 (ten), World war veterans' act. This decision permits the hospitalization of women veterans in these institutions wherever the physical set-up of the institution permits.

There are special wards reserved for women veterans in the bureau hospitals at Fort Bayard, New Mexico; Oteen, North Carolina; Camp Kearney, California; Fort Lyon, Colorado; and Castle Point, New York. This does not mean that these are the only bureau hospitals in which women veterans may be treated. General order No. 59-C of the bureau, dated June 1, 1925, provides that there are facilities available for the treatment of women veterans suffering from general medical and surgical disabilities in the hospitals at Muskogee, Oklahoma; Jefferson Barracks, Missouri; Algiers, Louisiana; Maywood, Illinois; Walter Reed General Hospital, Washington, D.C.; Fitzsimmons General Hospital, Denver, Colorado; and this order notes limited accommodations at Excelsior Springs, Missouri; Atlanta, Georgia; and Lake City, Florida, for these types of cases.

For tuberculosis, in addition to the facilities scheduled in the foregoing paragraphs, there are facilities available at Fitzsimmons general hospital and in the hospitals of the branches of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers at Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Sawtelle, California, and Dayton, Ohio. For neuropsychiatric cases there are certain facilities available at the new hospital of the veterans' bureau at Palo Alto, California.

Guardianships

While there has been a guardianship set-up in the central office of the veterans' bureau officially since May of 1924, the progress in protecting the funds of incompetent beneficiaries had been slow, uncertain, and in many parts of the country negligible in results. On May 1, 1925, an additional service was created in the central office and an assistant to the director was appointed as national guardianship officer. This new service has had the constant support and co-operation of the National Rehabilitation Committee and its field secretaries throughout the country.

The policies of this guardianship service are being evolved carefully and conservatively. They are discussed in periodical conferences at which the chairman of the National Rehabilitation Committee is present together with the national representatives of other veterans' organizations and the American Red Cross. Many of the policies or problems confronting this new service require national study before concrete steps can properly be taken.
The first step has been to insure the appointment of suitable qualified guardianship officers in each of the fifty-four regional areas.

With the active co-operation of The American Legion there has been a national survey of all cases under guardianship. This survey has disclosed maladministration on the part of many guardians or committees of incompetent bureau beneficiaries. The problem of increasing the bonds, instituting prosecutions, and the conserving of already depleted estates has actively engaged the attention of the field officers of this new service. From the national guardianship officer there have emanated service letters which are distributed to each regional guardianship officer and to representative Legionnaires whose reactions as to policies and procedure are encouraged and invited. The chairman of your committee has been privileged to react upon many of the policies which have been considered prior to their publication in order that the Legion point of view might be carefully co-ordinated with that of the national guardianship officer.

The guardianship work in the central office is for the most part devoted to establishing policies and adjusting situations which arise as the result of more than one regional office being interested in the given guardianship matter. The work is mainly decentralized to the regional offices where the regional guardianship officers are given the responsibility of checking the manner of handling the cases of mental incompetents and minors to the end that their rights will finally be protected in a continuous manner.

A very apparent duty of guardianship officers is that of supervising the appointment of proper guardians, assuring proper bonds and checking the administration of the trusts by the guardians as well as contacting the wards. In this duty the regional guardianship officers are co-ordinating the assistance of the Legion representatives as well as representatives of other ex-service organizations and philanthropic organizations interested in the welfare of World war veterans.

Throughout the United States effort is being made to have legislation passed when necessary to protect the interests of mental incompetents and minors who are beneficiaries of the bureau. In this work the National Rehabilitation Committee is co-operating with the national guardianship officer.

While the guardianship service has remedied many conditions since its organization there remains much to be done and every possible support should be accorded the national guardianship officer in carrying out his work to the end that every responsibility permitted under the law shall be fully accepted by the guardianship service of the bureau and where desirable new national legislation be effected.

There are about 30,000 beneficiaries of the bureau under guardianship in the United States and approximately 1,000 in foreign countries, comprising three classes: (1) Mentally incompetent veterans, (2) Aged and incompetent parents and widows, and (3) Minor children. In addition there are a large number of minor and incompetent beneficiaries not under guardianship whose interests must be protected through the joint activities of the bureau and the Legion. All of the records pertinent to the interests involved have been decentralized to the guardianship officers in the regional offices, and a recent visit by the chairman of this committee to several of the regional offices on the Atlantic seaboard disclosed that the guardianship officers of these regions were taking active steps toward the conservation of the interests of their wards through co-operation with the courts, by means of checking accounts rendered, securing restitutions where innocent diversion of funds was found, and taking steps toward the withholding of further payments and the securing of court action where embezzlement was indicated.

The progress of the guardianship service will of necessity be gradual. Questions arise which involve the legislative enactments of all states as well as those of foreign countries. It has been thought by a number of responsible officials of The American Legion that the guardianship service has not yet assumed its full responsibility, particularly in the matter of making suggestions to the courts or ordinaries as to whether a person or organization
might or might not be a suitable conservator for the person or funds of the incompetent.

This policy was enunciated by the national guardianship officer because he felt that if the judgment of the regional guardianship officer should, after making a recommendation, prove to have been unsound, his value to the service would be accordingly lessened. It is thought by the chairman of this committee that as time goes on and these officials become more familiar with and better grounded in their responsibilities and the possibilities of their work they will gradually assume this important function.

It is very apparent, however, that for the time being individuals, lawyers and groups of attorneys within the Legion must stand ready to assist the bureau officials in every possible way. Certainly if the guardianship officer may not appear in court and make a recommendation as to who should be appointed committee or conservator he can, when it appears that a guardian should be changed, or one newly appointed, prepare all the necessary papers, so that the Legion attorney who may be giving his service gratis or who may be exacting only a very nominal fee, may have the smallest possible embargo placed upon his time in the matter of presenting the papers to the courts of appointment.

This committee is now engaged in collecting data from its field representatives with respect to many of the questions pertinent to the operation of the guardianship service, based upon field experience with this work up to date. This is for the purpose of making further recommendations to the veterans' bureau on such issues as to whether or not it is generally more desirable to urge the appointment of trust companies in place of individuals or relatives as guardians, whether or not the guardianship officers of the bureau are the ones to pass upon the fitness or unfitness of the proposed guardian, the character and extent of fees which generally are exacted by outside attorneys for legal services in these matters, the extent to which that provision of the law which provides for the withholding of payments to guardians in event of their not making reports of their stewardship to the bureau upon request is exercised, the attitude of reputable bonding concerns toward these questions, etc.

This service is a comparatively new one within the bureau and its operations have resulted in observations to this committee of a varying character. These will be consolidated and at least in part through their agency the national policies of the bureau with respect to guardianship matters will be developed.

Among other beneficial policies inaugurated by the bureau was the sending to all guardians of bureau form letter 4701-A, in which each guardian was advised that the director might suspend payments to any guardian, curator or conservator or other person who shall neglect or refuse after reasonable notice to render an account to the director from time to time showing the application of payments made for the benefit of minors or incompetents. This letter directed that the guardian request the clerk of the court in which he was appointed to fill out, sign and seal a certificate which appeared upon the reverse side of the communication, and forward same to the regional office of the bureau. The certificates which must be forwarded under the seal of the court recite the amount of bond, date of appointment by the court, date of accounting and approval by the court of the account, balance on hand in the account and the date upon which the next account was to be rendered to the court.

This information makes it possible for the bureau to know in an official way the balances on hand in the account of the incompetent or minor and the general character of the presenting and approving of the accounts by the court, and in general furnishes the basis upon which the bureau approaches the matter of checking the activities of the guardians or committees. In most cases bonding companies act as security for the guardians as the bureau discourages the use of individual sureties, and the bureau is attempting to have the checks sent to guardians through the bonding com-
panies, checks being stamped by the surety so that the company knows at all times what funds flow from the bureau to the guardians. Bureau form 4708 which all guardians are urged to sign provides that their permanent address shall be in care of the bonding company acting as surety.

Heretofore it has been the practice of the bureau to retain the case folder of mentally incompetent beneficiaries in the regional office of the state where the guardian resides. The Legion has thought that there are two important elements involved—one the man himself and the other his case folder. These two elements involve practically all the physical, economic and clinical welfare of the beneficiary. Recommendation was made to the bureau that where a mental incompetent is hospitalized or domiciled in a state other than that in which his guardian resides, and where it appears that this change of residence will endure for a period of at least ninety days, the case folder should accompany the beneficiary.

This process becomes at once exceedingly desirable where a changed rating must be given a beneficiary. Preliminary to the inauguration of this method as a national policy the director sent some hundreds of case folders to hospitals in states other than those in which the guardians resided with the result that the local claims and rating boards have gone into the hospitals, having there both the individual himself and his case folder, and effected early and satisfactory ratings. In many cases this contact by the rating board of the individual and case folder has resulted in the dehospitalizing of many men whose presence in the community would not be dangerous to the public or deleterious to their own interests with satisfactory permanent compensation ratings.

Government Insurance

The present statute provides that all term insurance must be converted into some form of converted insurance now provided by the veterans' bureau not later than July 2, 1926. 175,083 veterans now carrying yearly renewable term insurance purchased when they were in the service have not converted the same. Your committee is strongly of the opinion that many thousands of these men will not be able to convert their term insurance into any of the forms of standard cumulative or converted insurance now sold by the bureau before the date which congress has provided for this final conversion, because of the greater costs involved; and the committee has urged the director under the general authority which he possesses under the insurance section of the act to provide a five or ten year level premium converted policy which will embody all of the benefits now provided by the term insurance and at approximately the same average cost per annum.

This would give those whose financial condition will not permit them to convert to the higher cost policies an opportunity to save the protection for which they have been paying and to make conversion to any of the standard forms of policies, such as the endowment, twenty payment life, etc., at a later time when they may be in better position financially to do so.

This committee is also of the opinion that men disabled as a result of their war service and who have for one reason or another been compelled to lapse their policies should be permitted to reinstate without prejudice and without the necessity for paying all of the back premiums with interest as now provided by law. Certainly this is the class which congress really wanted to protect when it provided government insurance by statute. Efforts have been made to secure this permission under the law and further application will be made to congress at the forthcoming session.

Three hundred and seventy-eight thousand and fifty-six veterans have changed their war-time insurance to some of the forms of converted insurance now issued by the bureau, and 145,000 war-time policies have matured by permanent total disability or death, upon which payments are now being made. In addition something like 8,000 policies of disabled men whose insurance was lapsed after leaving the service have been revived and are now being paid by virtue of that section of the act which permits certain uncol-
lected compensation to revive insurance at permanent total disability or death in certain conditions.

During the period of the emergency the United States government assumed the war risk on approximately 4,500,000 individuals by granting insurance to the same in the sum of about forty billion dollars. This was done at a time when the ordinary means available to the individual for protecting his dependents were suddenly withdrawn by reason of the war emergency.

The government has continued to assume the extra war hazard in these policies for those who continued them. Shortly after the war regulations were promulgated providing for the reinstatement of lapsed insurance; but there was no authority for the bureau to approve reinstatement unless the applicants were insurable risks and it was impossible to approve reinstatements for veterans suffering with any disability, even though such disability was directly connected with his military service. This difficulty was removed by act of congress on August 9, 1921. The new law of 1924, however, requires that the application for reinstatement of insurance by a veteran having a service connected disability should be made within one year after the passage of the statute or within two years after the date of lapse or cancellation. The limitation of one year after the passage of the act expired June 7, 1925. However, reinstatement in these cases may still be made if the insurance has not lapsed two years or more. Approximately 12,000 applications for reinstatement of insurance by disabled veterans have been approved by the bureau under this legislation. In order to give the provisions for reinstatement as much publicity as possible every regional office and suboffice of the bureau was instructed to mail a copy of form 704 “How to reinstate” with each compensation check mailed out during the month of May of this year.

The act of March 4, 1925, made certain modifications of the World war veterans’ act, 1924, which enabled the bureau to administer the insurance section more fairly and thus hasten the payment of claims. The most important of these changes was the amendment to section 303 through which it was provided that the proceeds of term insurance may be payable to the estate of the insured in one sum in event that no beneficiary is designated and none survives the insured, or in event that the designated beneficiary dies before receiving all of the installments due and payable under the insurance.

In spite of all efforts which have been made only a comparatively small number of well veterans have reinstated their lapsed war-time insurance. Only about fifteen per cent of all the veterans originally insured are now carrying or receiving the benefits of insurance. The protection afforded is of undoubted soundness, the premium rates are low, and no charge is made in the contract for the extra cost for protection in event of permanent total disability. The Legion in the states and posts could well afford to study the economics of this situation and concentrate on educating veterans generally in this important issue. Veterans whose condition of health shows that they are insurable risks may now reinstate their insurance upon the payment of two monthly premiums.

Veterans’ bureau general order number 310, issued March 20, 1925, abolished the positions of cashier and assistant cashier in the field offices and provided that all payments of government insurance premiums be sent directly to the central office in directed envelopes furnished with the notice of the due date of insurance premiums. Payments for the reinstatement or conversion of insurance may still be made at the field offices. This committee protested this order thinking that inconveniences would be caused those holders of insurance not having banking accounts but after consideration this protest was not allowed by the director.

Vocational Rehabilitation

The World war veterans act provides that no vocational training shall extend beyond June 30, 1926. It also provides that no person shall be in-
ducted originally into training after June 30, 1925. Thus the time when
men may be originally inducted into training has expired. During the fiscal
year and particularly during the month of June an intensive campaign was
waged to insure that all claimants who were feasible for vocational reha-
bilitation and who had not been inducted were offered the opportunity to
enter training before the final date for induction. A full report of these
activities is not yet available, but it should be noted that the various pend-
ing loads which on June 30, 1924, amounted to 18,820 cases, together with
several thousand new cases uncovered within the last year, were during the
year disposed of with a result that approximately 7,000 original inductions
were effected. This number approximately equals the total number of in-
ductions between September, 1918, and August, 1919, which was, roughly
speaking, the first year in which rehabilitation through vocational training
was attempted.

During previous fiscal years one source of difficulty was the large load
of training cases on an interrupted status, which on June 30, 1923, amounted
to nearly one-fourth of the whole training load. These cases on interrupted
status were reduced during the fiscal year 1924 to about eight per cent of
the total, and further reduced during the fiscal year just closed to about
five per cent of the whole training load.

This means that rehabilitation has been accelerated by eliminating all
possible interruptions except for medical reasons and for necessary vacations.
Under the statutory limitations vocational training is naturally diminishing
in volume. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1925, the number of trainees
was reduced from 46,913 to 21,417, in that class of training which contem-
plates both training and maintenance and support allowance. In the group
of trainees who receive their training without maintenance and support al-
lowance the reduction has been from 4,354 to 1,550. The expenditures from
the vocational rehabilitation appropriation as of the last day of the fiscal
year 1925 totaled $57,836,479, as compared with $101,621,187 as of the last
day of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924, a reduction of about forty-three
per cent for the fiscal year just ended. There was also a considerable re-
duction in the training personnel of the veterans' bureau. In the central
office during the year the total number of employees of the rehabilitation
division was reduced from 136 to sixty-eight persons, with an aggregate
salary reduction of from $292,520 to $165,320. The field personnel was
reduced from a total of 2,176 persons to 1,582 employees.

The statistics of the bureau show that in each of the successive six
months periods of rehabilitation activities the percentages of rehabilitations
effected have shown increases over previous similar periods. During the
two halves of the fiscal year 1925, 29.1 per cent and 34.1 per cent of all the
veterans in training were rehabilitated, as compared with 16.1 per cent and
twenty-three per cent for the corresponding half years of the fiscal year
1924. The proportion of permanent discontinuances on the other hand is
smaller than in previous years for the reason that the discontinuances are
in a large part derived from cases in which training has been interrupted, as
for example where the trainee did not care to resume training or was unable
to do so on account of physical disability. The interrupted load is now held
to such small dimensions that permanent discontinuances no longer occur
to any great extent.

Employment statistics of the bureau indicate that emphasis is now
placed on securing employment for the rehabilitated trainee immediately
upon or within two months subsequent to his rehabilitation. During the
last two months of the fiscal year recently closed it is reported that 4,739
veterans were rehabilitated, of whom 654 had been unable to secure imme-
diate employment. This large percentage of unemployment is apparently
due in part to the large number of rehabilitations from institutional courses
where following the usual experience there is often delay between graduation
from the professional courses and entrance upon employment.

During the year there was installed a new system of keeping training
records, the so-called 1307 series. It is hoped that this will result in more effective training supervision, since the new system requires more frequent reports from each trainee with a check up by both the instructor and the rehabilitation assistant, and in addition the system institutes a mechanical follow-up device which is intended to insure prompt attention to cases unsupervised or those reported to be making unsatisfactory progress.

There is no way of checking up definitely the total number of applications received by the veterans' bureau up to June 30, 1926, but the records show that to that date 334,864 veterans had been declared eligible for training. Of this number 179,747 were entered into training to that time, and 48,134 had been discontinued from training for various reasons. To the end of the fiscal year training had been interrupted in 1,134 cases, according to the bureau's records, and 2,068 men had died while in training. In the opinion of this committee there are no authentic figures as to the total number of veterans who have been successfully rehabilitated and placed in employment in gainful occupations by the veterans' bureau, but it is reasonable to assume that the 27,977 successful rehabilitations reported by the bureau for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1925, is a more dependable figure than any reports for previous years, on account of the fact that there has been a marked improvement in this phase of the bureau's program during that period.

In the field of trade and industrial training large numbers of trainees have under the direction of the central office supervisors been transferred from institutional training to placement training. In the field of commercial training a program of field supervision has been set up which is directed toward improving the quality of instruction. There have resulted therefrom a number of changes from institutional to placement training, intensification of training, definitization of employment objectives, the obtaining of satisfactory facilities for training, and the arrangement for employment after rehabilitation, in a large number of cases.

The National Rehabilitation Committee in its last annual report noted the establishment in the field offices of the bureau rehabilitation survey groups consisting of well qualified staff members to provide group decisions based on personal interviews with the beneficiaries as to all matters affecting need for vocational rehabilitation, advisement, quality of instruction and supervision, termination of training, and further training in event of appeal.

In most regions the establishment of these committees has developed a marked improvement in the quality of training and advisement. The trainees themselves have been better satisfied by virtue of these personal contacts and a more uniform confidence in the fairness and good intent of the officers of the bureau has been developed through this contact. This is borne out by the fact that there were only 2,803 appeals to the central office on training cases over the decisions of these local training groups.

Service Division—Washington Office

The work of the service division of the National Rehabilitation Committee in its Washington office has shown an increase during the past year. This has been caused by several factors, perhaps one of the greatest being the operation of the adjusted compensation act, by reason of which the Washington office has received requests for information and assistance from all sections of the country.

The strengthening of our service facilities in the states and the consequent more direct contact with Legionnaires and with veterans generally has caused a natural increase in the number of requests of all kinds received. The constantly increasing difficulty of effecting "service connection" historically in disability claims has made the adjudication of the claims appealed to that office require more study and concentrated effort.

As the set-up of the rehabilitation committee for service becomes better known throughout the country and as its effectiveness in handling matters
of interest to veterans generally increases, a larger volume of work will result. A great part of the work at the present time consists of the handling of death claims. Actuarial statistics show that about 33,000 veterans of the World War will die during 1925. This number will not decrease during future years, so no falling off in this activity may be expected in the near future.

The following statistical report shows in detail the activity and recoveries of the service division from August 15, 1924, to August 15, 1925.

**Annual Statistical Report**

**Year ending August 15, 1925**

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<th>District Secretaries</th>
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381 953,533.51

156,884.42

524 318.00

608.00

22 6

1,374.39

1,907 1,065.00

Adjusted compensation 144

57,094.26

Retainer pay 3

30,500.00

16 1,183.08

158 Discharge bonus 215

315.67

Retainer pay 7

1,307 63

Back allotment 26

165 Liberty bond 7

Land claims 392

Liberty bond 7

168 Lost and missing men 200

Lost and missing men 392

$1,214,477.19

Grand total, $2,028,375.05

Abstract figures seldom are interesting but it is felt that these total recoveries of over $2,000,000 will convince anyone of the importance of and necessity for the continued conduct of these activities.

During the past year representatives of the service division have personally appeared before the adjudicating agencies of the central office in hundreds of instances, with generally excellent results. Many hundreds of other cases not requiring personal appearances have been handled with success in a routine manner. By personal appearance on claim is meant that a Legion expert on claims procedure has acted as advocate for the appellant by presenting his case both from a legal and medical standpoint. To do this, much preparation is involved in the individual case, sometimes extending to an extensive medical or legal discussion thereon. In order that this may be done intelligently it has been necessary to request the medical advisers of the National Rehabilitation Committee to prepare briefs and discussions on specific medical phases, and to call upon the legal advisers for similar assistance. Most of the claims going to Washington now are those which
practically every other agency in existence has attempted to adjudicate without success and the elements involved in many are extremely complex.

Since the decentralization of the central office board of appeals to the several areas, and of the permanent total disability cases to the regional offices of the bureau, the activities of the service division in the interest of appealed claims will be conducted by direct contact with the central office claims and rating board and the director's advisory group, which is the court of last resort.

The central office claims and rating board now rates all death cases, not only as to service connection for death but also to the proper rating during the veteran's lifetime. It is, of course, impossible for them to always render ratings with which the service division is in agreement, but when such a disagreement arises the Legion officer is afforded an opportunity to appear before a group of the rating board, convened for that purpose, and present the case in all its phases as it appears from the viewpoint of the Legion. This board is operating in a manner which eliminates all possible delay in the awarding of death compensation, insurance, etc. It is thought that these ratings may, in the future, be made within forty-eight hours after the claim reaches the central office.

The advisory group handles all cases which are appealed from the central appeal board (now decentralized to the five areas) to the director. It is composed of some of the most able men in the bureau with long experience in the rating of cases. Many of the cases which reach this group are a foot thick and nearly all of them represent the very hardest and most technical cases in the bureau's files, so that each of these cases presented to the group requires careful study and preparation. During the short time this group has been functioning the Legion's service division has secured the successful adjudication of many old and difficult cases, and it is felt that this board can be expected to carefully consider every element in the case before rendering a decision.

It must be remembered that the activities of the service division are not confined to the veterans' bureau, and that in addition to being in contact with the bureau almost every minute of the working day, daily contact is also had with practically every government department and independent establishment in Washington which in any way touches the interests of veterans, disabled and well. It is noted that the entire time of one clerk is required to handle routine incoming and outgoing telephone calls.

Requests received from veterans and their friends run from the most trivial to matters of life and death importance, and effort is made to give each the most efficient and expeditious service possible. In addition to the myriad duties performed by this agency of the Legion in its day by day routine, it is of interest to state that this office has been instrumental in the arrangements for something like fifty funerals of veterans who were buried in Arlington national cemetery during the past year. An increasing number of pension matters has been noted during the year and the division is glad to report success in this handling of the claims of our older comrades in arms.

The adjusted compensation act has caused an increase in the work and as the certificates mature in larger numbers by reason of increased deaths, this phase of the activity will grow. So far the greatest effort in this connection has been to contact the war and navy departments and marine corps headquarters to assure that applicants receive their proper service credits. The interpretation of the act itself has raised several important questions which have been referred for corrective legislative action.

In spite of the already heavy load being carried by the service division of the National Rehabilitation Committee, it is realized that there still exist in remote sections of the United States probably thousands of cases of veterans who though eligible have on account of ignorance of their rights or otherwise, failed to apply for the benefits to which they are entitled under the law. In an effort to reach these men the committee has con-
ferred with the postmaster general, the secretary of the treasury and the
director of the veterans' bureau, and permission has been secured from those
officials to place suitable placards prominently in the fifty odd thousand
postoffices throughout the United States, instructing veterans as to their
rights under existing laws and directing them as to where they should apply
for the benefits involved. The design for this placard or poster has been
secured through competition among certain disabled veterans being trained
in art work by the veterans' bureau and it is expected that by the time this
report is published the physical work of actually placing these placards in
the postoffices will have been completed.
Report of the National Legislative Committee

O. L. Bodenhamer, Chairman, Ark.
John Thomas Taylor, Vice-Chairman, D. C.
Justus J. Fennell, Conn.
Winfred C. Adams, Miss.
Dr. B. W. Black, D. C.
Dr. C. C. Hawke, Kan.
Vilas H. Whaley, Wis.
J. Leo Collins, Pa.
Hughes B. Davis, Okla.
Donald C. Strochan, N. Y.
Bert L. Halligan, Iowa.
Orville E. Cain, N. H.
Leo M. Harlow, Mass.
Dr. E. B. Stewart, Ore.
J. M. Johnson, S. C.
James Brown, Va.
Robert H. Jamison, Ohio.
Frank Gilliland, Tenn.
Edward McE. Lewis, Executive Secretary, D. C.

"For God and Country"

Foreword

Service to the disabled man
Service to the ex-service man

With the submission of this report to the Seventh National Convention of The American Legion at Omaha, Nebraska, October 5 to 9, 1925, your National Legislative Committee completes its sixth year of active work at the national capital on behalf of the ex-service men and women of the World war.

The results which have been obtained and the necessity for continuing this work at Washington met with the unanimous approval of the St. Paul convention, which adopted the following resolution:

"Resolved, that this convention ratifies and approves the work carried on by your National Legislative Committee since the San Francisco convention, and recommends that the new national commander continue such a committee at Washington, whose duty it shall be to represent the Legion on all legislative and departmental matters there. We heartily commend the economy practiced by the committee during the past year, and recommend that it receive an appropriation sufficient to successfully carry on its work during the coming year, which promises to be one of great importance in the lives of the ex-service men and women, and in particular of the disabled. The committee is directed during the coming year to continue the distribution of its weekly bulletins regarding its work in congress."

The convention adjourned on September 19 and the short session of the sixty-eighth congress did not convene until December 1 and was then only in session for three months, passing out of existence on March 4, 1925, so that there was very little time in which to obtain favorable consideration of the comprehensive program adopted at St. Paul. In keeping with the above resolution, however, the main objective of this committee was legislation looking to adequate care of the disabled, and for this purpose in the various laws which were passed $339,862,250 was appropriated and in addition, for hospital construction and improvements, $27,118,800 was appropriated or made available from former appropriations.

The manner in which this legislation was enacted, together with its results, is set forth fully in that portion of the report dealing with the disabled. It was obtained almost solely through the attention and efforts of your National Legislative Committee working constantly toward this end.

The St. Paul convention adopted eighty-four resolutions requiring specific legislation which it was necessary for your National Legislative Committee to prepare in the form of bills and resolutions. These were incor-
Report of the National Legislative Committee

Ported by your committee into forty-two separate bills and were later consolidated into fourteen general bills and turned over to friendly senators and congressmen for introduction in the upper and lower houses—your committee taking great care in the selection of these men. All committee hearings were attended before both branches and the attitude of the Legion forcefully set forth and the necessary information supplied the members of the committees that they might have a complete understanding of the veterans' point of view.

In all matters of national legislation, your committee is governed solely by the instructions laid down by the national convention, the National Executive Committee and by the national commander. Our experience in Washington has taught us to understand and appreciate the increasing difficulties in obtaining legislation and the need for the most intelligent work on the part of those members of the Legion interested in the enactment of national laws and for a closer and more intensified co-ordination of effort on the part of all posts and departments in order that our future success might be commensurate with the past.

More careful consideration should be given by posts and departments to the character of the resolutions which they adopt and carry on to the national convention, which result in mandates to this committee, and serious thought should be given them in order that they conform strictly to those matters which vitally affect service men and women, as a result of their service in the World war, and not go into extraneous matters, which are not of concern and interest to the entire organization.

The manner in which the National Legislative Committee has been organized has been most beneficial as it tends to continue from year to year men who are thoroughly familiar with the work on the national legislative program.

The committee takes this opportunity to express its sincere appreciation for the help we have received from the national headquarters, the National Executive Committee and national officers. The various departments and legislative committees of the American Legion Auxiliary were thoroughly organized and contributed much to the success of our program during the short session. We are indebted to the American Legion Weekly, the American Legion News Service, the Americanism Commission, the National Rehabilitation Committee, and the other standing committees for their support and assistance, and at this time desire to extend to them our sincere thanks and appreciation for the valuable assistance they rendered us.

To our present national commander, James A. Drain, 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 six years which have elapsed the members of the senate and the house, mainly through the efforts of your committee, have become thoroughly acquainted with the purposes and ideals of The American Legion, and today with seven service men in the senate and fifty-five in the house, the national legislative problems of the veterans of the World war are receiving more careful consideration and study than ever before.
It must be borne in mind, however, that it is only through the coordinated effort of every post and department of The American Legion and every unit of the American Legion Auxiliary that the real attitude of our organization can be brought to the attention of the members of the legislative branch of our government.

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.

With this foreword, the following report of your committee is respectfully submitted.

Accomplishments

The efforts of your National Legislative Committee contributed to the enactment of the following laws and in attaining the following results during the last session of congress. On many of these the Legion alone was responsible for their enactment into law, having drawn the legislation, obtained its introduction, aided its progress through committee by testimony and legislative effort, and finally prevailed upon the house and the senate to take favorable action in time for approval by the president.

On other pieces of legislation listed, your representatives gave material aid, but did not take the lead. On still others, to be set forth, your representatives approved the legislation but did not become involved in the actual enactment of the measures. A few additional measures are listed, in the obtaining of which your representatives did not participate, but they are set forth here because their enactment is of general interest to service men and women.

Heretofore, in this committee's reports to the national conventions we have set forth our accomplishments according to official titles and public law numbers. In many instances public laws contain several different subject matters, and in looking for various legislative provisions members of this committee have often experienced difficulty in locating the particular matter in which they are interested.

In order to obviate this we have carefully analyzed all of the laws, and have set these various matters down according to our own headings in current use throughout the Legion.

In looking through this report, therefore, you will occasionally find a number of references to the same law, but under different headings. This has been done for convenience and to facilitate the finding of any particular legislative matter.

Accomplishments, Second Session, Sixty-eighth Congress

ACCOUNTABLE OFFICERS—Public law 396—(H. R. 8389) approved February 11, 1925. Comptroller general allowed for two additional years to clear the accounts of World war disbursing officers, which due to circumstances existing then, were not kept in strict accordance with the law.

ADJUSTED COMPENSATION—Adjusted service certificate fund, 1925—Public law 292—(H. R. 9559—Second deficiency appropriation bill, 1924) approved December 5, 1924—Page 11—$100,000,000.

Adjusted service certificate fund, 1926—Public law 586—(H. R. 11505—Independent offices appropriation bill, 1925) approved March 3, 1925—Page 16—$20,000,000.

Adjusted service and dependents pay 1925—Public law 292—Page 11—$28,000,000.

Adjusted service and dependents pay, 1926—Public law 586—Page 16—$12,000,000.

Army administration, 1925—Public law 292—Page 24—$3,000,000.

Army administration, 1926—Public law 631—(H. R. 12392—Second deficiency appropriation bill for 1925) approved March 4, 1925—Page 35—Making available until June 30, 1926, the appropriation of $3,600,000 for administration of the World war.
Adjusted compensation act—war department in the second deficiency bill, 1924 (public 292).
Navy and marine corps administration, 1925—Public law 292—Page 19—$450,000.
Navy and marine corps administration, 1926—Public law 631—Page 25, making available until June 30, 1926, the $450,000 for administration expenses contained in the second deficiency bill, 1924 (public 292).
Veterans’ bureau administration, 1925—Public law 292—Page 10—$1,188,500.

AIR MAIL ACT—Public law 359 (H. R. 7064) approved February 2, 1925. Authorizing postmaster general to contract for transportation of air mail by contract, between such points as he may designate.

AIR MAIL CONTRACTS—Public law 631 (H. R. 12392—Second deficiency appropriation bill, 1925) approved March 4, 1925, page 28—Authorizing $500,000 from the appropriation for railroad transportation and mail messenger service contained in treasury and postoffice departments appropriation bill for 1926 (public law 328, approved January 22, 1925) to be available for air mail contracts 1926.

AIR SERVICE—Public law 328 (H. R. 10988)—Treasury and postoffice departments appropriation bill, approved January 22, 1925, page 25—Airplane mail service, maintenance and operation between New York and San Francisco via Chicago and Omaha—for 1926—$2,600,000.
Airplane mail foreign service—Public law 328—Page 26—$150,000.
Airplane patrol forestry service—To prevent and suppress fires in national forests 1926—Public law 390 (H. R. 10404—agriculture appropriation bill) approved February 10, 1925—Page 15—$50,000.

Army Aviation—Total appropriated for army air service, 1926—Public law 413 (H. R. 11248—army appropriation bill) approved February 12, 1925—Page 17—$14,700,000.
Production and purchase of new airplanes and their equipment to be taken from the foregoing sum ($14,700,000); Public law 413—Page 17—$4,400,000.
Authority granted secretary of war to enter contracts for the production and purchase of new airplanes and their equipment, in addition to the foregoing—Public 413—Page 18—$2,150,000.
Total sums appropriated and authorized to be contracted for for army aviation purposes for 1926—Public law 413—$16,850,000.

Total for naval aviation, 1926 (including the $5,243,375 for new construction, etc.)—Public law 398—Page 19—$14,790,000.
Additional sum which the secretary of the navy is authorized to enter into contracts for new airplanes and other equipment—Public 398—Page 19—$4,100,000.
Aviation naval reserve—Public 398—Page 7—$320,180.
Total for naval aviation, 1926—Public law 398—$19,210,180.

ALLOTMENT AND ALLOWANCE RECOVERY—(Public law 449, S. 2746) approved February 24, 1925—Foregoing recovery of $1,843,000 class E allotment overpayments made during World war to veterans and their dependents.

AMERICANIZATION WORK in the District of Columbia, including the instruction of foreigners in day and night classes, 1926—Public law 595 (H. R. 12033, District of Columbia appropriation bill) approved March 3, 1925—Page 17—$16,000.
Books for foregoing—Public law 595—Page 17—$2,000.

BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION—Public law 292 (H. R. 9559—Second deficiency appropriation bill, 1924), page 2, approved December 5, 1924, makes the appropriation of $95,760 for expenses of the commission by public
Report of the National Legislative Committee

66, approved April 2, 1924, available for the operation of an automobile to be used by the commission in foreign countries.

Public 586 (H. R. 11505—Independent offices appropriation bill), approved March 3, 1925—Page 2—All unexpended balances of former appropriations for the commission made available until June 30, 1926, and the complete cost of the work limited to $3,000,000.

BLIND TRAINING SCHOOL—Public 282 (H. R. 8559—Second deficiency appropriation bill, 1924), approved December 5, 1925, page 11, appropriates $550,000 for a permanent national training school for the blind.

CEMETORIES—Public 413—Page 38 (H. R. 11248—Army appropriation bill) approved February 12, 1925, appropriated for maintaining and improving national cemeteries in the United States and permanent American military cemeteries abroad—$400,000.


Public 413—Page 38—Repairs to roadways to national cemeteries—$15,000.

Public 413—Page 39—To furnish headstones of durable stone for unmarked graves of Union and Confederate soldiers, sailors and marines, and soldiers, sailors and marines of all other wars—$85,000.

Public 413—Page 39—For the disposition of remains of officers, soldiers and civilian employees of the regular army, and for expenses of the segregation of bodies in permanent American cemeteries, in Great Britain and France—$90,000.

COLUMBIA RIVER COMPACT—Public 609—(S. 4377) approved March 4, 1925—Consent given states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon and Montana to make a compact for the apportionment of the waters of the Columbia river. (For use in irrigation, power, domestic and navigation purposes.)


Public 631—page 37 (H. R. 10020 Interior department appropriation bill) approved March 3, 1925. Appropriates $228,000 additional for the use of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers; for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1925, of which sum $190,000 is appropriated for subsistence.

St. Elizabeth's Hospital—Public 580—page 46 (H. R. 10020 Interior department appropriation bill) approved March 3, 1925. Appropriates $910,000 for the operation of St. Elizabeth's hospital, Washington, D. C.

Veterans' Bureau—Public 586—page 14—(H. R. 11505, Independent offices appropriation bill) approved March 4, 1925. Administration of U. S. Veterans' Bureau (including $200,000 for printing) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1926—$45,700,000.

Public 326—page 7 (H. R. 11308, First deficiency appropriation bill, 1925) approved January 20, 1925—Medical and hospital services (audited claims) $93,839.

Public 586—page 14 (H. R. 11505) Medical and hospital services for the year ending June 30, 1926—$311,162,250.

Public 292—page 10 (H. R. 9659, Second deficiency bill, 1924) approved December 5, 1924, appropriates $900,000 for vocational rehabilitation.

Public 326—page 7 (H. R. 11308) For vocational rehabilitation (audited claims) $79,828.

Public 586—page 14 (H. R. 11505) For vocational rehabilitation—$38,000,000.

For military and naval insurance—$98,000,000.

Total appropriated for the U. S. Veterans' Bureau—$339,862,250. (This sum does not include sums appropriated for the improvement or construction of hospitals).

World War Veterans' Act, 1924, as Amended—Public 628, (H. R. 12308)
approved March 4, 1925. The following are the chief provisions of the Johnson bill as enacted, in so far as direct benefits to the disabled are concerned. (Section numbers refer to sections of the law).

SECTION 19—Procedure under which insurance suits may be brought is clarified and the right to jury trial is given.

SECTION 23—Discharge in one enlistment not to affect the benefits accrued from another enlistment in compensation and maintenance and support allowance.

Minors who concealed their age at the time of enlistment are made eligible to the benefits of the law.

The section made retroactive to April 6, 1917, and the director directed to adjust insurance payments accordingly.

SECTION 200—No person helpless or bedridden as a result of any disability, nor any person suffering from paralysis, paresis or blindness shall be denied compensation by reason of willful misconduct.

The veterans' bureau estimates that this section will benefit about 5,000 veterans heretofore denied compensation, and will cost about $2,000,000 a year.

SECTION 201—SUB-DIVISION 1—For a veteran of any war, who does not, in the judgment of the director, leave sufficient assets to meet the expenses of burial and funeral and transportation of the body, the veterans' bureau shall pay $7 for a flag and $100 for burial, funeral and transportation expenses. It is estimated that this provision will cost about $20,000 a year and will overcome the rulings of the comptroller which have heretofore prevented the director from using his discretion in the matter.

SECTION 202—SUB-DIVISION 5—Clothing made necessary by prosthetic appliances to be furnished by the bureau, also dental appliances to be furnished compensable persons. It is estimated that these provisions will cost about $10,000 a year.

HELIUM GAS—Public 544 (H. R. 5722) approved March 3, 1925—To produce, supply and conserve helium gas for the army and navy through the bureau of mines, to which all helium activities are transferred.

HOSPITAL CONSTRUCTION—Public law number 292, approved December 5, 1924 (second deficiency bill, 1924, H. R. 9559) appropriated $3,500,000 for additional veterans' bureau hospital construction; $350,000 for a training school for the blind, and authorized in addition the incurrence of obligations for veterans' bureau hospital construction of $3,000,000. These sums, under Public law number 631, approved March 3, 1925 (second deficiency bill, 1925, H. R. 12392) were continued and made available until June 30, 1926, total $6,850,000.

Public law number 580, approved March 3, 1925 (interior department appropriation bill, 1926, H. R. 10029) appropriated for improvements at St. Elizabeth's hospital

Public law number 586, approved March 4, 1925 (independent offices appropriation bill, 1926, H. R. 11505) appropriated for alterations and improvements in existing veterans' bureau hospitals.

Public law number 586 also made available during the fiscal year, 1926, the sum carried in the veterans' bureau appropriation bill for 1925, to alter, improve or provide facilities in veterans' bureau hospitals, including the purchase of contiguous land, of $3,837,750.

Public law number 587, approved March 3, 1925 (Johnson bill, H. R. 11633) authorized the appropriation for additional veterans' bureau hospital construction and purchase of

Public law number 600, approved March 4, 1925 (S. 3818) authorized for additional facilities at Walter Reed hospital (army) an appropriation of $2,000,000.
Report of the National Legislative Committee

Public law number 631, approved March 4, 1925 (second deficiency appropriation bill, 1925, H. R. 12392) appropriated for the construction of a sanitary fireproof hospital of a capacity of 500 beds for disabled volunteer soldiers at Santa Monica, California, the sum of $1,500,000.

Public Res. number 71, approved March 4, 1925 (Harreld resolution, S. J. Res. 189) authorized an appropriation for the purchase of the state hospital at Muskogee, adjoining the veterans' bureau hospital, there of $150,000.

Total $27,116,800.

INDIGENT VETERANS—Public 595, (H. R. 12033, District of Columbia appropriation bill) approved March 3, 1925—page 33. For transportation of indigent persons, including indigent veterans of the World war and their families (from the District of Columbia)—$2,000.

LIMITATION OF ARMAMENTS—Public 398—(H. R. 10724—Naval appropriation bill) approved February 11, 1925—page 24. The president is requested to invite the governments with which the United States had diplomatic relations to send representatives to a conference to be held in the city of Washington, which shall be charged with the duty of formulating and entering into a general international agreement by which armaments for war, either upon land or sea, shall be effectually reduced and limited in the interest of the peace of the world and the relief of all nations from the burdens of inordinate and unnecessary expenditures for the provision of armaments and the preparation for war.


MEMORIALS—Adams—Public 626, (H. R. 12261) approved March 4, 1925—authorizing appropriation of $5,000 for erection of memorial to John Adams and John Quincy Adams, at Quincy, Massachusetts.

Arlington Memorial Bridge—Public 463, (S. 3173) approved February 24, 1925—authorizing an appropriation of $14,750,000 for the construction of a bridge between the Lincoln Memorial and Arlington National cemetery at Washington, D. C., across the Potomac river.

Public 631—page 4. (H. R. 12392—Second deficiency appropriation bill, 1925) approved March 4, 1925—For commencing construction of the Arlington memorial bridge across the Potomac river there is appropriated $500,000 to remain available until expended.

Bennington—Public 452, (S. 3895) approved February 24, 1925—provides for the coining of 40,000 fifty cent pieces in commemoration of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the battle of Bennington, and the independence of Vermont.

Bunker Hill—Public Resolution 57, (H. J. Res. 318) approved March 2, 1925—Creating a commission of eleven, and authorizing an appropriation of $15,000 to participate in one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of battle.

Public 631—page 5. (H. R. 12392) An appropriation of $15,000 authorized for the use of the United States Bunker Hill Sesquicentennial Commission in celebrating the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the battle of Bunker Hill.

California—Public 452, (S. 3895) approved February 24, 1925—provides for the coining of 300,000 fifty cent pieces in commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the admission of the state of California to the Union.

Declaration of Independence—Public Res. 62, (S. J. Res. 187) approved
March 3, 1925—Creating two commissions to represent the United States at
the Sesquicentennial exhibition at Philadelphia, commemorating the one hun-
dred and fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Inde-
pendence, and appropriating $25,000 for their expenses. Also provides for
the issuance of 200,000 two-and-one-half-dollar gold pieces, and provides for
the issuance of 1,000,000 fifty-cent pieces.

Fort McHenry—Public 543, (H. R. 5261) approved March 3, 1925—
authorizing appropriation of $50,000 for restoration, and conversion to na-
tional park, as the birth place of the “Star-Spangled Banner”. (Baltimore).

Fort Vancouver—Public 452, (S. 3895) approved February 24, 1925, pro-
vides for the coining of 300,000 fifty-cent pieces in commemoration of the
one hundredth anniversary of the founding of Fort Vancouver by the Hudson
Bay Company, state of Washington.

Also Public 547, (H. R. 10472) approved March 3, 1925, secretary of war
to co-operate in restoration of rebuilding of old Fort Vancouver stockade
(originally built by Hudson’s Bay Company) at Vancouver barracks, Wash-
ington.

George Washington—Public Res. 38, (S. J. Res. 85) approved December
2, 1924—establishing a commission of nineteen and appropriating $10,000
for its use in preparing a place for the celebration of the two hundredth

Public 631—(H. R. 12392) page 5—For expenditures of the United States
commission for the celebration of the two hundredth anniversary of the birth
of George Washington, as provided, by public resolution 38, approved De-
cember 2, 1924, there is appropriated $10,000 to remain available during the
life of the commission.

Public 413—page 42, (H. R. 11248—army appropriation bill) approved
February 12, 1925—for the construction of a road and improvements and
maintenance of reservation and monument at Wakefield, Virginia, the birth-
place of George Washington, $12,600.

Lee Mansion, Arlington—Public Res. 74, (H. J. Res. 264) approved March 4, 1925—secretary of war directed to restore Robert E. Lee mansion
to the condition in which it existed prior to Civil War.

Lexington and Concord—Public Res. 43, (H. J. Res. 256) approved Jan-
uary 14, 1925, creating a commission of eleven, and authorizing the appro-
priation of $16,000, to participate in celebrating the one hundred and fiftieth
anniversary of the battles of Lexington and Concord. Also to provide for
special issue of postage stamps, and coining of 300,000 fifty-cent pieces.

Public Res. 53, (H. J. Res. 342) approved February 21, 1925. Member
of house of representatives to be additional commissioner.

Public 326—Page 2, (H. R. 11308—First deficiency appropriation bill, 1925)
approved January 20, 1925—for expenses of the Lexington-Concord Sesqui-
centennial Commission $5,000 is appropriated, and for expenses incident to
the celebration of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the battle of
Lexington and Concord, $10,000 is appropriated. Total appropriation $15,000.

Mecklenburg—Public 607, (S. 4361) approved March 4, 1925—establishing
a commission of eleven for participation of United States in the celebration
of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Mecklenburg Declaration
of Independence, May 1775, Mecklenburg county, N. C., and appropriating
$5,000 for expenses.

Public 631—page 5, (H. R. 12392) approved March 4, 1925. Establishing
the United States Mecklenburg Sesquicentennial Commission and appropriat-
ing $15,000 for the use of the commission for the appropriate participation
of the United States in the celebration at the city of Charlotte, county of
Mecklenburg, North Carolina on the 18th to the 22nd day of May, 1925, of the
one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Mecklenburg Declaration of In-
dependence.

Norse-American Centennial—Public 524, (S. 4320) approved March 3,
Report of the National Legislative Committee

1925—provides for 40,000 medals commemorating the centennial of the arrival of the first ship load of Norse immigrants to America.

Petersburg—Public 362, (H. R. 3689) approved February 11, 1925—creating a commission of three (army officer, Union veteran and Confederate veteran) to inspect battlefields of siege of Petersburg, Va., and ascertain the feasibility of preserving and marking them, and authorizing an appropriation of $3,000 for use of the commission.

Westport—Public 352, (H. R. 5417) approved January 30, 1925, authorizing the appointment of a commission to investigate the feasibility and report the cost of a national military park to commemorate the battle of Westport—October 23, 1864, at Kansas City, Mo.

Zachary Taylor—Public 456, (H. R. 9724) approved February 24, 1925—authorizing appropriation of $10,000 for improvement of his burial grounds, in Jefferson county, Kentucky, and to establish thereon a national cemetery.

Public 631—page 36, (H. R. 12392) approved March 4, 1925—An appropriation of $10,000 authorized for the improvement of the burial grounds of former President Zachary Taylor in Jefferson Co., Ky.

MILITARY AFFAIRS—Public 413, (H. R. 11248, the army appropriation bill) approved Feb. 12, 1925—Fixes the strength of the army at 12,000 officers, 119,000 enlisted men and 8,000 Philippine scouts. The total sum appropriated in the bill for military purposes is $332,000,000.

Chemical Warfare—Public 457, (H. R. 11445) approved February 24, 1925, conferring rank pay and allowances of a major general on chief of chemical warfare service.

Citizens Military Training Camps—Public 413, page 36, (H. R. 11248) appropriating $2,807,471 to remain available until December 31, 1926.

Desertion Charges—Public law 611, (H. R. 2688) approved March 4, 1925, page 2, section two, provides that where an individual served honorably during the World war and that a charge of desertion has stood against him for service prior to the World war, the president is authorized to cause an entry on the rolls of the records of the army, navy or marine corps relieving said person of all disabilities in connection with said charge of desertion, and such officer or enlisted man shall be regarded as having been honorably discharged on the date the charge of desertion was entered against him.

Finance—Public 457, (H. R. 11445) approved February 24, 1925, conferring rank, pay and allowances of a major general on chief of finance of the army.

Harrison, Ramon B.—Private Res. 3, (S. J. Res. 46) approved March 4, 1925, held to have been honorably discharged, December 23, 1920, in the administration of any laws conferring rights, privileges and benefits upon honorably discharged officers.

National Guard—Public 509, (S. 3760) approved February 28, 1925—Authorizing re-enlistment of men between ages of forty-five and sixty-four (armory employees and caretakers chiefly will be affected) and validating payments made them heretofore. Also limiting enlistments in national guard reserve to those eligible for enlistment in active national guard. Requiring that the chief of militia bureau of war department shall be selected from lists of active federally recognized national guard officers. Allowing credit to national guard officers for time spent in camps and maneuvers, etc., in determining their relative rank.


Public 413—Pages 31 and 32, (H. R. 11248) Unexpended balance from 1924 made available for use in 1926, in addition to the foregoing—$1,742,800. Total—national guard, 1926—$31,606,546.

Public 631—Page 36, (H. R. 12392—Second deficiency bill, 1925) approved March 4, 1925—Not to exceed $1,332,000 of the appropriation “arming, equipping, and training the national guard, 1923” is made available during
the fiscal year 1925 for pay of the national guard (armory drills).
Total appropriated for use of national guard during the second session
of the sixty-eighth congress—$32,938,546.

Officers Reserve Corps—Public 413, page 33—Organized reserves—pay and
allowances available until December 31, 1926, $3,142,800.
Public 413, page 33—Correspondence courses, $17,000.
Public 413, page 34—For headquarters in camps, etc., $450,000.
Public 413, page 33—For enlisted reserve corps, available until December
31, 1926, $90,000.
Total—Officers reserve corps appropriated, $3,659,800.

Posthumous Award of Commissions—Public Res. 64, (S. J. Res. 124)
approved March 3, 1925, authorizing the president to issue commissions in
the name of persons who died in the military service during the World war,
whose promotion or commission had been officially recommended, but was
not accomplished because of death in line of duty.

Reserve Officers Training Camps—Public 413, page 36—To remain avail-
able until December 31, 1926, $3,828,020.

Retired List—Public 413, page 5—Pay of officers on the retired list of
the regular army, 1926, $6,600,000. Public 413, page 5—For pay of retired
enlisted men, $8,028,926.

NAVAL AFFAIRS—Appropriation Bill—Public 398, (H. R. 10724, the
naval appropriation bill for 1926) approved February 11, 1925, appropriated
$290,000,000 for the use of the navy and maintained the enlisted strength at
86,000 men, which the secretary of the navy claims is sufficient to maintain
the navy at the Treaty strength.

Airplane Carriers—Public 398, (H. R. 11282) approved February 11, 1925
—Increasing to $34,000,000 each, the limits of the cost of construction and
their conversion of the "Lexington" and "Saratoga" into airplane carriers.

Public 631, page 26 (H. R. 12392, Second deficiency appropriation bill,
1925) approved March 4, 1925—For continuing the construction of the "Lex-
ington" and "Saratoga", $14,000,000.

Construction—Public 297, (H. R. 8687) approved December 18, 1924.
Construction authorized of eight scout cruisers, with highest practicable
speed and greatest radius of action, to cost, exclusive of armor and arma-
ment, $11,100,000 each, or $88,800,000 altogether.

Construction authorized for six river gunboats (for use in Chinese
waters) to cost $700,000 each or $4,200,000 altogether.

Public 398, page 11—For prosecution of work on vessels under construc-
tion, $7,444,000.

Fleet Naval Reserve—Public 398, page 13, (Naval reserve force—class
one)—Retainer pay and active service pay, $6,277,496.

Improvements—Public 297, (H. R. 8687) approved December 18, 1924—
Authorizing alterations to provide the battleships New York, Texas, Florida,
Utah, Arkansas and Wyoming with additional protection against submarine
attack, anti-air attack, deck protection and their conversion to oil burning,
and new fire control system for the New York and Texas, at a total cost
not to exceed $18,360,000 in all.

Public 631, page 26, (H. R. 12392)—For additional protection against
submarine attack, anti-air protection, deck protection and conversion to oil
burning of the New York, Utah, Texas, Florida, Arkansas and Wyoming,
and new fire control systems for the New York and Texas (provided under
the act of December 18, 1924) there is appropriated $9,000,000.

Public 631, page 26, (H. R. 12392)—On account of hulls, outfits, machin-
ery, armor, armament and ammunition for river gunboats and scout cruisers,
authorized under the act approved December 18, 1924, there is appropriated
$4,000,000 to be available July 1, 1925.
Naval Reserve Force—Public 398, page 7—There is appropriated $3,960,000 for the U. S. Naval Reserve Force.

Pay and Allowances—Public 398, page 13, (officers on the active list) $39,252,646; (officers on the retired list) $4,145,766; (enlisted men on the retired list) $1,433,012.

Scraping—Public 292, page 26—(H. R. 9559—Second Deficiency Appropriation Bill, 1924) approved December 5, 1924. The unexpended balance of $8,450,000 appropriated in the act of March 4, 1923, made available until June 30, 1925, for the scrapping of naval vessels under the treaty limiting naval armaments. In addition to the foregoing the sum of $2,500,000 is appropriated for the same purpose to remain available until June 30, 1925.

PREFERENCE FOR VETERANS—Public 506, (H. R. 11444) approved February 28, 1925, page 15—Postal employees and substitute postal employees who served in the military, marine, or naval service of the United States during the World war and have not reached the maximum grade of salary shall receive credit for all time served in the military, marine, or naval service, and be promoted to the grade to which such postal employee or substitute postal employee would have progressed had his original appointment as substitute been to grade 1. This provision shall apply to such postal employees and substitute postal employees who were in the postal service on October 1, 1920. No employee in the postal service shall be reduced in rank or salary as the result of the provisions of this title. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent or in conflict with this title are hereby amended or repealed.

The comptroller has held that railway mail clerks, heretofore excluded, are entitled to preference under this act.


North Platte irrigation project, Nebraska and Wyoming—For continued investigations, commencement of construction of the Guernsey reservoir, and incidental operations, $800,000.

Salt Lake basin irrigation project, Utah—For continued investigations, commencement of construction, and incidental operations, $375,000.

Owyhee irrigation project, Oregon—For continued investigation, commencement of construction, and incidental operations, $315,000.

Yakima irrigation project, Washington—For continued investigation, commencement of construction of the Kittitas unit, and incidental operations, $375,000.

Public 292, page 36—That there is authorized to be appropriated from the general treasury, the sum of $100,000 for investigations to be made by the secretary through the bureau of reclamation to obtain necessary information to determine how arid and semiarid, swamp, and cut-over timberlands may best be developed.

Public 580, pages 28 to 34, (H. R. 10020—Interior Department Appropriation Bill) approved March 3, 1925. Appropriates $9,999,000 for thirty-two projects as follows:

Salt River project, Arizona—For examination of project and project accounts, $5,000.

Yuma project, Arizona-California—For operation and maintenance, commencement of construction and incidental operations, $432,000.

Orland project, California—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $34,000.

Grand Valley project, Colorado, including Orchard Mesa division—For operation and maintenance, commencement of construction and incidental operations, $278,000.

Uncompahgre project, Colorado—For operation and maintenance, commencement of construction, and incidental operations, $103,000.

Boise project, Idaho—For operation and maintenance, commencement of construction, and incidental operations, $439,000.
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, $707,000.

Huntley project, Montana—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction and incidental operations, $118,000.

Milk river project, Montana—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $76,000.

Sun river project, Montana—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $611,000.

North Platte project, Nebraska-Wyoming—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $510,000.

Newlands project, Nevada—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $167,000.

Newlands project, Spanish springs division, Nevada—For continued investigations, commencement of construction, and necessary expenses in connection therewith, $500,000.

Carlsbad project, New Mexico—For operation, maintenance, continuation of construction and incidental operations, $70,000.

Rio Grande project, New Mexico—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $650,000.

Williston project (formerly North Dakota pumping project), North Dakota—For operation, maintenance, and incidental operations, $25,000 to remain available until December 31, 1925.

Baker project, Oregon—For investigation, commencement of construction, and incidental operations, the unexpended balance of the appropriation for this purpose for the fiscal year 1925 is reappropriated and made available for the fiscal year 1926.

Owyhee irrigation project, Oregon: The unexpended balance, if any, remaining at the close of the fiscal year 1925 from the appropriation of $315,000 made by the act referred to as the “second deficiency act, 1924” for continued investigations, commencement of construction, and incidental operations, Owyhee irrigation project, Oregon, is hereby reappropriated, to be available and to continue available for use during the fiscal year 1926.

Umatilla project, Oregon—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $840,000.

Vale project, Oregon—For continued investigations, commencement of construction, and incidental operations, $500,000.

Klamath project, Oregon-California—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $561,000.

Belle Fourche project, South Dakota—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $85,000.

Strawberry Valley project, Utah—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $39,000.

Salt Lake basin project, Utah, first division—For construction of Echo reservoir, Utah lake control, and Weber-Provo canal; and incidental operations, $900,000.

Okanogan project, Washington—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $70,000.

Yakima project, Washington—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction and incidental operations, $295,000.

Yakima project (Kitittas division), Washington—For construction of the Kittitas division and incidental operations, $375,000.

Riverton project, Wyoming—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $700,000.

Shoshone project, Wyoming—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $414,000.

Umatilla rapids project, Oregon: For investigation of the feasibility of
irrigation by gravity or pumping, water sources, water storage, and related problems on the Columbia river, and for co-operative and miscellaneous investigations of the feasibility of reclamation projects, including personal services in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, and incidental expenses, the unexpended balance of this appropriation contained in the act of March 4, 1923, is hereby reappropriated and made immediately available.

Secondary projects—For co-operative and general investigations, $50,000. Total sum appropriated for reclamation, $9,999,000.

Public 443, approved February 21, 1925—Provides for repayment of about $60,000 to 250 veterans who paid this amount for construction, interest, and penalty charges on federal irrigation projects.

RETIED OFFICERS' STATUS—Public 529, approved March 3, 1925—Readjusting pay of retired officers of the regular army and the Philippine scouts, when ordered to duty as instructors. (To overcome an adverse decision of comptroller general) (affecting their longevity pay or active duty).

RETIREMENT OF WARRANT OFFICERS, MINE PLANTER SERVICE—Public 531, approved March 3, 1925—Provides "elimination" privileges to thirty-two of these officers, who were discharged, on same basis as officers were "eliminated" from army. That is, one year's pay, or graded retirement based on length of service.

WAR FRAUDS—Public 502, page 15—(H. R. 11753, Appropriation Bill for the Departments of State, Justice, Commerce and Labor)—approved February 27, 1925. Appropriates $1,000,000 to be expended at the discretion of the attorney general for the investigation and prosecution of alleged frauds, either civil or criminal growing out of or arising in connection with the appropriations for or prosecution of the late war.

Public 501, (S. 3913) approved March 4, 1925—Provides for a three year extension of two acts enabling the department of justice to prosecute war fraud cases. These acts would have become inoperative otherwise, September 19, 1925.

WAR TROPHIES—Public 631, page 36, (H. R. 12392—Second Deficiency Appropriation Bill, 1925) approved March 4, 1925. There is appropriated $20,000 to remain available until June 30, 1926, for the equitable distribution of captured war devices and trophies under the provisions of the act, approved June 7, 1924.

WILD LIFE AND GAME REFUGE IN THE UPPER MISSISSIPPI—Public Res. 70, (S. J. Res. 179) approved March 4, 1925. Amending the act entitled "An act to establish the upper Mississippi river wild life and fish refuge" approved June 7, 1924, so that the purchase of land and water by the secretary of agriculture for the creation of the refuge may be simplified and expedited.

Public 390, page 23—(H. R. 10404, agriculture appropriation bill) approved February 10, 1925. This refuge was created under the law approved June 7, 1924, which authorized as appropriation of $1,500,000 for this purpose. The present law (public 390) appropriated $400,000 for this purpose and authorizes the secretary of agriculture to incur obligations on this account of $1,100,000.

Public 502, page 38—(H. R. 11753, Appropriation Bill for Departments of State, Justice, Commerce and Labor) approved February 27, 1925—Appropriates $25,000 for the construction of buildings and pounds for equipment, maintenance, operation and repairs, etc.

WORLD FLYERS—Public 470, (H. R. 12064) approved February 25, 1925—Advancing Captain Lowell H. Smith, 1,000 files on promotion list; First Lieutenants Leigh Wade, Leslie P. Arnold, and Erick H. Nelson, 500 files; commissions as second lieutenants, Air Service, Henry H. Ogden and John Harding; D. S. M. for foregoing and Major F. L. Martin and Sergeant Alva L. Harvey, and all authorized to accept foreign decorations.
Partially Accomplished—(Bills Passed the Senate Only)


AERONAUTICS—S. 76—Senate Report No. 1262. Passed the Senate January 8, 1924. Reported to house January 20, 1925. To create a bureau of civil aeronautics in the department of commerce, to encourage and regulate the operation of civil aircraft in commerce and for other purposes.


DISABLED MEN—S. J. Res. 131. Passed the Senate December 20, 1924. Referred to House Committee on Claims, January 3, 1925. Authorizing the director of the United States Veterans' Bureau to take assignments of certain claims of patients of General Hospital No. 55, Fort Bayard, New Mexico.

POSTAL—S. 3674. Passed the Senate January 30, 1925. Reclassifying the salaries of postmasters and employees of the postal service, readjusting their salaries and compensation on an equitable basis, increasing postal rates to provide for such readjustment, and for other purposes.

Bills Passed the House Only

ALIENS—Deportation—H. R. 11796—Report No. 1292. Passed the house February 10, 1925. To provide for the deportation of certain aliens, and for other purposes.

ARCHIVES—H. R. 11791—House Report No. 1285—Senate Report No. 1089. Passed the house February 2, 1925. To provide for the construction of certain public buildings, and for other purposes.

MEDALS—H. R. 10526—Report No. 1424. Passed the house February 27, 1925. To extend the limitations of time upon the issuance of medals of honor, distinguished-service crosses, and distinguished-service medals to persons who served in the army of the United States during the World war.

NAVAL AFFAIRS—H. R. 11921—House Report No. 1407. Passed the house February 16, 1925. Senate Report No. 1226. To authorize the permanent appointment of any acting chaplain in the navy to the temporary grade and rank in the navy held by him during the World war.

Bills Reported to House


MILITARY AFFAIRS—H. R. 11923—Report No. 1344. To relieve persons in the military service of the United States during the war emergency period from claims for overpayment at that time not involving fraud.

NAVAL AFFAIRS—H. R. 10739—Report No. 1052. To authorize the secretary of the navy to proceed with the construction of certain public works at the naval air station, Pensacola, Florida.

H. R. 11924—Report No. 1420. To relieve persons in the naval service of the United States during the war emergency period from claims for overpayment at that time not involving fraud.
Report of the National Legislative Committee

H. Res. 334—Report No. 1497. Directing the secretary of the navy to inform the House of Representatives if not incompatible with the public interest of the number or designation of United States vessels that have run aground since January 1, 1923, and for other purposes.

NUMBER OF BILLS INTRODUCED UNDER EACH CLASSIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Senate</th>
<th>House</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adjusted Compensation</td>
<td>Adjusted Compensation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Legion</td>
<td>Aliens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aviation</td>
<td>Americanism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Labor</td>
<td>Appropriations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disabled Men</td>
<td>Archives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration</td>
<td>Aviation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medals</td>
<td>Child Labor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorials</td>
<td>Civil Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Affairs</td>
<td>Deportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naturalization</td>
<td>Disabled Men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naval Affairs</td>
<td>Immigration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postoffice</td>
<td>Medals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reclamation</td>
<td>Memorials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal Draft</td>
<td>Military Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans Orgs.</td>
<td>Naval Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>113</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adjusted Compensation

Shortly after the enactment of the Adjusted Compensation Law on May 19, 1924, it became apparent that a number of injustices had been incorporated in the law which required correction by amendment. Accordingly, the St. Paul convention adopted five resolutions on this subject, in substance as follows:

1. Allowing any veteran to assign all his rights to any patriotic organization chartered by congress.
2. Allowing full benefits to the beneficiaries of veterans who died prior to August 1, 1924, and who failed to make application.
3. Providing that the ruling of the comptroller under which deductions from adjusted service credits are made on account of sums alleged due the government as a result of a veteran’s service, be set aside.
4. Inclusion of the Philippine scouts among the beneficiaries of the act.
5. Changing the dependency provision and allowing heirs to be eligible to the full benefits, without proof of dependency.

These were incorporated into two separate bills introduced early in the session by specially designated individuals who had always manifested a keen interest in this legislation. These were Representatives Andrew of Massachusetts and Fish of New York, both Legionnaires.

At the beginning of the adjusted compensation legislation in 1920 congress had adopted a resolution requiring that all bills on this subject should be considered by the Ways and Means committee of the house, the revenue raising committee of that body. This resolution is still effective and all bills on this subject are still considered by this powerful committee which is one of the busiest in congress. Its chairman, William R. Green of Iowa, has frequently in the past demonstrated his friendship for the veterans by his official and unofficial efforts in behalf of our legislation.

Shortly after the convening of congress, Chairman Green informed your representatives that it would be extremely difficult to obtain any amend-
ment to the adjusted compensation law during the short session and he therefore requested your committee to prepare a brief which would explain in detail the desired amendments and show the urgent necessity for their enactment. This brief was for his use before his own committee. Your representatives prepared such a brief and Chairman Green thereupon placed the situation before his committee at an informal meeting held for the purpose. After considerable discussion the committee came to the conclusion that there would be no opportunity to enact amendments to the adjusted compensation law at the short session, and Judge Green was instructed to inform your representatives that this was the judgment of his committee, and that therefore no action would be taken on the amendments to the law at that session.

Your committee recommends that the amendments in question be resubmitted to the Omaha convention so that they will go before the coming session of congress with this added backing. The chances for amendatory legislation will be much better at the coming session as it will last for five months instead of only three months, the duration of the last session.

At the time the present law was enacted a year ago charges were made that it would seriously embarrass the financial program of the government, that it would not only prevent tax reduction but would require an increase in taxes; that the veterans themselves, as a whole, did not desire it, and that even if a portion of them did, it would be of no material benefit to them if they should receive it. A year has now passed since the bill became a law and it is therefore proper to inquire into the accuracy of these statements:

1. Is it of practical benefit to the veterans?

The reply to this is that about sixty veterans who have applied for adjusted compensation are dying daily, and that the average certificate issued to these veterans has been $1,047. Therefore, the government is paying out every day more than $62,000 to the dependents of deceased World War veterans. By July 8 last, 4,595 death claims had been received by the veterans' bureau and $4,819,053 paid out on account of the Adjusted Compensation Act. These dependents would not be receiving this money if this law had not been passed. It would seem that these figures alone are a sufficient answer to the question, "Is adjusted compensation of practical benefit to the veterans?"

2. Do the veterans want it?

The law provides that veterans may have until January 1, 1928, to apply for adjusted compensation. The application blanks were distributed by July 1, 1924. Since that time seventy-five per cent of the eligible veterans, or more than 3,240,000 have applied for adjusted compensation benefits.

Compare the number of adjusted compensation applications received in little more than a year with the five-year period during which veterans have applied for their victory medals. The victory medals were supplied by the army, navy and marine corps, without cost to the veteran, and 4,700,000 persons are eligible to receive them. The most recent compilation of medals issued shows that only 2,870,000 or fifty-seven per cent of the total number entitled to medals have applied for them. It would seem, therefore, that the veterans desire adjusted compensation benefits in the form provided by the law, when seventy-five per cent have applied within a little more than a year, compared to fifty-seven per cent applying for victory medals within five years.

3. Has tax reduction been possible since the passage of the adjusted compensation law?

In spite of the charge of opponents that taxes could not be reduced if this bill became a law, taxes were reduced last year by $475,000,000. Following this tax reduction, the government showed a surplus of $506,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924. Some might think that with this huge reduction in taxes, and huge government surplus immediately following, that the government would have been financially embarrassed during the
Report of the National Legislative Committee

fiscal year which ended the 30th of last June. Such was not the case, however. The fiscal year which just closed showed a surplus of $250,000,000, and as another effort for a further reduction in taxes is already in progress, it is apparent that the adjusted compensation legislation has not interfered in any way with the financial program of the administration.

The recitation of these facts alone should be sufficient to prove whether the adjusted compensation law has been a financial detriment to the nation.

American Legion Reports

Under Public Resolution No. 25 of the sixty-eighth congress, approved June 6, 1924, it was provided that the proceedings of the national conventions of The American Legion shall, with accompanying illustrations, be printed annually hereafter as separate house documents of the congress to which they may be submitted.

Accordingly, with the convening of the session of congress last December, representatives of this committee transmitted to the speaker of the house the proceedings of the Sixth Annual National Convention of the Legion at St. Paul, in addition to the reports of the national officers and national committees made to that convention. Those two volumes were printed by the government printing office as House Document No. 517 of the second session of the sixty-eighth congress in one volume, under the heading of "Proceedings of the Sixth National Convention of The American Legion, St. Paul, Minn., September 15-19, 1924."

The volume consists of 329 pages of printed matter and illustrations, and constitutes a splendid permanent record of this convention. Members of the congress found this volume so interesting that the supply was quickly exhausted and no more copies are now available. Your committee recommends that the convention authorize it to order an adequate supply of the proceedings of the convention itself. It is estimated that the cost of 3,500 volumes will be less than $200.00.

Archives

Ever since the first convention at Minneapolis, Armistice Day, 1919, strong resolutions have been adopted favoring the erection of an archives building at Washington, to protect and care for the priceless records of the World war and other valuable documents of an historical nature, where they would be at once accessible and at the same time receive the maximum protection to which their irreplaceable value to our patriotic citizens entitles them.

Each year since 1919 the Legion has obtained the introduction of a bill to construct an archives building at Washington, but each year such a measure has failed of enactment.

The resolutions adopted by the St. Paul convention on this subject were vigorously framed, and your committee supplied copies of these to the Public Buildings and Grounds Committees of both houses immediately upon the convening of congress, December last. Several bills were introduced to accomplish the Legion resolution. Your committee finally threw its influence behind H. R. 11791, introduced by Representative Elliott on January 20, 1925, as the measure which seemed to have the best chance for enactment at the short session. This bill was endorsed by the president and the secretary of the treasury, and provided for an expenditure of $25,000,000 annually for six years, a total of $150,000,000 for public buildings throughout the United States.

It stipulated that the location and cost of the buildings would be determined by the secretary of the treasury. Secretary Mellon announced that one of the first buildings to be erected under this measure would be an
archives building in the city of Washington, to house, among other things, the records of the veterans of the World War.

The administration favored the bill because it planned to do away with the old method of allocating public buildings. Many individual congressmen and senators opposed it, however, for this very reason. The last general public building bill passed by congress was approved on March 4, 1913—twelve years ago, and since that time no general public building bill has been enacted. Consequently, there has developed a legitimate need for public buildings throughout the United States, and in particular, in Washington.

Heretofore all general public building bills have specifically provided locations and sums to be spent for individual buildings. In other words, congress has dictated where the buildings should be built and how much should be spent upon each of them. The Elliott bill (H. R. 11791) provided that the secretary of the treasury should designate where the buildings would be erected, the character of building to be built and the sum of money to be expended. “There was no guarantee, in fact no indication that each state should receive a part of the buildings for which money was authorized”—in the bill according to the minority report opposing the measure from the public building and grounds committee of the house.

On January 27, 1925, the bill was favorably reported from the House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds (Report No. 1268) and placed on the union calendar of the house. It came up for action on February 2 under suspension of the rules, and was forced through by the administration on that date without amendments and with limited debate. Because of the manner of its presentation to the house that body had either to accept it or reject it in its entirety.

The measure immediately went to the senate where it received prompt consideration by the Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds which reported it favorably to the senate on February 12, 1925 (Report No. 1089). The Legion had rendered valuable aid in obtaining the passage of this measure in the house, and it was stated by many representatives at the time that without the assistance of your committee the measure could not have passed in the lower body.

The situation which followed in the senate was much more difficult. Under the rules of that body action on legislation may be indefinitely postponed through the active opposition of a few senators, and a number of senators were opposed to the measure. In spite of the pressure of the administration to obtain the enactment of this measure, it failed to come up for action in time in the senate, and thus died when the session adjourned on March 4.

Aviation

Although no legislation of a general character affecting military aviation was enacted at the second session of the sixty-eighth congress, its activities concerning the air forces of the country were greater than any since the war. This was partly due to the attitude of The American Legion, which at its San Francisco convention had gone on record in favor of an investigation of our air forces to ascertain the entire question of national defense in its three planes, land, water and air, in order that we might be assured that the country is securing the benefit of all the results of the last war and the developments since that time.

As a result of this resolution the House of Representatives appointed a select committee to investigate the air services of the nation, and this select committee held hearings during the last session of congress. In addition to this, Representative Curry of California on December 3, 1924, introduced H. R. 10147, a bill which would unify the army and navy air forces, and place them under a secretary of aeronautics with a seat in the cabinet. This bill was referred to the House Military Affairs Committee which conducted public hearings on it. Although this legislation was not
enacted into law the testimony before it and before the select committee of investigation disclosed many deficiencies in our air situation which it is hoped will be corrected through this exposure.

During the hearings many charges of “muzzling” of army and navy officers were made. Brigadier General William Mitchell, who favored a unified air force, became a storm center through his charges that the United States ranks only fifth among the great nations of the world in air protection, and that battleships have become obsolete and can be easily sunk by bombing planes. The secretaries of war and navy opposed the measure to unify the air forces. Captain Eddie Rickenbacker testified in favor of the unified forces as did Major Reed G. Landis, World war ace and chairman of the Legion’s Committee on Aeronautics. Admiral Sims, who had commanded the American fleet in European waters during the war, testified that aeroplane bombs can sink battleships but he opposed a unified air service. The select committee will not make its report until the next session of congress. In the meantime General Mitchell was not reappointed to his position as Assistant Chief of the Army Air Service, while the Military Academy at West Point, and the Naval Academy at Annapolis have inaugurated courses in aviation for the cadets in training for commissions in the regular services—due without doubt to the charges made before the committees.

The Legion had strongly endorsed a measure to create a bureau of civil aeronautics which would aid in the development of a merchant air marine through proper regulation and inspection of civilian air activities.

Such a measure, S. 76, passed the senate and was favorably reported by the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce on January 20, 1925. It failed to come up for action in the house, however, and died with the session.

During the year the American world fliers circled the globe, and in recognition of this, Public law No. 470 (H. R. 12084) was approved by the president on February 25, 1925, advancing Captain Lowell H. Smith one thousand files on the promotion list, and First Lieutenants Leigh Wade, Leslie P. Arnold and Eric H. Nelson five hundred files; commissioned as Second Lieutenants, Air Service, Henry H. Ogden and John Harding; and awarded the Distinguished Service Medal to these officers and to Major F. L. Martin and Sergeant Alva L. Harvey. The law also authorized them to accept foreign decorations.

The carrying of mail by airplane received considerable impetus during the session, to which your representatives lent support. The most important measure enacted was the Air Mail Act (Public law No. 359, approved February 2, 1925) which authorized the postmaster general to contract for transportation of air mail between such points as he may designate. Under the authority the postoffice department has greatly enlarged transportation of mail by air, and has added many new routes to those heretofore in existence. Public law No. 631 approved March 4, 1925, authorized $500,000 from the appropriation for railroad transportation to be available for air mail contracts during the year.

Public law No. 328, approved January 22, 1925, appropriated $2,600,000 for the airplane mail service between New York and San Francisco, and $150,000 for the airplane mail foreign service.

Public law No. 390, approved February 10, 1925, appropriated $50,000 for the airplane patrol of the forestry service. This measure was endorsed at the St. Paul convention.

In addition to the foregoing the following sums were appropriated for air services of the army and navy:

**Army Aviation**

Total appropriated for army air service, 1926—Public law No. 413 (H. R. 11245—army appropriation bill), approved February 12, 1925, page 17—$14,700,000.
Production and purchase of new airplanes and their equipment to be taken from the foregoing sum ($14,700,000) Public law No. 413, page 17—$4,400,000.

Authority granted secretary of war to enter contracts for the production and purchase of new airplanes and their equipment, in addition to the foregoing, Public law No. 413, page 18—$2,150,000.

Total sums appropriated and authorized to be contracted for army aviation purposes for 1926—Public law No. 413—$16,850,000.

Naval Aviation


Total for naval aviation, 1926 (including the $5,243,375 for new construction, etc.)—Public law No. 398, page 19—$14,790,000.

Additional sum which the secretary of the navy is authorized to enter into contracts for new airplanes and other equipment—Public law No. 398, page 19—$4,100,000.

Aviation naval reserve—Public law No. 398, page 7—$320,180.

Total for naval aviation, 1926—Public law No. 398—$19,210,180.

In addition to the foregoing, Public law No. 399, approved February 11, 1925, increased to $34,000,000 each the limits of the cost of construction and their conversion into airplane carriers of the “Lexington” and “Saratoga,” former battle cruisers, abandoned as such through the Conference on Limitation of Armaments of 1921. Public law No. 631, approved March 1, 1925, appropriated $14,000,000 for continuing the construction of these two airplane carriers.

Bills to fulfill other Legion—resolutions were prepared by your committee and introduced in the congress. There was insufficient time for action upon them during the short session, and they therefore died with its adjournment.

Battle Monuments Commission

Public law No. 292 (H. R. 9559—second deficiency appropriation bill, 1924), page 2, approved December 5, 1924, makes the appropriation of $95,750 for expenses of the commission by public law No. 66, approved April 2, 1924, available for the operation of an automobile to be used by the commission in foreign countries.

Public law No. 586 (H. R. 11505—Independent offices appropriation bill), approved March 3, 1925, page 2. All unexpended balances of former appropriations for the commission made available until June 30, 1926, and the complete cost of the work limited to $3,000,000.

Members of the commission again visited the battlefields of Europe and on November 21, 1924, held a meeting at which the following was decided upon:

1. It was decided to erect at each of the eight American military cemeteries in Europe a chapel or memorial hall of a religious but non-sectarian character in which should be placed tablets or inscriptions describing in general terms the nature of the services rendered by the American troops who are buried in that cemetery. These chapels to be of generally uniform type, varying in size in approximate proportion to the size of the respective cemeteries and varying in architecture as may be necessary to harmonize with the architecture of the neighboring buildings. It was also decided that the design of these chapels should include some type of memorial in memory of those who remain missing in action.

2. It was decided that walls of permanent construction should be placed around all the permanent American military cemeteries in Europe.

3. An appropriation of $548,550 made during the session of congress ending June 7, 1924, for erecting headstones for the graves of American soldiers buried in Europe contained a provision to the effect that the headstones should be of a design and material to be agreed upon by the secretary
of war and the American Battle Monuments Commission. At the close of the meeting, the secretary of war, in conference with the commission accepted the commission's recommendation that the forms of headstone for use in Europe should be that of a cross with the Star of David placed over the graves of soldiers of the Jewish faith. The stone crosses will be of the same dimensions as the present wooden ones, except that the thickness will be increased to four inches. The design of the Star of David has not yet been decided upon.

4. It was decided that the commission should take no action at the present time with regard to marking the sites of former American military cemeteries in Europe.

5. The act creating the commission states that the "commission shall provide regulations for the erection of all memorial monuments and buildings in the American cemeteries in Europe." At the meeting the following regulations were adopted:

"1. There be no variation in the types of headstones officially adopted for use in the American military cemeteries abroad.

"2. No memorial monuments or buildings shall be placed in these cemeteries unless the design and site have been approved by the American Battle Monuments Commission.

"3. No steps toward the erection of any memorial monument or building in these cemeteries should be taken until the idea has first been approved by the American Battle Monuments Commission."

6. It was decided that the commission should erect important commemorative monuments as follows to the members of all American organizations who participated in the actions named:

- Meuse-Argonne operation—monument at Montfaucon.
- St. Mihiel operation—monument at Hattinchatel.
- Aisne-Marne operation—monument at Chateau-Thierry.

7. It was decided that the commission should erect historical monuments of modest design to mark the fact of American participation in the following localities:

- Audenarde, Belgium
- Vicinity of Fismes
- South of Ypres
- Vicinity of Bony
- Vicinity of Le Cateau
- South of Soissons
- East of Amiens
- Near Juvigny
- At a point midway between Consenvoye and Wavrlle on the east bank of the Meuse river
- S. E. of Rheims
- South of Sedan
- Rome, Italy

8. It was decided to erect a monument of modest design in Nancy to commemorate American troops who served in divisional sectors.

9. It was decided to erect bronze tablets marking the location of the following:

- Headquarters, First Army, at Souilly.
- Headquarters, Second Army, at Toul.

10. It was decided to erect a monument at Tours to commemorate services of the officers and enlisted men of the Service of Supply, American Expeditionary Forces.

11. The commission decided to initiate legislation which would provide for the care of all monuments already erected, or hereafter erected in France by American states, associations or individuals, provided the designs and locations of these monuments have the approval of the American Battle Monuments Commission.

The commission approves of the following existing monuments:

- State of Missouri, large monument near Cheppy, France.
- State of Tennessee, four monuments.
First division, five large monuments, in shaft form, surmounted by an eagle with drooping wings.

Third division, one monument at Chateau Thierry.

Fourth division, three monuments.

12. It was decided that the commission could not approve or accept responsibility for the following monuments already erected in France, in view of the fact that they are of more or less temporary construction and that the acts commemorated therein are to be commemorated by the commission with larger and finer monuments:

First division, fifteen small monuments.

Second division, twenty-three small monuments, in boulder form.

Fifth division, twenty-eight medium.

Twenty-seventh division, two medium in the vicinity of Bony, France.

Thirty-seventh division, one medium.

The members of the commission are:

Chairman—General John J. Pershing.

Vice-Chairman—Robert G. Woodside.

David A. Reed, Senator from Pennsylvania.

John Philip Hill, Representative from Maryland.

Thomas W. Miller.

D. John Markey.

Mrs. Frederic W. Bentley.

Secretary—Major X. H. Price, Corps of Engineers, United States Army, Room 270, State, War and Navy Building, Washington, D. C.

Civil Service

No laws were enacted during the short session of congress which would amend the federal civil service laws.

A bill covering the resolutions adopted on this subject at the St. Paul convention was carefully drawn by your committee and presented on December 8, 1924, to the ranking Democratic member of the Civil Service Committee of the House of Representatives, for introduction in that body. This representative was Lamar Jeffers of Alabama, Legionnaire and active friend of veteran legislation in the house.

Jeffers conducted a series of conferences with Republican and Democratic members of his committee on the question of this legislation, and finally reported to your representatives that there was no opportunity for its passage in the short session of congress, and that to push it under the circumstances would not only be useless so far as enactment was concerned, but that in addition this action might adversely influence the chances for passage of other Legion legislation, such as that affecting the disabled. With this situation confronting your committee, it was decided not to push the measure.

However, important administration actions were taken during the year, which have had considerable bearing upon the retention, promotion, demotion and separation from the service of veterans in government employment.

It will be recalled that the Classification Act of 1923, approved March 4, 1923 (Public law No. 516, sixty-seventh congress), established the personnel classification board, to consist of the director of the bureau of the budget as chairman, and a member of the civil service commission and the chief of the U. S. Bureau of Efficiency or alternates for any of the three.

Efficiency ratings were provided for under this act, and the personnel classification board was directed to review (and may revise) uniform systems of efficiency ratings upon which increase or decrease in pay shall be based, and dismissal.

Section 8 of this law provides "that nothing in this act shall modify or repeal any existing preference in appointment or reduction in the service
of honorably discharged soldiers, sailors or marines under any existing law
or any executive order now in force."

This sentence was construed to make effective paragraph five of the
executive order of March 3, 1923 (issued the day prior to the approval of
the act) which reads as follows:

"In harmony with statutory provisions, when reductions are being made
in the force, in any part of the classified service, no employee entitled to
military preference in appointment shall be discharged or dropped or reduced
in rank or salary if his record is good."

On November 7, 1924, the U. S. Bureau of Efficiency issued general
circular No. 10 which defined methods, under the authority of the executive
order dated October 24, 1921, for the rating of employees of the classified
departmental service semi-annually, including veterans of the World war for
the purposes of retention, promotion, demotion and separation from the
service. Under this general circular No. 10, an employee whose efficiency
rating falls below sixty-five, will not be continued longer in the work upon
which engaged during the period covered by the rating, and should no
suitable vacancy be available in an inferior classification grade, he shall be
separated from the service for inefficiency. This includes veterans.

That portion of the executive order of October 24, 1921, which provides
as follows:

"In cases of reductions in the number of employees on account of
insufficient funds or otherwise, necessary demotions and dismissals shall be
made in order, beginning with the employees having the lowest ratings in
each class, but honorably discharged soldiers and sailors whose ratings are
good shall be given preference in selecting employees for retention."

was construed in this general circular No. 10 to require that in selecting
employees to be dismissed or demoted on account of any general reduction
of working forces, honorably discharged soldiers and sailors attaining for the
last rating period an efficiency rating of not less than eighty would be
placed at the top of the list of competing employees in the order of their
ratings, to be retained in existing status if their records in respect to
deportment, attitude and attendance were satisfactory, in preference to all
other persons with whom they were respectively in competition.

This construction of the rating of "good"—that is—arbitrarily defining
"good" as not less than eighty—was confirmed by the president on June 4,
1925, under which date he issued an executive order sustaining this definition
of the U. S. Bureau of Efficiency.

This executive order of June 4, 1925, is of such great importance to
veterans, that it is herewith quoted in full, as follows:

"Executive Order"

"In lieu of that part of section 7 of executive order of October 24, 1921,
which provides:

'In cases of reductions in the number of employees on account of in-
sufficient funds or otherwise, necessary demotions and dismissals shall be
made in order, beginning with the employees having the lowest ratings in
each class, but honorably discharged soldiers and sailors whose ratings are
good shall be given preference in selecting employees for retention.'

the following rules are hereby prescribed to govern the selection of em-
ployees for demotion or separation from the departmental service on account
of reduction of force.

Employees Eligible for Military Preference

1. Executive order of March 3, 1923, will be construed to require that
in selecting employees to be demoted or separated on account of any reduc-
tion of working forces honorably discharged soldiers, sailors, and marines,
and the widows of such, and the wives of injured soldiers, sailors, and
marines, who themselves are not qualified for positions in the government
service, will be placed at the top of the lists of competing employees, in the
order of their ratings, provided they attained for the last rating period an efficiency rating of not less than eighty; and they will be retained in existing status, if their record in respect to department, attitude and attendance is satisfactory, in preference to all other persons with whom they are respectively in competition.

**Employees Not Entitled to Military Preference**

"2. When preparing lists from which to select employees for demotion or separation on account of reduction of force, credits for length of service will be added to all efficiency ratings of sixty-five or higher as follows:

- For the first full year of government service
- For the second full year of government service
- For the third full year of government service
- For the fourth full year of government service
- For the fifth full year of government service
- For the sixth full year of government service
- For the seventh full year of government service
- For the eighth full year of government service
- For the ninth full year of government service

"and one point for each year thereafter, except that the maximum credit for length of service shall not exceed twenty-five points. The period of service shall be computed from the date of original employment, whether as a classified or unclassified employee in the civil service of the United States, and shall include periods of service at different times and services in one or more departments, branches, or independent offices of the government, and shall also include service performed under authority of the United States beyond seas, and honorable service in the army, navy, marine corps, or coast guard of the United States: Provided: That all periods of separation from the service and so much of any period of leave of absence as may exceed six months shall be excluded. Credit will not be given for service rendered beyond retirement age. For example, an employee with ten years of service, whose efficiency rating was seventy, would receive a demotion or separation rating of 75.5 while one with thirty years or more of service and rating of seventy would receive a demotion or separation rating of ninety-five. Demotions and separations from each class heretofore or hereafter established by the personnel classification board will be made in order beginning with the employee having the lowest rating, except that an employee with a higher rating may be demoted or separated in preference to another with a lower rating if the duties of the position to be retained can not be acceptably performed by the employee with the higher rating after a reasonable preliminary training period. Honorably discharged soldiers, sailors, marines, and widows of such, and the wives of injured soldiers, sailors and marines, who are not qualified for positions in the government service, whose efficiency ratings are below eighty and therefore are not entitled to military preference, will, after having received service credit to which they are entitled, compete with other employees not entitled to military preference.

"3. In making selections for demotion or separation on account of reductions of force the heads of departments and establishments shall consider dependency, official conduct, or other like factors, and may on the basis of these factors allow an additional credit not exceeding three points.

"4. All proposed demotions and separations on account of reductions of force shall be reported to the personnel classification board for its approval and action suspended pending advice from the board.

"5. The personnel classification board shall from time to time promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to carry this order into effect.

"The White House, June 4, 1925."

"CALVIN COOLIDGE."
Under the authority of this executive order, circular No. 20 was issued on June 10, 1925, by the personnel classification board, interpreting the executive order of June 4, 1925, and containing regulations based upon it for the demotion or separation of employees from the departmental service on account of the reduction of force.

This sets forth that all employees who have received preference because of military service, whose efficiency rating is eighty, without augmentation, shall be placed above all other employees in preparing lists for demotion or separation from the service. The circular provides, however, that veterans whose rating is less than eighty, without augmentation, shall not be placed at the head of the list, but on the contrary shall take their places in numerical standing with non-preference employees in the preparation of lists for demotion or separation from the service.

It has been suggested that department heads rate their employees so that the total earned ratings of all employees (without longevity or military augmentation credits) shall average 82.5, or 2.5 higher than the rating of "good". The departments are generally adhering to this.

This system has been too recently inaugurated to ascertain definitely its exact effect upon the average veteran employed in the government service, but your committee believes that the credits given for military preference are too small. Under the system which this has placed in force, a veteran with one year's service during the World war, who entered the government employment on January 1, 1920, and has remained in that employment until the present time would receive an augmentation of only 2.1, whereas under paragraph No. 3 of the executive order of June 4, 1925, heads of departments may, in their discretion, allow an additional credit not exceeding three points in considering dependency, official conduct, or other like factors in the employee being rated. In other words, the discretion of a department head might be of greater effect than the augmentation received for one year's military service and five years' service with the government.

The fact that the credits allowed veterans for their military service are not counted in determining the record of "good", but are added following the classification of "good" or less than "good", does not enable veterans to reap the full advantage which should accrue from their military service. In other words, a veteran whose rating is .79.5 and who had one year's service during the World war, and five years government service since then, would receive an additional credit of 2.1, but this augmentation could not be used to bring his mark over eighty (good) for the purpose of placing him in the military preference classification with others whose ratings without augmentation are eighty, the mark designated as "good".

Your committee recommends that greater credits than those allowed in the foregoing be extended for military service during war time, and that in addition, the augmentation from these credits be allowed in computing the veterans standing in relation to the rating of "good".

Your committee also believes that the establishing of "good" at eighty, fails in a great measure to reach worthy veteran employees who should be entitled to preference in retention in government employment, and therefore recommend legislation which would substitute the word "satisfactory" for the word "good", and thus allow the benefits now extended to those with the rating of "good" to be extended also to veterans with a lower rating than the present eighty required under the executive order of June 4, 1925.

The executive order of March 3, 1923, among other things included the following sentence:

"An appointing officer who passes over a veteran eligible and selects a non-veteran with the same or lower rating shall place in the records of the department his reasons for so doing."

Your committee believes that this provision has been of little practical benefit to veterans seeking positions in the government service. This is specially true with reference to appointment in the postal service.
several occasions when the postmaster general has passed over a veteran to appoint a non-veteran with a lower rating, your committee has requested the postmaster general to state the reasons for his discrimination against the veteran. In each case the postmaster has replied that the reasons for his action have been noted in the records of the post office department, and has declined to inform us of the nature of these reasons.

In some cases the post office department states, that although the veteran has received a higher rating for the position under the civil service examinations, the department believes the non-veteran better qualified for the position. In a recent instance of this attitude, a veteran had a rating of twelve points higher than the non-veteran, yet the post office department stated it believed the non-veteran better qualified for the position. Should this conclusion reached by the post office department be correct, it would indicate a serious deficiency in the methods of examination followed by the civil service commission, in that the results obtained failed to convince the post office department that the relative standing of the applicants according to civil service requirements, are of a practical nature.

It is the belief of your committee that the question of appointment of veterans to government employment is, to a marked degree, based on the attitude of the appointing officer toward veterans. An example of this is in the U. S. Veterans Bureau, where General Frank T. Hines, the director, has initiated a policy of not appointing non-veterans to "key" positions where a veteran is available and qualified for the position, and in the average run of positions in the bureau his policy has been to select a veteran for appointment wherever possible. This is a marked contrast to the attitude of the post office department.

It will be seen from the foregoing that federal veterans preference provisions as they are now being administered, are, in many instances, of little practical benefit to the veteran, and it is suggested that the convention committee on civil service give serious thought to this situation, looking toward recommendations which may result in greater general benefits to World war veterans, in obtaining and retaining government employment.

A statement issued by the U. S. Civil Service Commission states that approximately 365,000 claims for preference in appointment to positions in the classified civil service have been allowed under the veteran preference acts of March 3 and July 11, 1919. Of the 365,000 veterans who entered examinations, the statement says, about 224,000 qualified and became eligible for appointment, and more than 92,000 have actually received appointment.

**Railway Mail Service**

On May 25, 1925, the comptroller general of the United States handed down an opinion holding that the postal reclassification act of February 28, 1925, (public law No. 506) grants the same credits to World war veterans in the railway mail service, as have heretofore been accorded to other postal employees and substitute postal employees who are World war veterans, but which had heretofore been denied veterans in the railway mail service.

Thousands of veterans are affected by this ruling, and because of its importance, it is herewith quoted in full, as follows:

"Postal employees and substitute postal employees who served in the military, marine, or naval service of the United States during the World war and have not reached the maximum grade of salary shall receive credit for all time served in the military, marine, or naval service on the basis of one day's credit of eight hours in the postal service for each day served in the military, marine, or naval service, and be promoted to the grade to which such postal employee or substitute postal employee would have progressed had his original appointment as substitute been to grade one. This provision shall apply to such postal employees and substitute postal employees who were in the postal service on October 1, 1920."
"1. Does this provision apply to the railway mail service?

The provision except the last sentence thereof, first appeared in the act of March 1, 1921, 41 stat. 1157, in the form of an amendment to a provision in the act of June 5, 1920, stat. 1049. In decision of April 12, 1921, 27 comp. dec. 887, 889, the comptroller of the treasury held that the provision had 'no application to employees in the railway mail service,' for the reason that the amendatory proviso must be read in connection with the original provision of law thereby amended, which governed exclusively the compensation of clerks in first and second class post offices and regular and substitute letter carriers in the city delivery service. The last sentence of the provision was first enacted as an amendment in the act of June 19, 1922, 42 stat. 662. As to the effect of this amendment see 2 comp. gen. 492. The provision as quoted above from the act of February 28, 1925, appears as a separate paragraph of section 11 of the act after all the provisions for fixing the compensation of employees in the various divisions of the postal service, including the railway mail service, and immediately follows a paragraph which places clerks in the railway mail service on the same basis as clerks in first and second class post offices and carriers in the city delivery service in so far as counting substitute service on appointment to regular positions is concerned. Thus the reason for limiting application of the provision as it appeared in earlier laws, as set forth in 27 comp. dec. 887, to clerks in first and second class post offices and carriers in the city delivery service, no longer exists; and accordingly it must be held that the provision is applicable to clerks in the railway mail service as well as to clerks in first and second class post offices and carriers in the city delivery service. For the manner in which credit for military, marine, or naval service is to be computed see 1 comp. gen. 680; id. 724, 2 id. 492.

"2. Does the law apply to an employee who was in some other branch of the postal service October 1, 1920, and who later transferred to the railway mail service, granting his service in the post office department was continuous from October 1, 1920?

The act of May 27, 1908, 35 stat. 413, provided: 'That thereafter railway postal clerks on entering the service shall receive the salary of the lowest grade.' In section seven of the act of February 28, 1925, it is provided: 'All original appointments shall be made to the rank of substitute railway postal clerk.' The last named act, in section 11, also authorizes the postmaster general to transfer employees from the position of clerk to the position of carrier or vice versa, and authorized interchange of clerical force between the post office and the motor vehicle service, the transfer to be made to corresponding grades and salaries, but there is no authorization therein for the transfer of employees from any other service to the railway mail service to corresponding grades and salaries, and there does not appear to be any other statutory authority now in force under which employees may be transferred to the railway mail service with the privilege of counting longevity for service in the other branch from which transferred for the purpose of automatic promotions. The provision applies to such only of the railway mail service employees in the service on February 28, 1925, as were in the railway mail service either as substitutes or regulars on October 1, 1920, and have remained continuously in said service since that date. Question 2 must be and is answered in the negative.

"3. You ask how to proceed in giving credit for military service in the case of John J. Welch, whose record is set forth in your letter as follows:

John J. Welch entered the military service July 5, 1918, and was discharged January 8, 1919. He became a substitute railway postal clerk July 5, 1919, and after performing 313 days' substitute service was appointed
Report of the National Legislative Committee

unassigned in accordance with a provision in the postal appropriation act approved March 3, 1917, reading as follows:

"Provided, That hereafter any substitute railway postal clerk shall, after having performed service equivalent to three hundred and thirteen days, be appointed railway postal clerk of grade one, and in computing such service credit shall be allowed for service performed prior to the approval of this act.

"On July 1, 1920, according to your decision of March 13, 1925, he again became a substitute at $1,600 per annum and was promoted to grade two at $1,700 per annum October 1, 1920. He was appointed September 1, 1923, to the St. Louis terminal RFD, a grade three assignment, and promoted October 1, 1923, to grade three at $1,850 per annum. On January 1, 1924, he was selected to fill a grade four assignment, and promoted to that grade October 1, 1924. His assignment became grade five January 1, 1925, under the postal reclassification act of February 28, 1925."

"It is understood from your statement that this employee was 'selected to fill a grade four assignment,' that the grade in which he is now serving is a selective or competitive grade and not an automatic grade. See in this connection 4 Comp. Gen. 299. The right to credit for military service extends no further than through the automatic grades, and is not a controlling factor, in so far as statutory right to annual promotion is concerned, when an employee in the highest automatic grade is selected to fill a competitive position. In other words, the provision in question has no application to an employee who has reached the maximum grade to which he may be automatically promoted on the basis of length of service alone. Therefore, on the basis that John J. Welch is occupying a position in a competitive grade, as distinguished from an automatic grade, no credit for his military service is authorized.

"4. Are postal employees who received credit for military or naval service, under the provisions of section 9 of the act of July 2, 1918, 40 stat. 754, entitled to further credit under the act of February 28, 1925, supra?"

"Section 9 of the act of July 2, 1918, is as follows:

"Sec. 9. Employees, including substitute employees, of the postal service who have entered the military or naval service of the United States or who shall hereafter enter it during the existence of the present war, shall, when honorably discharged from such service, be reassigned to their duties in the postal service at the salary to which they would have been automatically promoted had they remained in the postal service, provided they are physically and mentally qualified to perform the duties of such positions."

"This provision had reference to postal employees reinstated in the postal service after discharge from the military or naval service during the World war. Its purpose was to prevent their losing credit for longevity for the time served in the military or naval forces. The act of February 28, 1925, applies to all employees who were in the postal service October 1, 1920, who had military or naval service during the World war, whether or not they had previously been in the postal service, provided they have remained continuously in the service since October 1, 1920. It is not apparent how a case could arise in which an employee who had received credit for his military or naval service under the act of July 2, 1918, would be entitled to any further credit under the provision in the act of February 28, 1925, here under consideration. If it should be contended in any such case that further credit is authorized under the provision in the act of February 28, 1925, a statement of all facts with reference thereto should be submitted to this office for further consideration."

The foregoing decision was rendered by Lurtin R. Ginn, Acting Comptroller General of the United States and was contained in a letter addressed to the postmaster general, Washington, D.C.

Disabled Men—Legislation Amending the Reed-Johnson Bill

As finally passed upon by the St. Paul convention, thirty resolutions were adopted calling for specific amendments to the Reed-Johnson bill as
the World War Veterans' Act, 1924, is usually called. The resolutions request these amendments had been formulated after six days and nights of constructive sessions attended by members of the Legion's National Rehabilitation Committee and the Convention Rehabilitation Committee, acting in harmony and co-ordinating their efforts toward the mutual end desired—legislative and administrative relief for the disabled.

Immediately following the convention, your committee began the preparation of the actual legislation necessary to accomplish these thirty resolutions. When put into legislative form they required fifty-one specific amendments to that measure affecting eighteen sections of the law and were drawn in the form of an omnibus bill.

This omnibus bill was completed early in November and turned over to the chairman of the National Rehabilitation Committee for comment and criticism. The chairman of that committee analyzed the bill with the utmost care and rewrote portions of it, following conferences with attorneys of the United States Veterans' Bureau. Following this your committee rewrote the bill incorporating the changes and on December 3, two days after the convening of the second session of the sixty-eighth congress, turned it over to Royal C. Johnson, chairman of the World War Veterans' Committee, who introduced the bill the next day under the number H. R. 10251. This was usually referred to as the first Johnson bill, as an amended bill was later introduced by Johnson with the backing of his committee, under the number of H. R. 12308.

In spite of our request for early hearings on this legislation, it was impossible to hold public hearings until after the holiday recess, so the first hearings on the measure were not held by the House Committee on World War Veterans' Legislation until January 7, 1925.

In the meantime, on December 6, your committee presented the measure to Senator David A. Reed, of Pennsylvania, Legionnaire, and chairman of the Sub-Committee of the Senate Finance Committee which handles legislation affecting disabled veterans. The bill was introduced and known in the Senate as S. 3582. No hearings were held on this measure by the Senate sub-committee, the upper body deciding to await house action on the measure before formally considering its provisions.

The chairman of the National Rehabilitation Committee was the first witness to appear before the veterans' committee of the house, and on January 7, 8 and 9 gave expert testimony concerning the legislative recommendations contained in the Legion bill. The representatives of two other veterans' organizations testified on January 10 and in substance endorsed the Legion's proposals.

Director Hines of the veterans' bureau then testified for three days, following which the committee began a series of executive sessions in which the Legion proposals were considered.

On January 31, at the request of Chairman Johnson, the bill was re-drafted by your committee, your rehabilitation committee chairman and Attorney Roberts of the veterans bureau. In this form it was placed before the veterans' committee for its approval on February 2.

At the beginning of the session it had been decided, that the Legion provision for a veterans' bureau medical corps which was contained in the measure originally drafted by your committee had best be incorporated in a separate bill. Accordingly, Representative Homer Snyder of New York on December 9 introduced H. R. 10534 to provide for the creation of this medical corps. On the same date the House Committee on World War Veterans' Legislation received a communication from the civil service commission protesting against the enactment of the Snyder bill.

On January 28 hearings were held on the Snyder bill before a sub-committee of the veterans' committee of which Representative Snyder was chairman. Director Hines and the chairman of the Rehabilitation Committee testified their approval of the measure before the committee. These were the only two witnesses heard. On the favorable report of the Snyder bill
from the sub-committee to the veterans' committee a few days later, the veterans' committee deemed it best to follow the original plan of your representatives and incorporate the provisions of the Snyder bill in the Johnson bill, making it necessary to handle only one piece of legislation during the brief time then remaining of the short session of congress. On February 5 another sub-committee appointed for the purpose by the veterans' committee, concluded its preliminary deliberations, and on that date had a committee print made of its proposed bill to amend the Reed-Johnson bill. This measure consolidated the Johnson bill and the Snyder bill and contained a majority of the amendments desired by the Legion. It was considered and approved at a meeting of the National Rehabilitation Committee held at this time in Washington. Its chief provisions, in amending the World War Veterans' Act, 1924, were as follows:

SECTION 10—Creation of United States Veterans' Bureau Medical Service with pay and allowances for its officers corresponding to those of the medical corps of the army, with civil service requirements eliminated for appointment, and retirement privileges for disability.

SECTION 19—The manner in which suits may be brought against the government on insurance claims was simplified in procedure and circuit courts of appeal empowered to exercise appellant jurisdiction.

SECTION 23—The benefits of compensation, or maintenance and support allowances for disabilities incurred in or aggravated by service, in an enlistment other than the one which resulted in the discharge or dismissal of a veteran from the service, were granted.

SECTION 26—Payments of compensation, yearly renewable term insurance, or accrued maintenance and support allowance owing to a veteran, which were not paid prior to his death, where the amount is $500 or less, might be paid by the director to the person or persons who would, under the laws of the state, be entitled to the personal property in case of intestacy.

SECTION 200—This was one of the most important amendments to the new bill. It provided that "no person suffering from paralysis, paresis, blindness, or constitutional lues, should be denied compensation by reason of willful misconduct, nor should any person who is helpless or bedridden as a result of any disability be denied compensation by reason of willful misconduct."

SECTION 201—Subdivision 1.—This section was amended to provide for funeral as well as burial expenses and the amount for the flag to drape the casket of deceased ex-service men was increased from $5 to $7. The indigency clause was modified so that the $100 for burial and funeral expenses might be paid by the government, where in the judgment of the director, the circumstances warranted it.

Subdivision 7.—The amendment to this subdivision would allow a widow or parent to receive compensation for the death "or disability" of more than one person.

SECTION 202—Subdivision 2.—This provided that a veteran with a tuberculous disease of compensable degree, who in the judgment of the director had reached a condition of complete arrest of his disease and who had been or shall be discharged from further hospitalization, should receive for life a compensation rating of not less than permanent partial fifty per centum.

Subdivision 3.—This amendment provided that a veteran suffering from a tuberculous disease of compensable degree who had been hospitalized for a period of one year, and who in the judgment of the director would not reach a condition of arrest by further hospitalization, and whose discharge from hospitalization would not be prejudicial to the beneficiary or his family, and who was not, in the judgment of the director, feasible for training, should, upon his request, be discharged from hospitalization and
rated as "not less than" temporarily and totally disabled, said rating to continue for the period of three years.

The amendment further provided that whenever any beneficiary under this title had been rated temporarily totally disabled and had been or should be continuously so rated and so disabled for a period of twenty-four months such beneficiary should be judged permanently totally disabled, such rating not to be decreased during the continuance of total disability.

Subdivision 10—This was the general hospitalization section. It had been broadened to include dental, medical, and surgical care, and prosthetic appliances. In addition it allowed hospitalization in emergency cases in the discretion of officers in charge of government hospitals where application was made directly to the hospital. The limiting date "since 1897" was stricken from the bill, and Spanish American war army nurses were included in its provisions.

SECTION 205—Was amended to establish the principle that where a claimant's disability had once been held of service origin, it could not at a later date and upon the same evidence be held to be not of service origin, except upon new evidence, evidence of glaring error, or in case of fraud participated in by claimant.

SECTION 304—This amendment allowed a veteran, suffering from a service connected disability, but who was not permanently and totally disabled, to revive his insurance through having the amount of the back premiums placed as a five per centum interest bearing indebtedness against the face value of his policy, where proof satisfactory to the director was furnished showing the applicant to be unable to pay his back premiums with interest thereon as then required.

SECTION 406—The section amended to strike out the limitations of the then present law in sections 401, 402 and 403, so as to allow entrance into vocational training after June 30, 1925, for persons eligible but held not feasible for training. In addition the date of June 30, 1926, for the termination of all training was waived in the cases of these persons, and also for persons then in training whose final rehabilitation would be prejudiced by shortening their courses.

Following the report of this bill by the sub-committee to the full veterans' committee, the latter held daily executive sessions in an attempt to agree on a committee bill based upon the sub-committee measure. The committee did not reach an agreement until February 16, and on that day Chairman Johnson introduced the measure under the new number of H. R. 12308 which from that time on became the Johnson bill endorsed by the World War Veterans' Committee of the House. The new bill was immediately referred by the speaker to the veterans' committee, and that committee, on February 18, reported it favorably to the house without an amendment, Report No. 1518.

On February 21 your representatives discussed the legislation with Senator Reed of Pennsylvania, who had already been supplied with copies of the bill and report. He asked that he be allowed to study it before giving an opinion on its provisions. Two days later he told your representatives that after careful study of the measure, he believed it a worthy one with the exception of one or two points. Although the time was short for its consideration in the senate, he stated that he did not believe the obstacles insuperable which had to be overcome in the short time remaining of the session.

On February 24 Senator Smoot, Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Senate, appointed Senator Reed, and Senator Walsh, of Massachusetts, as a sub-committee for the Finance Committee to consider the measure informally, so that the senate committee would be in a position to take immediate action on the measure as soon as it was passed by the house.

In the meantime your representatives were pressing for action in the house so that the measure might reach the senate with all possible speed,
Report of the National Legislative Committee

and it was brought up for action in the house February 28, ten days after its favorable report, when Chairman Johnson obtained recognition from Speaker Gillett for the purpose of bringing the bill up for consideration under the suspension of the rules, with debate limited to forty minutes, and amendments precluded from the floor, requiring a two-thirds favorable vote for passage.

The bill was passed by the house on February 28 without a record vote, a half dozen nays being the only open opposition indicated to it. This opposition followed considerable criticism during the debate of Chairman Johnson of the committee and the veterans' committee in general for its delay in bringing the bill before the house, and secondly for bringing it up "under suspension of the rules" which limited the debate and prevented amendment. Chairman Johnson and other committee members defended the actions of the committee.

The bill immediately went to the senate.

On Monday night, March 2, the sub-committee of the finance committee of the senate completed its consideration of the Johnson bill and reported it to the senate on the morning of March 3. The bill had been drastically amended by the finance committee. This was not apparent, however, until that morning, Tuesday, March 3, when it was too late to attempt to rectify this situation. The amended bill was accordingly passed in the senate by noon of March 3 and immediately forwarded under senate instructions to the public printer for engrossment.

The measure had been officially before the Senate Finance Committee only one day, although influential members of this committee had had copies of the house bill for ten days. In extenuation for amending the measure so drastically, senators asserted that the time was too short for proper consideration of the many important and far reaching amendments contained in it and stated that as no agreement could be reached in the finance committee to retain these beneficial provisions, that committee determined to strike out any controversial matter which the bill contained.

When the veterans' committee of the house heard on Tuesday afternoon, March 3, of the senate's action in amending the measure, members of that committee determined not to accept the bill in that form, but to notify the senate of its disagreement and appoint conferees to resolve the differences between the two houses. This action was accordingly taken, and the measure was returned by the senate to the house at four p.m. March 3, with only a few hours remaining in the session during which an agreement might be reached by conferees of the two houses, a new bill written and passed by the senate and the house, and that bill then engrossed by the public printer in time for the signature of the president the next morning.

It was obvious to your committee that the time was too short for the physical accomplishment of these various steps necessary to obtain desired improvements in the measure.

In addition to this our canvass disclosed that the finance committee of the senate was not disposed to consider a conference, and we therefore realized that unless the veterans' committee of the house could be persuaded to rescind its action, and recommend to the house that the senate amendments be accepted, that no legislation to amend the World War Veterans' Act, 1924, would be enacted at that session of congress, and thousands of veterans who would benefit under the amended legislation would have to wait another year for the benefits made possible to them.

Your representatives immediately began a poll of the members of the house veterans' committee and urged them (two-thirds of whom are Legionnaires) to accept the bill with the senate amendments rather than kill the entire piece of legislation. Within an hour after your committee had inaugurated this procedure it was apparent that the Legion had again won the day, and Chairman Johnson of the veterans' committee, shortly afterward obtained the unanimous consent of the house that the senate be requested
to return the Johnson bill together with the house message announcing the disagreement with the senate amendments. Following this he held an informal meeting with the members of his committee in the house lobby.

At 5:30 p.m. the bill, having been returned, Johnson obtained unanimous consent to take it from the table with the senate amendments thereto, and to recede from the disagreement of the house to the senate amendments, and concur in the same. After a debate of twenty minutes, during which criticism was made of the delay in bringing the legislation before the house, and also for calling it up under "suspension of the rules", precluding amendment from the floor and limiting debate, the bill was passed unanimously at 5:50 p.m.

A comprehensive and detailed analysis of the provisions of the new Johnson bill are contained in the report of the chairman of the rehabilitation committee, and therefore, need not be repeated in detail here.

During the debate just before the adjournment of the house, Chairman Johnson of the veterans' committee, and Representative Hayden of Arizona, Legionnaire and ranking Democratic member of the committee, announced for both parties that the Johnson bill would be reintroduced on the first day of the next session of congress, promptly reported by the veterans' committee, and the house given ample opportunity to consider it under usual rules of debate, procedure and amendments from the floor. It should then go to the senate with ample time for proper consideration by that body.

As enacted the Johnson bill contains thirty-five amendments to the existing law, many of which will aid disabled veterans.

The following are the chief provisions of the legislation, insofar as direct benefits to the disabled are concerned. (Section numbers refer to sections of the law.)

SECTION 19—Procedure under which insurance suits may be brought is clarified and the right to jury trial is given.

SECTION 23—Discharge in one enlistment not to affect the benefits accrued from another enlistment in compensation and maintenance and support allowance. Minors who concealed their age at the time of enlistment are made eligible to the benefits of the law.

This section made retroactive to April 6, 1917, and the director directed to adjust insurance payments accordingly.

SECTION 200—No person helpless or bedridden as a result of any disability, nor any person suffering from paralysis, paresis or blindness shall be denied compensation by reason of willful misconduct.

The veterans' bureau estimates that this section will benefit about 5,000 veterans heretofore denied compensation, and will cost about $2,000,000 a year.

SECTION 201—Subdivision 1.—For a veteran of any war, who does not, in the judgment of the director, leave sufficient assets to meet the expenses of burial and funeral and transportation of the body, the veterans' bureau shall pay $7 for a flag and $100 for burial, funeral and transportation expenses. It is estimated that this provision will cost about $20,000 a year and will overcome the rulings of the Comptroller which have heretofore prevented the director from using his discretion in the matter.

SECTION 202—Subdivision 6.—Clothing made necessary by prosthetic appliances to be furnished by the bureau, also dental appliances to be furnished compensable persons. It is estimated that these provisions will cost about $10,000 a year.

Hospital Construction

The St. Paul Convention of the Legion adopted resolutions calling on congress to construct 7,615 additional beds in modern fireproof veterans' bureau hospitals. This action on the part of the convention was the result
of a careful study of the hospital load and in particular of the effect of the passage of the Reed-Johnson bill in June, 1924, which had provided for general hospitalization regardless of the origin of the veteran's disabilities and in addition had allowed other classes of compensable disabled service men to obtain hospitalization heretofore denied them.

The first session of the sixty-eighth congress had been requested to augment the permanent building program for hospitals by about $15,000,000 additional construction. The congress declined to accede to this, however, and authorized an appropriation of only $6,850,000. The Legion protested vigorously at this action, so in order to lay the ground work of information by actual contact with hospital conditions the House Committee on World War Veterans' Legislation introduced a resolution in the closing days of the session which authorized that committee to make an investigation of the hospital situation and to report its findings to the congress at the convening of its second session on December 1, 1924.

On May 1, 1924, at the time the $6,850,000 bill was agreed upon, the hospital load had been gradually falling and at the time consisted of only 23,137 veterans, of whom 11,718 were in veterans' bureau hospitals and 11,419 in other hospitals, including 5,125 in contract institutions.

Due to the passage of the Reed-Johnson bill the hospital load began increasing during the summer, and the Legion realized that this was just the beginning, as ordinarily the load decreases in the summer instead of increasing. By September 1, 1924, the load had increased to 24,407 patients, of whom 13,329 were in veterans' bureau hospitals, and 11,078 in other hospitals, of which 4,584 were in contract institutions.

This rapid increase during the summer months indicated clearly to the Legion that the hospital building program needed great augmentation, not only to care for those already receiving hospitalization, but to provide adequate quarters for those disabled veterans who the government had said were entitled to hospitalization under the Reed-Johnson bill, but for whom no adequate hospitalization would be possible unless additional construction was provided by the government.

By February 1, 1925, it became apparent to all that the Legion's prognostications for future additional hospitals were only too accurate. The load had risen by that time to 30,422, of which 17,759 were in veterans' bureau hospitals and 12,633 in other hospitals, including 4,732 veterans in contract institutions. Although the number of patients in veterans' bureau hospitals had been increased during this eight-month period by 6,000 patients (due to the completion of hospitals under the second Langley bill enacted in the spring of 1922), the number of veterans in hospitals other than veterans' bureau hospitals had increased by 1,600, and the number of veterans in contract hospitals had—in spite of the opening of the additional veterans' bureau hospitals—decreased by only 400 veterans.

From these figures alone, it was apparent that the permanent hospital building program needed augmentation in order to adequately care for disabled World war veterans.

When congress convened on December 1, 1924, the veterans' committee of the house, which had investigated hospital conditions during the summer, was not ready to make its report, and therefore obtained the consent of congress to defer this report until February 15, 1925, or until only slightly more than two weeks prior to the closing of the session. In the meantime the St. Paul resolutions on the subject were submitted to the veterans' committee of the house, which under an agreement reached in the closing days of the first session of the sixty-eighth congress, was henceforth to pass upon veterans' bureau hospital construction instead of the House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds which heretofore had considered that legislation.

The first definite action obtained by your committee during the session was the passage of H. R. 9559, the second deficiency appropriation bill, 1924,
which had not been enacted in the closing days of the first session due to a filibuster on it in the senate. This measure contained an appropriation of $6,500,000 for hospital construction and $350,000 for the construction of a training school for blind veterans. This bill was approved by the president on December 5, 1924, and thereupon became public law 292.

During December, 1924, Chairman Johnson of the veterans' committee appointed a sub-committee of that committee to consider additional hospital construction. This sub-committee was composed of the following members: Representative Luce of Massachusetts, chairman; Representative Perkins of New Jersey, McLafferty of California, Rankin of Mississippi, and Jeffere of Alabama.

On January 29, 30 and 31, this sub-committee held hearings on H. R. 11633, a bill which had been introduced by Chairman Johnson on January 14 to appropriate $10,300,000 for additional hospitals. This Johnson bill had been introduced on the recommendation of Director Hines. Following this the chairman of the National Rehabilitation Committee conferred frequently with General Hines and appeared before the federal board of hospitalization in an effort to obtain an augmented recommendation on the part of the veterans' bureau. These efforts were successful, and on January 31, when Director Hines appeared before Chairman Luce's sub-committee on Hospital Construction, he recommended for the veterans' bureau that 4,759 additional beds in veterans' bureau hospitals be constructed or purchased at an estimated cost of $14,889,000.

These recommendations of Director Hines were allocated to the old veterans' bureau districts as indicated below:

District No. 1. 300 neuro-psychiatric beds.
District No. 2. 450 tuberculosis beds.
District No. 4. 200 neuro-psychiatric beds.
District No. 5. 600 tuberculosis beds.
District No. 6. 400 tuberculosis beds, and 129 neuro-psychiatric beds.
District No. 8. 300 neuro-psychiatric beds.
District No. 9. 100 neuro-psychiatric beds.
District No. 10. 200 tuberculosis beds, 60 neuro-psychiatric beds, and 300 general beds.
District No. 12. 550 tuberculosis beds, and 200 neuro-psychiatric beds.
District No. 13. 100 neuro-psychiatric beds, and 300 general beds.
District No. 14. 475 tuberculosis beds (through purchase of Legion, Texas, hospital).

Your rehabilitation chairman and legislative representatives had appeared before this committee on January 29 and 30, and the reasons for the Legion's hospital program were fully presented. As at other hearings affecting the disabled service men, the Legion was the only veterans' organization to submit recommendations and to testify before the committee.

The Luce sub-committee spent two weeks analyzing the testimony submitted by the Legion and the veterans' bureau at the hearings, and compared this testimony with the reports on hospital conditions submitted by the various members of the veterans' committee as a result of their personal investigations during the summer and fall. Following this, executive meetings of the full Committee on World War Veterans' Legislation were held for two days and a program agreed upon. H. R. 11633 was therefore reported on February 18 to the house, with committee amendments reducing the sum authorized to be appropriated from $10,300,000 to $10,000,000.

The day before Senator McNary had introduced S. 4349 in the senate, which was identical with H. R. 11633 and provided $10,300,000 for additional hospital construction. This action was taken so that the Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds might have something before it for consideration to prepare it for prompt action on the house bill, as soon as that measure was passed by the house and placed formally before it. The senate
bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations. Accordingly, through the efforts of your committee, it was re-referred to the Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds. This occasioned some delay but did not hinder the steady progress with which this legislation made under the pressure exerted by your representatives.

In the meantime the veterans' committee of the house had failed to obtain a rule from the rules committee for the consideration of H. R. 11623. On February 23 Chairman Johnson of the veterans' committee announced that he had obtained an agreement from the speaker to recognize him on the bill under "suspension of the rules" on Wednesday, February 25. Under these circumstances the bill would be considered with debate limited to forty minutes, and no amendments allowed from the floor, passage requiring a two-thirds' majority vote.

Your committee immediately contacted majority leader Longworth and other members of the house steering committee in order to make certain that the agreed recognition would be forthcoming, so that this highly important legislation would not be caught in the legislative jam incident to the closing days of the session and thereby fail enactment.

Chairman Johnson failed to obtain the agreed recognition from the speaker on February 23, and this situation prevailed until five p.m. on February 28 when the speaker announced that the hospital construction bill and the Johnson bill would be brought up immediately under a "suspension of the rules" and acted upon by the house before adjournment that evening.

Unfortunately the Democratic conference of the house had been set for 7:30 p.m. on that day, and the consideration of the Johnson bill, which was brought up first, was not completed until 6:45 p.m. Under these circumstances the house adjourned, without action upon the hospital bill, the speaker announcing that it would be taken up the first thing on Monday morning, March 2.

Senator Fernald, chairman of the Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, who had been kept in constant touch with the situation through your representatives, was immediately informed of the house's action. He prepared to coordinate the senate committee's efforts on Monday, so that final action on the measure might be taken without delay.

At 11:08 a.m. Monday, March 2, the speaker recognized Representative Luce of Massachusetts, the sub-committee chairman on hospital construction, and the rules of the house were immediately suspended, and the bill, as amended by the veterans' committee of the house to provide $10,000,000 for additional hospital construction, was passed unanimously at 11:55 a.m. by the house without a record vote. Considerable opposition was voiced by both Democrats and Republicans to the delay in bringing the bill before the house, and also toward its consideration under "suspension of the rules" which limited the debate to forty minutes and prevented amendments from the floor.

Senator Fernald was immediately notified of the action of the lower body. He was well prepared for the situation and without calling a formal meeting of his committee, immediately polled his members on the house bill, and by three o'clock p.m., had in this manner obtained a favorable report on the measure by the Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds.

He thereupon reported the bill back favorably to the senate, and at 5:45 p.m. the same day, obtained recognition from the president for its consideration. The measure was immediately passed by the senate without amendment, in the same form it had been passed by the house at noon the same day. No conference between the two houses was necessary, therefore, it only requiring the approval of the president to become law.

Thus, through the coordination of the efforts of the house and the senate by your representatives, this legislation was enacted in the closing days of the session, and another piece of major legislation for the benefit of the disabled written into the law of the land through Legion efforts. The president approved the measure on March 4, a few hours before the congress ad-
In the meantime Senator Harrell of Oklahoma, on February 17, had introduced S. J. Res. 189, to authorize the enlargement of the federal veterans' hospital at Muskogee, Oklahoma, by the purchase of an adjoining city hospital, and authorizing an appropriation of $150,000 for this purpose. This measure was reported on February 20 from the Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds. The bill was passed by the Senate on February 28, and sent to the House where it was passed by that body on the same day. It was approved March 4, 1925, and is now public resolution No. 71.

Although the total amount asked in the omnibus hospital building bill was not granted, the Legion's arguments on hospital construction and the condition of many temporary hospitals which are in use for disabled veterans and are termed "veterans' bureau hospitals", bore fruit. An appropriation of $3,837,750 for alterations and improvements in existing veterans' bureau hospitals was carried in H. R. 11505, the independent offices bill, and this sum will go far toward modernizing a number of the hospitals now in use. This bill was introduced on January 10 by the Appropriations Committee of the House on which date it was reported to the House and passed by that body on February 5, when it was sent to the Senate and referred to the Appropriations Committee in the upper body. That Committee reported it to the Senate on February 9 and February 14 it was passed by the Senate with amendments and on February 16 went to conference between the two houses. The Conference did not agree upon the differences existing until February 28, when the bill was passed by the House. The Senate on March 3 also passed the bill and it was signed by the President the same day, becoming Public Law No. 586. This bill also continued the availability of the unexpended balance of the $6,850,000 appropriated by H. R. 9559, the second deficiency appropriation bill for 1924.

In the closing days of the first session of the sixty-eighth Congress, H. R. 2821 was enacted into law authorizing an appropriation of $1,500,000 to construct additional hospital facilities at Santa Monica, California, for the use of the disabled volunteer soldiers. This hospital contains many World War veterans. No part of this sum was appropriated, however, so it was not possible to begin the construction work. H. R. 12392, the second deficiency bill for 1925 (Public Law No. 631) corrected this situation by appropriating the $1,500,000 heretofore authorized. This sum is now available and the construction work is thereby enabled to proceed.

In addition to the foregoing sums, S. 3818 was passed during the second session, authorizing the construction of additional facilities at Walter Reed hospital at Washington, D. C., to cost $2,000,000. Although this sum would go toward improving a regular army hospital, this hospital cares for hundreds of World War veterans and the improvement will be of great benefit to them.

The following recapitulation shows that $27,117,800, was either appropriated, authorized to be appropriated, or continued as an appropriation, during the second session of the sixty-eighth Congress which adjourned March 4:

Public law No. 292, approved December 5, 1924 (Second deficiency bill, 1924, H. R. 9559) appropriated $3,500,000 for additional veterans' bureau hospital construction; $350,000 for a training school for the blind, and authorized in addition the incurrence of obligations for veterans' bureau hospital construction of $3,000,000. These sums, under Public law No. 631, approved March 3, 1925 (Second deficiency bill, 1925, H. R. 12392) were continued and made available until June 30, 1926, total...$6,850,000
Public law no. 580, approved March 3, 1925 (interior department appropriation bill 1926, H. R. 10020) appropriated for improvements at St. Elizabeth's hospital 113,000

Public law no. 586, approved March 4, 1925 (independent offices appropriation bill, 1926, H. R. 11505) appropriated for alterations and improvements in existing veterans' bureau hospitals 3,837,750

Public law no. 586 also made available during the fiscal year, 1925, the sum carried in the veterans' bureau appropriation bill for 1925, to alter, improve or provide facilities in veterans' bureau hospitals, including the purchase of contiguous land, of 2,666,050

Public law no. 587, approved March 3, 1925 (Johnson bill, H. R. 11633) authorized the appropriation for additional veterans' bureau hospital construction and purchase of 10,000,000

Public law no. 600, approved March 4, 1925 (S. 3818) authorized for additional facilities at Walter Reed hospital (army) an appropriation of 2,000,000

Public law no. 631, approved March 4, 1925 (second deficiency bill, 1925, H. E. 12392) appropriated for the construction of a sanitary fireproof hospital of a capacity of 500 beds for disabled volunteer soldiers at Santa Monica, California, the sum of 1,500,000

Public res. no. 71, approved March 4, 1925 (Harrel resolution, S. J. Res. 189) authorized an appropriation for the purchase of the state hospital at Muskogee, adjoining the veterans' bureau hospital there, of 150,000

Total $27,116,800

The Legion in 1920 inaugurated a campaign to prevail upon the government to adopt a permanent hospital building program so that the veterans disabled through their service in the World war would receive proper care from the government which would entitle them to the best possible chance of recovery from their wartime disabilities. At that time your committee estimated that 30,660 beds would be needed by 1922, allocated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number of Beds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General medical and surgical</td>
<td>7,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuberculosis</td>
<td>12,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neuro-psychiatric</td>
<td>11,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30,660</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based upon this premise the Legion has continually urged additional permanent hospital construction. The first Langley bill appropriated $18,600,000, and the second Langley bill appropriated $17,000,000 for permanent hospital construction. Although gratified with these appropriations, the Legion pointed out that they were insufficient to meet the needs of the disabled and continually urged the appropriation of additional sums. The hospital load of February 1, 1925, of 30,420 shows with what accuracy the Legion in 1920 forecast the government's needs for hospital construction.

Although many millions of dollars have been appropriated in past years for government hospitals, the second session of the sixty-eighth congress which adjourned on March 4, 1925, authorized or made available more money for permanent hospitals for veterans than any previous session of congress.

**Immigration, Deportation and Naturalization**

The fiscal year ending June 30, 1925, terminated the first year's operation of the Immigration Act of 1924, which changed the basis of our immigration from the old three percent quota law, based on aliens resident in this country according to the census of 1910, to the admission of only two percent by quotas of aliens resident in this country according to the census
of 1890. The purposes of the Immigration Act of 1924 was: first, to reduce the total number of immigrants to this country; and second, to obtain a larger proportion of the northern European races in comparison to the proportion of southern and eastern European races whose heavy influx had started the agitation for restrictive immigration legislation.

The law has been successful in accomplishing this last change. Prior to the enactment of the three percent quota law, northern Europe sent us between fifteen percent and twenty percent of our immigrants, southern and eastern Europe from eighty percent to eighty-five percent. Then came the enactment of the three percent quota law, which reduced the southern and eastern European immigration to fifty-two percent of the total, and increased the northern European immigration to forty-eight percent.

Analysis of the results of the workings of the Immigration Act of 1924 for the first ten months of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1925, show that the proportion of southern and eastern European immigrants has been reduced to thirteen percent of the total admitted and that for this period northern European immigration constitute eighty-seven percent of the total. From this, it will be seen that one of the chief objects of this law has been obtained—to order our immigration so that those coming into this country will more nearly resemble racially the people who have built up America during its three hundred years of progress, rather than the character of immigrants who have flooded this country since 1890, and thereby caused selective and restrictive immigration legislation. The total number of immigrants from all countries for 1924, the last year of the old law, was 706,896. Under the new law, this number has been reduced for the year 1925, to 460,000. (Estimated on the basis of the first eleven months of the year.)

In order that Legionnaires may be familiar with the restrictive features of the Immigration Act of 1924 the following definitions of non-quota immigrants, quota immigrants and preference for immigrants within quotas are set forth from the law. (Section numbers refer to sections of the law.)

**Non-Quota Immigrants**

Sec. 4. When used in this act the term “non-quota immigrant” means:

(a) An immigrant who is the unmarried child under eighteen years of age, or the wife, of a citizen of the United States who resides therein at the time of the filing of a petition under section 9.

(b) An immigrant previously lawfully admitted to the United States, who is returning from a temporary visit abroad;

(c) An immigrant who was born in the Dominion of Canada, Newfoundland, the Republic of Mexico, the Republic of Cuba, the Republic of Haiti, the Dominican Republic, the Canal Zone, or an independent country of Central or South America, and his wife, and his unmarried children under eighteen years of age, if accompanying or following to join him;

(d) An immigrant who continuously for at least two years immediately preceding the time of his application for admission to the United States has been, and who seeks to enter the United States solely for the purpose of, carrying on the vocation of minister of any religious denomination, or professor of a college, academy, seminary, or university; and his wife, and his unmarried children under eighteen years of age, if accompanying or following to join him;

(e) An immigrant who is a bona fide student at least fifteen years of age, and who seeks to enter the United States solely for the purpose of study at an accredited school, college, academy, seminary, or university, particularly designated by him and approved by the secretary of labor, which shall have agreed to report to the secretary of labor the termination of attendance of each immigrant student, and if any such institution of learning fails to make such reports promptly the approval shall be withdrawn.
Quota Immigrants

Sec. 5. When used in this act the term "quota immigrant" means any immigrant who is not a non-quota immigrant. An alien who is not particularly specified in this act as a non-quota immigrant or a non-immigrant shall not be admitted as a non-quota immigrant or a non-immigrant by reason of relationship to any individual who is so specified or by reason of being excepted from the operation of any other law regulating or forbidding immigration.

Preference Within Quotas

Sec. 6. (a) In the issuance of immigration visas to quota immigrants preference shall be given—

(1) To a quota immigrant who is the unmarried child under twenty-one years of age, the father, the mother, the husband, or the wife, of a citizen of the United States who is twenty-one years of age or over; and

(2) To a quota immigrant who is skilled in agriculture, and his wife, and his dependent children under the age of sixteen years, if accompanying or following to join him. The preference provided in this paragraph shall not apply to immigrants of any nationality the annual quota for which is less than 300.

(b) The preference provided in subdivision (a) shall not in the case of quota immigrants of any nationality exceed 50 per centum of the annual quota for such nationality. Nothing in this section shall be construed to grant to the class of immigrants specified in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) a priority in preference over the class specified in paragraph (2).

(c) The preference provided in this section shall, in the case of quota immigrants of any nationality, be given in the calendar month in which the right to preference is established, if the number of immigration visas which may be issued in such month to quota immigrants of such nationality has not already been issued; otherwise in the next calendar month.

Under these restrictions it has been manifestly impossible to care for the millions of Europeans who would come to America if we had no restrictive legislation. This is especially true of the southern and eastern European countries where entrance has been granted to approximately only ten percent of those who have applied for admission. Under the law regulations have been worked out between the immigration bureau and the state department so that no quota immigrant can come to this country unless he or she has received an "immigration visa" from an American consul. This method has done away with "steamship racing" which brought such unfortunate results under the three percent law.

The present method in force works as follows:

A quota is definitely assigned to each country, based upon two percent of the aliens resident in the United States according to the census of 1890. A control officer is then designated by the state department for each country having a quota. This control officer is usually an American consul, resident in that country. To him are forwarded all applications for entrance to America from all persons claiming as the land of their birth the country of which he is control officer. These applications must be carefully examined by the control officer who sets aside a certain proportion of them for those immigrants who have preference within quotas, and also sets aside a certain proportion for immigrants who are not at present residing in the country to which the quota is charged. For example, the control officer for Italy not only has charge of the immigration of all native born Italians residing in Italy who desire to enter America, but he also has charge of the emigration of all native born Italians desiring to enter America who are at present residing in other countries. These native born Italians residing abroad would have their applications forwarded to our control officer in Italy, who would have saved out a certain proportion of the Italian quota for Italians residing in countries other than Italy.
The control officer makes up his schedule by months, as he may not issue more than ten percent of the total year's visas during any one month. A great difference between the administration of the present law, and the old law is that after the control officer has issued his immigration visa, it is not now necessary for the emigrant receiving the visa to arrive in the United States during the month in which the visa was issued, but on the contrary the emigrant may arrange his affairs at home and take the boat for America with the assurance that he will be able to enter this country provided that he qualifies under the medical provisions of the law. This latter is determined at the port of entry in the United States. During the ten months of the law's operation only two persons out of every thousand have been rejected at Ellis Island, New York, for medical reasons. This shows that a distinct advantage has been achieved through the present law, as the deportations for medical reasons have been greatly lessened.

The immigration department and the state department have now jointly worked out a plan of selective immigration which is receiving a three months trial, having been put into operation on July 20, 1925. Through an agreement with Great Britain and the Irish Free State seven American immigration inspectors and seven surgeons of the United States Public Health Service have been placed in pairs in seven United States consulates in these countries, where they will pass upon the applications of the immigrants. It is hoped through this method that inferior or inadmissible immigrants will be eliminated so that none will be turned back at the port of entry. While this does not comprehend free and open selection of immigrants, it is a distinct step in advance of our former procedure. The immigration visa which such immigrants receive will allow them to remain on the steamship when it arrives at New York City and eliminate for them the examination required for others at Ellis Island. It is hoped that when other nations see the beneficial results achieved under this experiment, that they will also ask that similar steps be taken for them. This should be a material aid in the control of immigration.

There was no legislation enacted affecting immigration, deportation and naturalization laws during the short session of congress just ended. H. R. 11796 to amend the deportation laws was introduced on January 20, 1925, by Representative Holladay. On January 27 the bill was reported to the House of Representatives by Representative Johnson of Washington, Legionnaire and chairman of the House Committee on Immigration and Naturalization (House Report No. 1282).

The bill provided methods whereby those already unlawfully in the United States and those who may hereafter enter or seek to enter it may be deported. It was aimed particularly at the "bootlegging" of immigrants, which during the past two years has achieved such large proportions. The theory behind this legislation was that under the Immigration Act of 1924 we can lawfully keep undesirable immigrants from entering the country, and that this law therefore requires supplemental legislation to get rid of undesirable aliens who are lawfully or unlawfully in our midst.

On February 10 the bill passed the house, and on February 11 was referred to the Senate Committee on Immigration. On March 2 the text of the bill was amended and appended as title II to S. 4382 which had been introduced by Senator Johnson of California to supplement the naturalization laws. However, final action was not taken on either of the bills, and they therefore died with the session. This bill of Senator Johnson's (S. 4382) was introduced on February 24, 1925, and on February 26 was reported to the senate by Senator Copeland of New York (Report No. 1227) from the Senate Committee on Immigration and Naturalization, and on February 27 passed the senate.

On March 2 it was reported to the house with amendments from the House Committee on Immigration and Naturalization by Representative Johnson (Report No. 1634) but failed to receive action in the house and so
died with the session. This measure would have required all aliens who have arrived in the United States after June 9, 1906, to secure certificates of arrival before declaring their intention and no certificate of arrival would be issued to any alien arriving on or after June 3, 1921, unless he were lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence. The bill, therefore, proposed that any alien who had entered illegally since the first quota act became effective should not be allowed to begin the process of becoming a citizen, and was, therefore, aimed at the traffic in "bootlegging" aliens.

The house bill had been sent to the senate on February 11. Instead of reporting the house bill, the senate committee, on February 26 reported its own measure (S. 4382) which passed the senate the next day. This accordingly created some resentment on the house side and as the senate committee did not show any inclination toward reporting the house bill, the house committee on March 2, reported the house bill to it as an amendment. The house, by this time, was operating under suspension of the rules, requiring recognition from the speaker before a measure might be brought up for action. As a number of controversial matters were contained in the amended senate bill, Speaker Gillett declined to recognize Chairman Johnson and so both pieces of legislation died with the session. Both of these bills contained provisions recommended by the St. Paul convention.

As urged by one of the St. Paul resolutions, a unified border patrol was created during the year and is now in successful operation. While "bootlegging" of the immigrants still continues, the immigration department estimates that the border patrol has greatly lessened this.

Two of the most important matters which confront us, now that the Immigration Act of 1924 is actually restricting and selecting immigrants, is, first, the keeping out of immigrants who enter illegally, and second the deportation of those who have no right to remain in this country. Your committee believes that legislation which will accomplish these desired ends is of great importance.

Bills to accomplish the resolutions of the St. Paul convention were drawn by your committee, and presented to Chairman Johnson of the Immigration Committee for introduction. None of these measures was enacted into law.

Your committee, at this time, desires to call attention to the fact that the resolutions of the St. Paul convention on this subject conflicted in certain respects, some asking that the law be broadened to admit aliens not now admissible, while other resolutions asked in general terms for further restriction of the law. Restrictive immigration undoubtedly causes a hardship upon aliens already residing in this country who desire to have their relatives or friends join them here. It has been stated that this law therefore breaks up families. However, it is pointed out that these families could again be united in the country of their origin.

Land

The St. Paul convention adopted resolutions advocating the passage of the Smith bill which embraced recommendations of the Federal Fact Finding Commission. This bill was appended as section 4 (pages 33 to 36) of public law No. 292 of the sixty-eighth congress (H. R. 9559—the second deficiency appropriation bill, 1924) approved December 5, 1924. This law is of such importance to Legionnaires that it is herewith quoted in full as enacted:

Sec. 4. Subsection A. That when used in this section—
(a) The word "secretary" means the secretary of the interior.
(b) The words "reclamation law" mean the Act of June 17, 1902 (thirty-second statutes, page 388), and all acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto.
(c) The words "reclamation fund" mean the fund provided by the reclamation law.
The word "project" means a federal irrigation project authorized by the reclamation law.

The words "division of a project" means a substantial irrigable area of a project designated as a division by order of the secretary.

Subsec. B. That no new project or new division of a project shall be approved for construction or estimates submitted therefor by the secretary until information in detail shall be secured by him concerning the water supply, the engineering features, the cost of construction, land prices, and the probable cost of development, and he shall have made a finding in writing that it is feasible, that it is adaptable for actual settlement and farm homes, and that it will probably return the cost thereof to the United States.

Subsec. C. That the secretary is hereby authorized, under regulations to be promulgated by him, to require of each applicant including preference right ex-service men for entry to public lands on a project, such qualifications as to industry, experience, character, and capital, as in his opinion are necessary to give reasonable assurance of success by the prospective settler. The secretary is authorized to appoint boards in part composed of private citizens, to assist in determining such qualifications.

Subsec. D. That the irrigable lands of each new project and new division of a project hereinafter approved shall be classified by the secretary with respect to their power, under a proper agricultural program, to support a family and pay water charges, and the secretary is authorized to fix different construction charges against different classes of land under the same project for the purpose of equitably apportioning the total construction cost so that all lands may as far as practicable bear the burden of such cost according to their productive value.

Subsec. E. That hereafter the secretary shall as to each irrigable acre of land in each new project, or a new division of a project, issue two public notices relating to construction charges. The first public notice shall be issued when the land is ready for settlement and will announce the construction charge per irrigable acre. The second public notice shall be issued when in the opinion of the secretary the agricultural development of the project shall have advanced sufficiently to warrant the commencement of payment of installments of such construction charge. The second public notice shall fix the date when payments will begin on the construction charge announced by the first public notice, which date shall be not more than five years from the date of the first public notice.

Subsec. F. That hereafter all project construction charges shall be made payable in annual installments based on the productive power of the land as provided in this subsection. The installment of the construction charge per irrigable acre payable each year shall be five per centum of the average gross annual acre income for the ten calendar years first preceding, or for all years of record if fewer than ten years are available, of the area in cultivation in the division or subdivision thereof of the project in which the land is located, as found by the secretary annually. The decision of the secretary as to the amount of any such installment shall be conclusive. These annual payments shall continue until the total construction charge against each unit is paid. The secretary is authorized upon request to amend any existing contract for a project water right so that it will provide for payment of the construction charge thereunder in accordance with the provisions of this subsection or for the deferment of such construction charges for a period of three years from the approval of this section, or both.

Subsec. G. That whenever two-thirds of the irrigable area of any project, or division of a project, shall be covered by water right contracts between the water users and the United States, said project shall be required, as a condition precedent to receiving the benefits of this section to take over, through legally organized water users' association or irrigation district, the care, operation, and maintenance of all or any part of the project works, subject to such rules and regulations as the secretary may prescribe, and
thereafter the United States, in its relation to said project, shall deal with
a water users' association or irrigation district, and when the water users
assume control of a project, the operation and maintenance charges for the
year then current shall be covered into the construction account to be repaid
as part of the construction repayments.

Subsec. H. That the penalty of one per centum per month against de-
linquent accounts, provided in section 3 and section 6 of the act of August
13, 1914 (thirty-eighth statutes, page 686), is hereby reduced to one-half of
one per centum per month, as to all installments which may hereafter be-
come due.

Subsec. I. That whenever the water users take over the care, operation,
and maintenance of a project, or a division of a project, the total accumu-
lated net profits, as determined by the secretary, derived from the operation
of project power plants, leasing of project grazing and farm lands, and the
sale or use of town sites shall be credited to the construction charge of the
project, or a division thereof, and thereafter the net profits from such sources
may be used by the water users to be credited annually, first, on account of
project construction charge, second, on account of project operation and
maintenance charge, and third, as the water users may direct. No distribution
to individual water users shall be made out of any such profits before all
obligations to the government shall have been fully paid.

Subsec. J. That all moneys or profits as determined by the secretary
heretofore or hereafter derived from the sale or rental of surplus water under
the Warren act of February 21, 1911 (thirty-sixth statutes, page 925), or
from the connection of a new project with an existing project shall be credited
to the new project or division of the project to which the construction cost
has been charged.

Subsec. K. That on each existing project where, in the opinion of the
secretary, it appears that on account of lack of fertility in the soil, an in-
adequate water supply, or other physical causes, settlers are unable to pay
construction costs, or whenever it appears that the cost of any reclamation
project by reason of error or mistake or for any cause had been apportioned
or charged upon a smaller area of land than the total area of land under
said project, the secretary is authorized to undertake a comprehensive and
detailed survey to ascertain all pertinent facts, and report in each case the
result of such survey to the congress, with his recommendations: Provided,
That the cost and expense of each such survey shall be charged to the appro-
priation for the project on account of which the same is made, but shall not
be charged as part of the construction or operation and maintenance cost
payable by the water users under the project.

Subsec. L. That in any adjustment of water charges as provided in this
section all due and unpaid charges to the United States, both on account of
construction and on account of operation and maintenance, including interest
and penalties, shall be added in each case to the total obligation of the water
user, and the new total thus established shall then be the construction charge
against the land in question.

Subsec. M. That every entryman or assignee on a project farm unit
not yet patented which unit shall be found by the secretary to be insufficient
to support a family and pay water charges shall have the right upon appli-
cation to exchange his entry for another farm unit on unentered public land
on the same or another project located in the same state, in which event
all installments of construction charges theretofore paid on account of the
relinquished farm unit shall be credited on account of the new farm unit
taken in exchange: Provided, That where two entrymen apply for the same
farm unit under the exchange provision of this subsection, only one of whom
is an ex-service man, as defined by the joint resolution of January 21, 1922
(forty-second statutes, page 358), the ex-service man shall have a preference
in making such exchange.

Subsec. N. That all contracts providing for new projects and new divi-
sions of projects shall require that all operation and maintenance charge shall be payable in advance. In each case where the care, operation, and maintenance of a project or division of a project are transferred to the water users the contract shall require the payment of operation and maintenance charges in advance. That whenever an adjustment of water charges is made under this section the adjustment contract shall provide that thereafter all operation and maintenance charges shall be payable in advance.

Subsec. 0. That the cost and expense after June 30, 1925, of the main office at Washington, District of Columbia, of the bureau of reclamation in the department of the interior, and the cost and expense of general investigations heretofore and hereafter authorized by the secretary, shall be charged to the general reclamation fund and shall not be charged as a part of the construction or operation and maintenance cost payable by the water users under the projects.

Subsec. P. That where, in the opinion of the secretary, a right of way or easement of any kind over public land is required in connection with a project the secretary may reserve the same to the United States by filing in the general land office and in the appropriate local land office copies of an instrument giving a description of the right of way or easement and notice that the same is reserved to the United States for Federal irrigation purposes under this section, in which event entry for such land and the patent issued therefor shall be subject to the right of way or easement so described in such instrument; and reference to each such instrument shall be made in the appropriate tract books and also in the patent.

Subsec. Q. That where real property or any interest therein heretofore has been or hereafter shall be, donated and conveyed to the United States for use in connection with a project, and the secretary decides not to utilize the donation, he is authorized without charge to reconvey such property or any part thereof to the donating grantor, or to the heirs, successors, or assigns of such grantor.

Subsec. R. That there is hereby authorized to be appropriated from the general treasury, the sum of $100,000 for investigations to be made by the secretary through the bureau of reclamation to obtain necessary information to determine how arid and semiarid, swamp, and cut-over timberlands may best be developed.

Sec. 5. That this act hereafter may be referred to as the "second deficiency act, fiscal year 1925".

In addition to the foregoing, the Columbia River compact, endorsed by the San Francisco convention, was enacted in public law No. 609 (S. 4377) approved March 4, 1925. This law reads as follows:

Whereas, the Columbia river and its tributaries are interstate streams having their sources in a drainage area of approximately 260,000 square miles, said streams flowing through the states of Montana, Idaho, Washington, and the Columbia river forming the boundary between the states of Washington and Oregon; and

Whereas, the above named states are vitally interested in the possible development of the Columbia river and its tributaries for irrigation, power, domestic and navigation uses; and

Whereas, the secretary of the interior, in a letter to the president dated December 11, 1924, has pointed out that plans for future reclamation development must take into consideration the needs of the states and the water-right problems of interstate streams and stated that efforts to reach an agreement for the economic apportionment of water of interstate streams by the states concerned "have the cordial approval and support of this department"; and

Whereas, it is desirable that a compact for the economic apportionment of the water of the Columbia river and its tributaries for irrigation, power, domestic, and navigation purposes, entered into by and between the said states of Montana, Idaho, Oregon and Washington, and that the interests of the United States be considered in the drawing of said contract by au-
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That consent of Congress is hereby given to the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon and Montana to negotiate and enter into a compact or agreement not later than January 1, 1927, providing for an equitable division and apportionment among said states of the water supply of the Columbia river and of the streams tributary thereto, upon condition that two suitable persons, who shall be appointed by the President of the United States, one from the department of the interior, and one from the war department, shall participate in said negotiations as the representatives of the United States and shall make report to Congress of the proceedings and of any compact or agreement entered into: Provided, that any such compact or agreement shall not be binding or obligatory upon any of the parties thereto unless and until the same shall have been approved by the legislature of each of said states and by the Congress of the United States.

Sec. 2. The right to alter, amend, or repeal this act is herewith expressly reserved.

Veterans who made entry upon a farm unit within federal irrigation project under the Reclamation Law and who cancelled or relinquished their interest in such project prior to the issuance of the final certificate can now obtain a refund of all moneys paid by them on such unit. This is provided in public law No. 433 (S. 2397) approved February 21, 1925, and reads as follows:

(a) The term "veteran" includes any individual a member of the military or naval forces of the United States at any time after April 5, 1917, and before November 12, 1918; but does not include (1) any individual at any time during such period or thereafter separated from such forces under other than honorable conditions, (2) any conscientious objector who performed no military duty whatever or refused to wear the uniform, or (3) any alien at any time during such period or thereafter discharged from the military or naval forces on account of his alienage; and

(b) The term "reclamation law" means the act entitled "an act appropriating the receipts from the sale and disposal of public lands in certain states and territories to the construction of irrigation works for the reclamation of arid lands" approved June 17, 1902, and all acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto.

Sec. 2. (a) Any veteran—who at any time since April 6, 1917, has made entry upon a farm unit within a federal irrigation project under the reclamation law and (1) who no longer retains such entry because of cancellation by, or relinquishment to, the United States after or (2) who, prior to receipt by him of a final certificate in respect of such entry, but in no case more than one year after the date of passage of this act, desires to relinquish such entry—may, in accordance with regulations prescribed by the secretary of the interior, file application for the refund provided in subdivision (b). A veteran who has been compensated, in cash or otherwise, for any such relinquishment shall not be entitled to the benefits of this act, and before payment of such refund the secretary of the interior, under such regulations as he may prescribe, shall require proof that the veteran has not been so compensated.

(b) Upon receipt of such application the secretary of the interior is authorized to investigate the facts, and, in his discretion, to pay as a refund to any such veteran entitled thereto, a sum equal to all amounts paid to the United States by such veteran, or for his account, as construction charges and as interest and penalties on such charges in respect of such unit. Every such refund so approved by the secretary of the interior shall be paid from the appropriation for the project on which the entry in question was made.

Sec. 3. (a) The estate of a veteran shall be entitled to the benefits of
this act in any case where the veteran, if living, could have availed himself of such benefits. Application for such benefits shall be made by, and payments thereof shall be made to, the executor or administrator of such estate. (b) A veteran (or his estate) accepting in respect of any farm unit the benefits of this act, shall be deemed thereby to have relinquished, in accordance with regulations prescribed by the secretary of the interior, all right, title, or interest of such veteran (or estate) in such farm unit and any improvements thereon.

Sec. 4. The secretary of the interior is authorized to cancel any application for permanent water right for any farm unit in respect of which a veteran (or his estate) has received the benefits of this act, and to terminate all rights and liabilities of such veteran (or estate) in respect of such application.

Sec. 5. The secretary of the interior is authorized to make such regulations as he deems necessary to execute the functions imposed upon him by this act.

Reclamation Appropriations

The Legion has been particularly interested in reclamation projects because so many veterans have desired to take advantage of these through establishing themselves on irrigated farms in various parts of the west. Appropriations for these projects as set forth below were carried in the laws enacted:

Public 292—page 15: (H. R. 9559, second deficiency appropriation bill, 1924) approved December 5, 1924.

North Platte irrigation project, Nebraska and Wyoming—For continued investigations, commencement of construction of the Guernsey reservoir, and incidental operations, $800,000.

Salt Lake Basin irrigation project, Utah—For continued investigations, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $375,000.

Owyhee irrigation project, Oregon—For continued investigation, commencement of construction, and incidental operations, $315,000.

Yakima irrigation project, Washington—For continued investigation, commencement of construction of the Kittitas unit, and incidental operations, $375,000.

Public 292—page 36—That there is authorized to be appropriated from the general treasury, the sum of $100,000 for investigations to be made by the secretary through the bureau of reclamation to obtain necessary information to determine how arid and semiarid, swamp, and cut-over timberlands may best be developed.

Public 580—pages 28 to 34—(H. R. 10020—interior department appropriation bill) approved March 3, 1925. Appropriates $9,999,000 for thirty-two projects as follows:

Salt River project, Arizona—For examination of project and project accounts, $6,000.

Yuma project, Arizona-California—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $432,000.

Orland project, California—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $34,000.

Grand Valley project, Colorado, including Orchard Mesa division—For operation and maintenance, continuance of construction and incidental operations, $278,000.

Uncompahgre project, Colorado—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $163,000.

Boise project, Idaho—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $439,000.

King Hill project, Idaho—For operation and maintenance, continuance of construction, and incidental operations, $35,000.

Minidoka project, Idaho—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $797,000.
Huntley project, Montana—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $118,000.

Milk River project, Montana—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $76,000.

Sun River project, Montana—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $811,000.

Lower Yellowstone project, Montana-North Dakota—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $180,000.

North Platte project, Nebraska-Wyoming—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $510,000.

Newlands project, Nevada—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $167,000.

Newlands project, Spanish Springs division, Nevada—For continued investigations, commencement of construction, and necessary expenses in connection therewith, $500,000.

Carlsbad project, New Mexico—For operation, maintenance, continuation of construction and incidental operations, $70,000.

Rio Grande project, New Mexico-Texas—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $650,000.

Williston project (formerly North Dakota pumping project), North Dakota—For operation, maintenance, and incidental operations, $25,000, to remain available until December 31, 1926.

Baker project, Oregon—For investigation, commencement of construction, and incidental operations, the unexpended balance of the appropriation for this purpose for the fiscal year 1926 is reappropriated and made available for the fiscal year 1928.

Owyhee irrigation project, Oregon—The unexpended balance, if any, remaining at the close of the fiscal year 1925 from the appropriation of $315,000 made by the Act referred to as the “second deficiency act, 1924” for continued investigations, commencement of construction, and incidental operations, Owyhee irrigation project, Oregon, is hereby reapportioned to be available and to continue available for use during the fiscal year 1926.

Umatilla project, Oregon—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $840,000.

Vale project, Oregon—For continued investigations, commencement of construction, and incidental operations, $600,000.

Klamath project, Oregon-California—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $561,000.

Belle Fourche project, South Dakota—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operation, $65,000.

Strawberry Valley project, Utah—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $39,000.

Salt Lake Basin project, Utah, first division—For construction of Echo Reservoir, Utah Lake control, and Weber-Provo Canal, and incidental operations, $900,000.

Okanogan project, Washington—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $70,000.

Yakima project, Washington—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction and incidental operations, $295,000.

Yakima project (Kittitas Division), Washington—For construction of the Kittitas Division and incidental operations, $275,000.

Riverton project, Wyoming—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $760,000.

Shoshone project, Wyoming—For operation and maintenance, continuation of construction, and incidental operations, $414,000.

Umatilla rapids project, Oregon—For investigation of the feasibility of irrigation by gravity or pumping, water sources, water storage, and related problems on the Columbia River, and for cooperative and miscellaneous in-
vestigations of the feasibility of reclamation projects, including personal services in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, and incidental expenses, the unexpended balance of this appropriation contained in the act of March 4, 1923, is hereby reappropriated and made immediately available.

Secondary projects—For cooperative and general investigations, $50,000. Total sum appropriated for reclamation, $9,999,000.

Preference Rights To Veterans

The department of the interior has issued the following information relative to preference rights for veterans in acquiring public lands:

By virtue of public resolution no. 29, of February 14, 1920 (41 stat., 434), as amended by public resolutions nos. 36 and 79, approved January 21 and December 28, 1922, respectively, hereafter and until February 15, 1930, when any surveyed lands within the provisions of the public resolutions are opened or restored to disposition under the authority of the department, such lands, unless otherwise provided in the order of restoration, shall become subject to appropriation under the laws applicable thereto in the following manner, and not otherwise:

Lands not affected by the preference rights conferred by the acts of August 18, 1894 (28 stat., 394), or June 11, 1906 (34 stat., 233), or February 14, 1920 (41 stat., 407), will be subject to entry by soldiers under the homestead and desert-land laws, where both of said laws are applicable, or under the homestead law only, as the case may be, for a period of ninety-one days, beginning with the date of the filing of the township plat in the case of survey or resurveys, and with the date specified in the order of restoration in all other cases, and thereafter to disposition under all of the public land laws, applicable thereto, except where homestead entrymen are granted a prior preference period under the order. For a period of twenty days and for a like period prior to the date or dates such lands become subject to entry by the general public, soldiers in the first instance, and qualified applicants in the second, may execute and file their applications, and all such applications presented within such twenty day periods, together with those offered at nine o'clock a. m., standard time, on the dates such lands become subject to appropriation under such applications, shall be treated as filed simultaneously.

Unsurveyed lands are not subject to homestead or desert-land entry. A homestead entry may embrace 160 acres, or an approximation thereof, and where the lands are of the character contemplated by the 320 or 640 acres homestead acts, applications for the unappropriated lands may be filed by qualified persons, under either of said acts; accompanied by proper petitions, if undesignated, for the designation of lands thereunder, and such applications will be suspended pending determination as to the character of such lands.

Limitation of Armaments

A rider was attached to the naval appropriation bill, public law number 398 (H. R. 10724—page 24), approved February 11, 1925, which requested the president to call another conference on the limitation of armaments. This is the same character of resolution which resulted in the Washington Conference of 1921, under which the ratio of the leading naval powers, America, England and Japan, was set at 5-5-3.

The text of the rider to the law is as follows:

"The president is requested to invite the governments with which the United States has diplomatic relations to send representatives to a conference to be held in the city of Washington, which shall be charged with the duty of formulating and entering into a general international agreement by which armaments for war, either upon land or sea, shall be effectually reduced and limited in the interest of the peace of the world and the relief of all nations from the burdens of inordinate and unnecessary expenditures for the provi-
The president had taken no public action on this resolution up to July 15, 1925, although it was stated in his behalf that conversations had been held on the subject with the representatives of other nations.

Military Affairs

The army appropriation bill, public law number 413 (H. R. 11243), approved February 12, 1925, fixes the strength of the army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1926, at 12,000 officers, 119,000 enlisted men and 8,000 Philippine scouts. This leaves the strength of the army unchanged and accords with the resolutions adopted at the St. Paul convention. The total sum appropriated for military purposes in the bill was $332,000,000.

In the consideration of this measure members of the house who are Legionnaires gave a splendid example of their ability to influence legislation regardless of party politics in legislation affecting the national defense. The appropriations committee of the house, which had drawn the measure, reported it with sums recommended for the Citizens' Military Training camps, the Officers Reserve corps, and the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, which were less than the Legion believed should be appropriated for these important activities. Accordingly, amendments were obtained to the bill from the floor of the house which increased the sums appropriated for these purposes. These were sponsored by Representative Connally of Texas, Johnson of South Dakota and Schafer of Wisconsin, all of whom are members of the Legion. While the conference between the senate and the house reduced these sums somewhat, a considerable increase remained in them over the amounts originally recommended by the appropriations committee of the house.

Chemical Warfare Service

Public law number 457 (H. R. 11445), approved February 24, 1925, conferred the rank, pay and allowances of a major general on the chief of chemical warfare service. This increased the rank of the present chief, Amos L. Fries, from brigadier general to major general. He is stationed at Washington and is an active Legionnaire.

Citizens' Military Training Camps

The army appropriation bill appropriated $2,807,471 for the Citizens' Military Training camps to remain available until December 30, 1926. The appropriations committee of the house had recommended only $2,320,000 for this purpose, but due to the efforts of Representative Connally of Texas, Legionnaire, backed by the Legion and the ex-service men in the house, this sum was increased by nearly $500,000, which accordingly provided an augmented Citizens' Military Training camp for the coming year.

Defense Test Day

On September 12, 1924, just as thousands of Legionnaires were departing for the St. Paul convention, the first Defense Test day was held. This was on the anniversary of the battle of St. Mihiel and was also in honor of General John J. Pershing, being his last day of active service in the army, his retirement for age following immediately.

The Defense Test day met with universal response throughout the nation and it was estimated that 12,000,000 men and women, war veterans and civilians, as well as members of the army, navy and marine corps participated in this taking stock of the nation's defenses. The St. Paul convention recognized the beneficial results of this muster and accordingly adopted strong resolutions favoring its continuation as an annual event for September 12.

During the spring of 1925 the war department fixed Armistice day as the date for the nation's Defense Test day for the present year. This date was opposed by The American Legion, and also by President Coolidge, who
notified the war department of his disapproval. Accordingly, the war department set July 4 as the day for the Defense Day test of 1925, and although the time was too short for adequately preparing the nation for general participation, nevertheless, a well deserved success was achieved, it being estimated that 9,000,000 persons participated in the exercises held on that day. Your committee does not believe that the Fourth of July is a happy selection for the date of the annual muster and suggests a return to September 12, the date set by General Pershing.

**Desertion Charges**

Public law number 611 (H. E. 2688) approved March 4, 1925, provides that where an individual served honorably during the World war and a charge of desertion has stood against him for service prior to the World war, the president is authorized to cause an entry on the rolls of the records of the army, navy or marine corps relieving said person of all disabilities in connection with said charge of desertion, and such officer or enlisted man shall be regarded as having been honorably discharged on the date the charge of desertion was entered against him.

**Finance**

The same law which made the chief of chemical warfare service a major general, also conferred the rank, pay and allowances of a major general upon the chief of finance of the army.

**Harrison, Ramon B.**

Private resolution number 3 (S. J. Res. 46), approved March 4, 1925, was enacted to relieve Captain Ramon B. Harrison, a World war veteran, of the stigma of having failed to receive an honorable discharge from the service on December 23, 1920.

Captain Harrison, who had a splendid World war record, had certain accusations made against him, from which he was completely exonerated upon his trial by court martial. Unfortunately, before his exoneration he was discharged from the service, but failed to receive an honorable discharge. This was, of course, a great injustice. The measure enacted in his behalf provides that in the administration of any laws conferring rights, privileges and benefits upon honorably discharged officers he will be held to have been honorably discharged on December 23, 1920.

**National Guard**

The army appropriation bill made a direct appropriation of $29,863,746 for the use of the national guard for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1926, and provided also that the unexpended balance from the fiscal year 1924 of $1,142,500 should be made available for the guard during the coming year. In addition to this, public law number 631 (H. R. 12392—the second deficiency appropriation bill, 1925), approved March 4, 1925, appropriated $1,332,000 additional for the fiscal year 1925 for the pay of the national guard armory drills. Thus, the total sum appropriated for the use of the national guard during the session of congress which just ended was $32,938,546.

The two latter sums were not recommended by the bureau of the budget, and President Coolidge, in accordance with his economy program, held up these sums for a time in an endeavor to ascertain whether they were necessary to the welfare of the guard. At this time he was flooded with messages from Legionnaires throughout the United States, and many influential congressmen and senators also urged the expenditure of the funds, which congress had appropriated for purposes which it deemed necessary. Accordingly, President Coolidge soon realized these sums were necessary, and they became available for the national guard, after the increases which congress had made at the instigation of the Legion had been justified in the opinion of the chief executive.
Ofﬁcers’ Reserve Corps

The army appropriation bill appropriated $3,142,800 for pay and allowances for the organized reserves to remain available until December 30, 1926. In addition to this, it appropriated $17,000 for correspondence courses; $450,000 for headquarters in camps, and $50,000 for the Enlisted Reserve corps. This made a total of $3,659,800 appropriated for the Ofﬁcers’ Reserve corps.

Pershing

General John J. Pershing, commander-in-chief of the armies, was placed on the retired list on September 12 last, his retirement being due to his having reached the age limit prescribed by law for active service. It was thought that this retirement would mean a reduction in the general’s pay, privileges and allowances and, in addition to this, Legionnaires disliked to see the removal of their old chief.

Accordingly, the St. Paul convention adopted resolutions requesting congress to enact legislation which would again place General Pershing on the active list of the army. Shortly after this, it was ruled that General Pershing would continue to receive the active pay and allowances of his rank, although on the retired list.

General Pershing felt deeply grateful for the friendly interest of the Legion, but following the ruling maintained, he wrote Commander Drain a cordial letter indicating that he did not desire again to become a part of the active forces of the Army. Therefore, your committee did not push the measure in his behalf, as recommended by the St. Paul convention.

Posthumous Award of Commissions

Public resolution number 64 (S. J. Res. 124), approved March 3, 1925, authorized the president to issue commissions in the name of persons who had died in the military service during the World war, whose promotion or commission had been officially recommended but had not been accomplished because of death in line of duty. This will provide an appropriate memento to the bereaved relatives of those veterans who gave their lives for their country.

Reserve Officers’ Training Camps

The army appropriation bill appropriated $3,828,020 to remain available until June 30, 1926, for the Reserve Officers’ Training camps. These camps have proved to be of great beneﬁt to World war ofﬁcers in keeping them in touch with army activities and in giving rebirth to the spirit which prompted them to offer their services during the World war. There is no question that these camps are not only of great beneﬁt to civilian ofﬁcers, but to the regular army ofﬁcers as well, who through contact with the World war veterans, are kept in touch with civilian thought affecting the national defense.

National Disabled Soldiers’ League

An investigation into the activities of the National Disabled Soldiers’ League, of Washington, D. C., which had initiated “lead pencil campaigns,” was conducted by a select committee of the house of representatives, of which Representative Hamilton Fish, Jr., of New York, Legionnaire, was chairman. The authority for this investigation was contained in house resolution number 412.

Public hearings were held during the session before the committee. Testimony of ofﬁcials of the League at the hearings showed that bank deposits had been made in the name of the League amounting to approximately $295,000. Of this amount it was shown that approximately $142,000 was paid to the pencil companies and mailing agencies who mailed out the letters and packages for the League. “Of the balance of the receipts,” the committee
report states, “the League claims to have spent approximately $13,000 in direct aid to disabled soldiers * * * but actual vouchers aggregating only about $2,500 were placed in evidence before the committee. * * * the remainder of the League’s funds, in so far as the committee has been able to ascertain, seems to have been spent for rent of headquarters in Washington and New York City, salary and expenses of officials, expenses of hiring counsel to defend the law suits and investigations; and other similar items * * * The commander of the League, Mr. John T. Nolan, stated that the lawyers’ fees and other expenses of investigations and suits in which the League was a party, amounted to $25,000 or practically double the amount spent in the manner aforesaid for the disabled.”

After telling of the nation-wide campaign for funds from the public by sending appeals through the mails, accompanied by lead pencils, the report states, “The rights and interests of our disabled veterans have been prejudiced by these appeals, which have also had a tendency to alienate public sympathy and undermine and discredit the splendid work accomplished by The American Legion * * * and other worthy organizations which have been helping the veterans’ bureau to fulfill the nation’s obligation to our disabled veterans. The committee agrees that the League has not kept faith with the public in fulfilling the statements which it made in circulating its appeal for funds. The committee is of the opinion from the testimony adduced before it that a part of the funds raised have been diverted to improper uses and personal gain.”

The committee reported that it found no evidence to support the charges that investigation of the League had been brought about by prejudice on the part of other organizations, such as The American Legion. No evidence of this character was offered by the officials of the League for the consideration of the committee.

The hearings disclosed a story of a packed convention of the League in Boston in 1923, when adjusted compensation was opposed by the League and a resolution in favor of light wines and beer was adopted. A witness stated that certain delegates were paid $10 each for attending the convention. Testimony was given that $142,000 had been paid to lead pencil companies and that two hundred thousand letters with pencils were sent out on behalf of this organization by one mailing concern alone in New York City. Approximately one million letters accompanied by lead pencils have been sent out, it was testified.

After an investigation of the organization the post office department last April issued a fraud order forbidding the use of the mails by the National Disabled Soldiers’ League, its officers and agents.

Naval Affairs

The short session of congress was unusually active in behalf of the naval establishment, enacting a number of laws affecting it and holding public hearings on the question of whether our navy has fallen below the ratio provided for it in the treaty on limitation of armaments. The St. Paul convention had adopted strong resolutions advocating that the navy be maintained at its treaty ratio and requesting the development of naval bases, development of a naval reserve and the elevation of the turret guns on our first line battleships.*

Public law number 398 (H. R. 10724—the naval appropriation bill), approved February 11, 1925, appropriated $290,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1926, for the use of the navy and maintained the enlisted strength at 86,000 men, which the secretary of the navy claimed to be sufficient to maintain the navy at the treaty strength.

The Legion had charged in its St. Paul resolutions that the navy had fallen below its place in the 5-5-3 ratio of the arms treaty. This was confirmed by Secretary Wilbur in testifying before the house naval affairs com-
Committee on January 8, 1925. When in response to questioning by Representative Andrew of Massachusetts, Legionnaire, he admitted in substance as follows:

1. That the American fleet is permanently inferior to the British fleet in tonnage, speed and range of guns.
2. That three of the five parties to the treaty have informed the United States that it will not violate the treaty to increase the range of our turret guns. These nations are: France, Italy and Japan.
3. That France, Italy and Japan had already increased the range of certain of their own turret guns.
4. That Great Britain alone had protested against our increasing the range of our guns.
5. That it was the belief of the administration that it would not be a violation of the treaty to increase the range of our guns, but he stated that the president opposed increasing their range, as the cost involved would be in conflict with the administration's program on economy.
6. That the cost would amount to about $6,500,000.

This testimony of Secretary Wilbur was given while the house naval affairs committee was considering the Britten bill (H. R. 10987), which would appropriate $6,500,000 for the elevation of the turret guns on thirteen of our battleships, a measure endorsed by the St. Paul convention. Secretary Wilbur stated that President Coolidge opposed the increase of the range of these turret guns because of the cost. It also became known later that, in addition, the president feared that to increase the range of the guns would stimulate the old rivalry of competitive armaments to which he is opposed. When this was announced for the president, Representative Britten of Illinois, the author of the measure, stated that he would not press it for enactment at the short session of congress, and the measure thereupon died with the session.

**Naval Construction**

The congress, however, enacted a number of measures tending to increase the strength of the navy.

Public law number 399 (H. R. 11282), approved February 11, 1925, increased to $34,000,000 each the limits of cost of construction of the "Lexington" and "Saratoga," former battle cruisers, which under the treaty on limitation of armaments are being converted into airplane carriers, while public law number 631 (H. R. 12392, the second deficiency appropriation bill, 1925) appropriated $14,000,000 for continuing the construction of these ships.

In addition to this, public law number 297 (H. R. 8687), approved December 18, 1924, authorized the construction of eight scout cruisers with the highest practical speed and greatest radius of action—to cost exclusive of arms and armament $11,100,000 each or $88,800,000 together. This bill also authorized the construction of six river gunboats to cost $700,000 each, or $4,200,000 altogether, for use in Chinese waters. The naval appropriation bill thereupon appropriated $17,000,000 for the construction and repairs of naval vessels and $7,444,000 for the prosecution of work on vessels under construction.

Public law number 297 authorized alterations to provide the battleships New York, Texas, Florida, Utah, Arkansas and Wyoming with additional protection against submarine attack, anti-air attack, deck protection and their conversion to oil burners and new fire control systems for the New York and Texas at a total cost not to exceed $18,360,000. The second deficiency bill thereupon appropriated $9,000,000 for this purpose, and in addition appropriated $4,000,000 on account of hulls, outfits machinery, armor, armament, and ammunition for the river gunboats and scout cruisers authorized in public law number 297.
Report of the National Legislative Committee

Naval Reserve

The naval appropriation bill appropriated $6,277,496 for retainer pay and active service pay for the fleet naval reserve, and also appropriated $3,900,000 for the naval reserve force.

The naval omnibus bill, public law number 611 (H. R. 2688), approved March 4, 1925, provided for the establishing of a Naval Reserve Officers' Training corps along the same lines as the Reserve Officers' Training corps of the army.

Public law number 512 (H. R. 9634), approved February 28, 1925, provided for the creation, organisation, administration and maintenance of a naval reserve and marine corps reserve.

Naval Omnibus Bill

This naval omnibus bill enacted considerable legislation affecting the navy. Among its chief provisions were the following:

Revised the personnel laws of the marine corps. (Section 7)

Authorized the secretary of the navy, in his discretion, to give persons discharged for the good of the service, relief in the way of expenses to get them started in civil life. (Section 10)

Provided for enlistments in the navy for terms of two, three, four or six years. (Section 19)

Provided for the acceptance of a site for the naval air station at Sand Point, Washington; the purchase of the Bush lot for an additional site for the naval supply depot at Brooklyn for $33,000; and authorized the improvement of the channel and harbor of the naval station at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, at a cost of $5,982,000, and the waterfront development of the naval base, San Diego, at a cost of $1,010,000. (Section 20)

Authorized an increase in the limit of the cost on scout cruisers 4, 5 and 6 from $8,250,000 to $8,550,000 each, and submarine tender No. 3 from $3,400,000 to $4,500,000. (Section 21)

Provided that officers of the navy and marine corps examined for retirement while holding temporary rank and found to be physically incapacitated in line of duty, shall be retired in temporary rank held at the time of examination by the retiring board and paid accordingly. (Section 25)

Provided that officers of the regular navy retired since December 31, 1921, because of physical disability, originated in line of duty in time of war, be retired in higher grade or rank held during the war. (Section 26)

Provided for the preservation of the frigate Constitution, familiarly known as "Old Ironsides," which fought with distinction through the war with the Tripoli pirates at the beginning of the nineteenth century and also in the war of 1812. (Section 31)

Provided for the retirement of staff officers with permanent rank of rear admiral held during the war. (Section 32)

Provided for the retirement of navy and marine corps officers, who were specially commended for duty in actual combat with the enemy during the war in the next highest grade with three-fourths pay. (Section 33)

Retirement of Disabled Emergency Army Officers

The St. Paul convention adopted strong resolutions calling upon congress to enact legislation providing for the retirement of disabled emergency army officers and instructed your committee to push this legislation as a part of the Legion's major legislative program. Accordingly, this measure was so indicated in the memorandum submitted to President Coolidge by Commander Drain prior to the opening of the second session of the 68th congress on December 1, 1924.

Conditions for the passage of this legislation appeared auspicious at the opening of the session. The Bursum bill (Senate 33) had been favorably reported by the senate committee on military affairs and was on the senate
calendar. The Lineberger bill (H. R. 6484) had been favorably reported by the house committee on World war veterans' legislation and was pending on the house calendar. Your committee knew that the legislation would be passed overwhelmingly by both the house and senate if it could be brought to a vote in these bodies. We realized that its enactment had been delayed for more than five years through the use of parliamentary procedure by opponents in key positions in both houses, and our efforts were therefore directed during the session toward preventing its defeat through manipulation of the parliamentary machinery by these opponents.

Our poll of the house and the senate indicated a favorable majority of about four to one (4 to 1) in each house. However, because of the rule providing unlimited debate and other senate rules which enable a few determined opponents to defeat legislation where the time element is a factor, your committee determined to push the senate bill first, so that the final fight would be made in the house, where the situation is usually more favorable in the closing days of the session for the enactment of legislation which a majority of that body desires to become a law.

The first action of your committee was to obtain a resolution from the house committee on World war veterans' legislation, calling upon Chairman Royal C. Johnson of the committee to obtain a rule from the house rules committee for the consideration of H. R. 6484, the Lineberger bill. In accordance with this, Representative Johnson, on December 31, introduced house resolution 389, which was referred to the house rules committee. This resolution provided that the rules committee report the bill to the house and that it be debated there under the five-minute rule, and that following this the question of its passage be put to a vote by the house. Notwithstanding this action, it was the hope of your committee to obtain passage of the Bursum bill in the senate prior to house action on the Lineberger bill, so that the Bursum bill might be substituted in the house for the Lineberger bill and the measure thus passed by the house, become a completed piece of legislation with the house action resulting in the final legislative step necessary for it to become a law.

Therefore, at the beginning of the session your representatives interviewed Senator Curtis, the majority leader, who has always been friendly on veterans' legislation, and placed the situation before him. He stated that the administration program was in the hands of the senate steering committee, from which it would be necessary to obtain approval of the Bursum bill if we desired administration support of the measure in the senate.

Senator James W. Wadsworth, Jr., of New York, chairman of the senate military affairs committee, which had favorably reported the Bursum bill to the senate, was also chairman of the senate steering committee. This favorable report by the senate military affairs committee had been made over the protest of Senator Wadsworth, who has actively opposed the measure in the five years it has been before the congress. Notwithstanding this situation, your representatives immediately interviewed the senator, who stated that as he was personally opposed to the measure he would not recommend that it obtain a preferred status through action of the senate steering committee. He stated, however, that he would not use his official position to block consideration of the measure, and that although he would oppose it when it came upon the floor, he would not attempt to defeat it by the use of parliamentary tactics, but would allow it to come to a vote so that the senate itself might pass upon the merits of the measure.

Following these two interviews it became apparent that other methods must be followed in order to obtain prompt action in the senate. Undue delay in this body would be fatal to the measure because of the short time for action.

Accordingly, your committee immediately pressed Senator Bursum to obtain a vote on the motion that the Bursum bill be made the "special order of business" following the disposal of the Muscle Shoals bill, which at that
time was the "unfinished business" of the senate. This procedure would prevent open filibustering and other parliamentary methods of delay, although its adoption required a two-thirds’ vote of the senate. Your committee believed this action necessary because of the active opposition to the measure shown by three members of the senate, Senators King of Utah, Wadsworth of New York and Reed of Pennsylvania. Without a definite date set for a vote upon the bill, the use of parliamentary procedure by any two of these senators might delay the legislative functions of the upper body to such an extent that the senate, although favorable to the measure, might determine it best to defer action on the legislation to another session.

While these various maneuvers were being made, Senator Bursum on the morning of January 19, 1925, obtained consideration of his bill during the morning hour, during which he presented the military affairs committee amendments, which were accordingly adopted.

Following this Senator Reed of Pennsylvania spoke in opposition to the measure, and at his conclusion Senator Wadsworth spoke in opposition until three minutes to 2 o’clock, at which time—although Senator Wadsworth still had the floor—Senator King of Utah suggested the absence of a quorum which required a roll call; and as the morning hour closed at 2 o’clock, a vote on the measure was prevented through what might be termed a filibuster on the part of Senators Reed, Wadsworth and King.

Your representatives immediately conferred with Senator Bursum on the situation and perfected plans for his motion to make the measure the "special order of business" of the senate. Telegrams were sent—on January 20—to each department adjutant of the Legion and each state legislative chairman of the Auxiliary, explaining this situation and requesting that a night letter be sent each of their senators asking for a favorable vote on the proposal. In addition Adjutant Creviston was telegraphed requesting a night letter to each senator from Commander Drain along the same lines, and a letter was written to each senator by the vice chairman of your committee, outlining the legislative history of the measure and asking for a favorable vote upon the proposal.

On January 24, Senator Bursum obtained recognition for his motion, and the senate voted fifty-three to eighteen (53 to 18) to make the bill the "special order" of the senate for 2:00 p. m., Monday, February 2. This information was immediately carried in your committee’s weekly bulletin, which gave the individual vote of each senator present.

Although the Bursum bill became the "special order" of the senate on February 2, action was deferred on it because of the parliamentary situation then existing. On February 6, with the disposal of the Muscle Shoals bill it automatically became the "unfinished business" of the senate, where it was temporarily laid aside because of necessary action on the appropriation bills. During the consideration of these measures it became apparent that several opponents of the measure were engaged in a filibuster, which—although apparently aimed at the consideration of certain appropriations in the appropriation bills—was actually designed to delay action on these bills and therefore delay consideration of the Bursum bill.

This situation existing, your committee took vigorous action and obtained an agreement in the senate on February 16 by which that body agreed through unanimous consent to vote upon the Bursum bill at 2:00 p. m., Friday, February 20. This action meant that the vote must be had at that hour, and that any debate upon the measure would not interfere with the time set for the vote.

At this time Senator Reed of Pennsylvania read into the record a long letter from the Private Soldiers and Sailors Legion (an organization unrecognized by the veterans' bureau) protesting against the enactment of the measure, while Senator Bursum read into the record the Legion's resolutions adopted at our various conventions, and in addition read the resolutions of other recognized organizations calling for favorable action upon the bill.
On February 20, 1925, the bill came up for a vote at 2:00 p.m. and at 2:45 p.m. was passed by the senate sixty-three to fourteen (63 to 14), after numerous attempts had been made by Senators Reed, Bingham, Wadsworth and King, to lay it down with unfavorable amendments. In the debate which preceded the vote, Senator Rice W. Means of Colorado, spoke ably in favor of the measure, while Senator Hiram Bingham of Connecticut, spoke in opposition to it. As passed by the senate, the bill contained three major changes:

1. The inclusion of officers who served during the World War in the naval service.
2. Extension of the time limit of application to two years following the approval of the measure.
3. Restriction of the time in which the injury was received to between the dates of April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918.

The vote on the measure was as follows:

Yeas, 63—Ball, Brookhart, Broussard, Bursum, Butler, Cameron, Capper, Copeland, Couzens, Cummins, Curtis, Dale, Dial, Dill, Fernald, Ferris, Fitcher, Ecker, George, Glass, Gooding, Hale, Harris, Heflin, Howell, Johnson (Calif.), Johnson (Minn.), Jones (N. Mex.), Jones (Wash.), Kendrick, Keyes, Ladd, McKeil, McLean, McNary, Mayfield, Means, Metcalfe, Moses, Neely, Norbeck, Oddie, Owen, Pepper, Phipps, Ralston, Ransdell, Reed (Mo.), Sheppard, Shipstead, Shortridge, Simmons, Smith, Stanley, Stephens, Sterling, Swanson, Trammell, Underwood, Walsh (Mass.), Watson, Wheeler, Willis.

Nays, 14—Bayard, Bingham, Borah, Bruce, Edge, Ernst, Fess, Greene, Harrell, Lenroot, Norris, Pittman, Reed (Pa.), Shieh-

Pairs—Robinson, Gorman, Spencer—for.
Wadsworth, Warren, King—against.

The Bursum bill went to the house and was immediately considered by the house committee on World war veterans' legislation, which reported it favorably, without amendment, to the house on February 23, where the bill was placed upon the union calendar. From this time on the Bursum bill displaced the Lineberger bill in the house, for by pushing the Bursum bill to enactment a completed piece of legislation would be obtained, whereas the passage of the Lineberger bill in the house would have necessitated its additional passage in the senate before it could become a law. With the exception of amendments made in the senate, the two measures were identical, but in order to give a complete history of the legislation it will be necessary to recount the history of the Lineberger bill during the period in which the Bursum bill was being passed by the senate and sent over to the house.

During January, Chairman Johnson of the house veterans' committee, who was also ranking member of the Republican party on the rules committee, and as such next in authority on the committee to Chairman Snell, attempted informally several times to obtain consideration by the rules committee of the rule which would provide a vote in the house on the measure. The proposal had been formally brought before the rules committee by the introduction of H. Res. 389, by Johnson on December 31, 1924, and pending at that time in the rules committee for action.

It soon became apparent that the unaided efforts of Chairman Johnson to obtain this rule were not developing, and accordingly on February 5 your representatives interviewed Chairman Snell of the rules committee and formally requested that the rule for the bill's consideration be voted. Snell did not indicate his attitude toward this, but stated that it had been decided that no rules would be granted by his committee until provision had been made for the consideration of the administration program. Following this he said the consideration of rules for other measures would be taken up by his committee.

Your committee's bulletin of February 7 outlined this situation to the Legion, included the names of the members of the rules committee and urged Legionnaires to send them individual letters and telegrams asking for action
immediately so that the measure might not die with the session through being sidetracked by the opposition through the employment of parliamentary procedure.

As a result of these letters and telegrams Congressman Lineberger was called before the steering committee of the house on February 11 by Representative Longworth, the floor leader, to explain the provisions of the measure. The members of the house steering committee would be an important factor in the situation a short time later in the session, as a recommendation to the speaker from that committee would have been of great assistance in determining the latter's decision on the question of recognizing Chairman Johnson on the bill, so that it might be brought up in the house under “suspension of the rules,” which would preclude amendment and require a two-thirds’ favorable vote for its passage.

During the last six days of the session, the house works under “suspension of the rules” so that a favorable attitude crested in the steering committee was one of the objectives of your committee. In addition to this, it would be possible through steering committee action to obtain immediate consideration of the measure through the speaker’s recognition, so on February 12 telegrams were sent by your committee to the Department Commanders of the states in which the steering committee members resided. These telegrams outlined the situation and urged the Department Commanders to bring pressure to bear upon their representatives on the steering committee so that favorable action might be had.

On February 13 Representative Lineberger was granted a ten-minute hearing by the rules committee to present arguments on the measure. Your representatives were present at the hearing but were not called upon by the committee.

A legislative bulletin of February 14 outlined this situation and contained the names of the members of the house steering committee, urging Legionnaires to write and wire them in the interest of their favorable action.

On February 19 Commander Drain, accompanied by your representatives, interviewed Chairman Snell of the rules committee and requested him to grant a rule for the consideration of the Bursum bill, which was scheduled to supplant the Lineberger bill in the house within a few days. On February 21, we discussed the situation with Majority Leader Longworth and asked that he urge the speaker to recognize Chairman Johnson on the Bursum bill under a “suspension of the rules.” He replied that he knew the bill would be passed overwhelmingly by the house if the speaker would grant recognition at the steering committee’s request, but he stated that this question had not been definitely determined. Our bulletin of February 21 again carried the names of the members of the house steering committee and Legionnaires were again urged to communicate with them immediately and request their favorable action on the Bursum bill, which had passed the senate the day before by a vote of sixty-three to fourteen (63 to 14).

The veterans’ committee of the house met in executive session on February 23 and favorably reported the Bursum bill to the house without amendment.

At this time Legion pressure on the house leaders was being felt strongly, and a counter offensive was therefore inaugurated by opponents to the measure. Some few of the forty-four Legionnaires in the house were opposed to the legislation. This in itself would not have been particularly harmful to it, but it so happened that these few Legionnaires had heretofore taken an active part in fighting for legislation proposed by the Legion. The opponents of the measure were quick to seize upon this situation, and immediately used the argument that the Legion itself was divided on the question of this legislation and cited these few Legionnaires in the house as an indication of this situation. Within a few days it was being broadcasted throughout the house that the Legion was sharply divided on the measure and although this was officially denied by your representatives, the argument proved effective.
in the hands of our opponents, whose strategy lay in preventing the measure from coming to a vote on the floor of the house.

Prior to this time the Lineberger bill had come up for consideration on the consent calendar, which required unanimous consent by the house for the bill's consideration. Chairman McKenzie of the house military affairs committee had opposed the enactment of the measure ever since the World war, and he therefore objected to its consideration under unanimous consent, which resulted in the bill's being displaced upon the consent calendar. In retaliation for this action Representative Lineberger thereupon objected to the consideration of six war department measures, which removed these bills from the consent calendar also. This action intensified the feeling which had been gradually generating in the house over the measure.

On February 24 your representatives contacted members of the steering committee and urged them to adopt a resolution calling upon Speaker Gillett to recognize Chairman Johnson of the veterans' committee on the Bursum bill. The members of the committee, who had been hearing from their constituents on the subject, were very friendly toward the legislation, but it was apparent on the other hand that the propaganda put forth by opponents that the Legion was divided on the subject was having a serious effect upon our friends in the house.

From this time on the efforts of your representatives were intensified and on March 2 each department of the Legion was requested to wire its representatives to urge Speaker Gillett to grant the desired recognition. On the last day of the session the results of these telegrams were apparent to everyone, as a long line of representatives was continually mounting the speaker's rostrum requesting Speaker Gillett to grant the recognition which the Legion desired.

But in spite of this, the activities of the opponents of the legislation prevailed, and the speaker declined to grant the recognition necessary for the measure's enactment.

In this manner the legislation was defeated, and the emergency army officers again were withheld the just legislation due them through the use of parliamentary procedure by powerful antagonists, opposed to the principle of placing the disabled emergency army officer on a par with the eight other classes of officers who fought during the World war and who have all been granted the right of honorable retirement for their wounds received in the service.

But the Legion has not abandoned the fight. The legislation will be reintroduced in both the house and the senate at the beginning of the next session and the battle for recognition of the disabled emergency army officers will be pushed to a successful conclusion.

Slackers

On June 1, 1925, the department of justice announced that it would drop all indictments of alleged draft dodgers returned during and after the war, except those which promised a reasonable chance of conviction. The department gave as its reason for this action, the crowded condition of the calendars in many of the district courts, which had been congested because of these indictments, many of which are eight years old. The department stated that subsequent investigations have revealed that many of those indicted were already in the service while others had enlisted in national guard units. In addition to this, the department stated that several hundred others were dead when indictments were returned.

State Beneficial Legislation

Accomplishments of State Legislative Committees

ALABAMA

MEDICAL LICENSE FEE EXEMPTION—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 prac-
tice medicine. (Act 328, 1919)

POLL TAX EXEMPTION—Veterans of the war with Germany are per-
manently exempted from the payment of poll tax. Every person who served
in any of the military forces of the United States between January 1, 1917,
and November 11, 1918. (Constitutional Amendment.)

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 set-
tlement 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 $3,000 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.

VETERANS' SERVICE OFFICER—A full time veterans' service officer,
with an annual appropriation of $5,000, whose duty it is to work in con-
junction with the United States Veterans' Bureau, in behalf of disabled
veterans.

ARKANSAS

ARMISTICE DAY—Law enacted making Armistice day a state holiday.

DISABLED MEN—Law enacted appropriating $15,000 for prosecution of
disability claims.

FLAG—Law passed protecting the flag.

WAR MEMORIAL BUILDING—Six 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 Le-
gion emblem.

ARMISTICE DAY—Armistice day, November 11, made state holiday.

BOND ISSUE—A $10,000,000 bond issue was voted 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 other than those used exclusively for paupers.
Maximum allowance $125.00. 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, or for performing any service in connection with the filing of claims for pension, compensation, etc.

EDUCATION—An act to aid veterans in continuing their education, to be done in Institute of California, administered by veterans' welfare board, with eligibility proved same as in Farm and Home Purchase Act. This act appropriates $500,000 for its administration, and the amount of money allotted to a veteran is determined by the requirements of his individual case, the maximum being $1,000, which is used for the payment of tuition or other fees, books and supplies, or an amount for living expenses not to exceed $40 per month. The board's educational supervisor assists approved veterans in outlining their courses and selecting the proper institutions.

FARM AND HOME PURCHASE ACT—An act to aid the veterans in acquiring farms and homes, providing for the issuance of $10,000,000 worth of bonds to administer this act. Administered by veterans' welfare board of California. Eligibility requirements are United States citizen active in army, navy or marine corps in time of war, honorably discharged therefrom, residence in California at time of enlistment, induction, commission or draft, and at present resident of California. When eligibility is proved veteran is entitled to select a home (maximum value $5,000) or farm ($7,500) situated in California; appraisements are made thereon, and if property is suitable and price asked a fair one, board buys for cash and then resells to veteran for cash payment down and five per cent (on home) or ten per cent (on farm), the balance being amortized over a period of twenty years at five per cent interest and payable in equal monthly or yearly installments. To cover expenses of administration a five per cent loading charge is made on each sale to veteran. If veteran is already buying property on contract, the board is empowered in the same manner to take over the unpaid balance of the contract. State property is exempt from taxation, the veteran paying no taxes during the life of the contract.

MEETING HALLS FOR VETERANS—State loan empowers counties to levy special taxes for this purpose.

PREFERENCE—War veterans passing police and watchmen examination under civil service shall be placed before any non-veteran on eligible list.

TAX EXEMPTION—Veterans exempt from $1,000 assessed valuation property taxes. If unable to earn livelihood by manual labor, veteran is exempt from paying business license tax.

WAR HISTORY—State law empowers each county to levy special taxes to produce not over $2,500 for compilation of war history of each respective county.

COLORADO

AMERICAN LEGION EMBLEM—Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem.

BONUS—A state adjusted compensation bill, passed by the legislature, providing $15 for each month of service was defeated at the general election.

BURIAL OF NEEDY VETERANS—Provides $50 toward the burial of needy veterans, to be paid by the county in which the deceased veteran resided.

LAND SETTLEMENT BOARD—The Colorado land settlement board promotes settlement for agriculture upon lands within the state and has the further purpose of aiding the settlement of ex-service men upon such lands and to make possible co-operation 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 co-operation of the United States.

STATE EDUCATIONAL LOAN FUND—An appropriation of $200,000 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. Application 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 FOR THE 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 expense 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—Created commission appointive by the governor to investigate the feasibility of state adjusted compensation.

ARMISTICE DAY—Armistic day, November 11, made a state holiday.

RECORDING CERTIFICATES OF DISCHARGE—Certificates of discharge are recorded free of charge by clerks of courts. (Chapter 791—No. 138—approved March 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.

**ANTI-ALIEN LAND LAW**—This provides that unassimilable aliens cannot own land within the boundaries of the state of Idaho.

**ARMISTICE DAY**—Armistice day, November 11, made state holiday.

**FLAG ETIQUETTE**—This law provides that the teaching of the American Legion flag code shall be mandatory in the public schools of Idaho.

**FUNERAL EXPENSES**—Funeral expenses, not to exceed $75, for 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.

**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.

**ARMISTICE DAY**—Armistice day, November 11, made state holiday.

**BONUS**—A state adjusted compensation bill, which was ratified by the people in the general election, 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 discharged or separated from such service, or furloughed to the reserve or are retired, or 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 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 should have been made before January 1, 1925. About 325,000 have registered for payment.

**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 28, 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 re-establishment in industry, and will classify and publish statistics relating thereto. (S. B. 121, approved June 21, 1919.)

HOSPITAL—The legislature appropriated $60,000 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 re-dedicated 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 United States 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. 16, approved June 20, 1921.)

INDIANA

ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS—Fee limited to 25 cents for administering oaths for procuring compensation, back pay, pension, etc., for veterans, or the widows, orphans, children or legal representatives of deceased veterans.

AMERICAN LEGION EMBLEM—Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem.

BONUS—Bonus bill passed state legislature, but was vetoed 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 in 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 co-operate 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 IN EACH COUNTY—The board of commissioners in any county is authorized to construct and maintain memorial tablets containing the names of all soldiers, sailors, marines and nurses who served in the World war from such county.

MEMORIALS—Counties and cities are authorized to provide and maintain suitable memorials for soldiers and sailors of the World war.

PERMITS TO HUNT AND FISH WITHOUT LICENSE—Permits shall be issued upon application to veterans, without charge, by the department of conservation, to hunt and fish during any open season, without procuring a license.

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.

RECORDING OF DISCHARGES—Every county recorder, upon presentation, shall record, free of charge, the discharge of any veteran of any war in which the United States has been engaged.

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 and 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 is exempted from poll and road taxes for the period of time in 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 force of the United States during the World war until after six months have elapsed after discharge from such service.

WORLD WAR MEMORIAL AT INDIANAPOLIS—A World war memorial is now being constructed at a cost of $10,000,000 at Indianapolis. The building containing the national headquarters of the Legion was completed.
and dedicated on June 17, 1925, in the presence of the National Executive Committee. It is now occupied by the Legion.

IOWA

ARMISTICE DAY—Armistice day, November 11, made a state holiday.

BONUS—A bill to pay 50c 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. The time for filing applications expired on December 31, 1924. Service must have been in the World war subsequent to April 6, 1917, and prior to November 11, 1918, payment being made from date of entry on active duty to the date of discharge, at the rate of 50c per day, the total amount not to exceed $350.00. One hundred and six thousand six hundred claims have been filed up to June 15; of these 102,107 have been paid, 2,400 rejected, and 2,060 are suspended, awaiting additional proof to permit the approval of the claim. There has been paid out $19,955,956.

BURIAL—Provides that the board of supervisors of each county shall designate a suitable person in each township to cause to be decently interred the body of any honorably discharged soldier, sailor or marine who served in the army or navy of the United States during the war, who may die without leaving sufficient means to defray funeral expenses. Provides not to be buried in any pauper cemetery and limits the expenses of such burial to the sum of $50.

EXEMPTION FROM TAXATION—Provides for the exemption from taxation of property not to exceed ($3,000 in actual value and poll tax for any honorably discharged union soldier, sailor or marine of the Mexican War or the War of Rebellion; the property of the value of $1,800 and poll tax of any honorably discharged soldier, sailor or marine in the war with Spain, Chinese relief or Philippine insurrection; property not to exceed $600 in actual value of any honorably discharged soldier, sailor or marine or nurse in the war with Germany, same benefits conferred upon the widow remaining unmarried or of the minor child or children of any such deceased persons.

Provides how exemptions shall be claimed, etc.

FREE TUITION—Provides that every school shall be free of tuition to actual residents of the district between the ages of 5 and 21 years, and to all resident honorably discharged soldiers, sailors, and marines for as many months after becoming 21 years of age as they have spent in the military and naval service of the United States before they become 21 years of age.

MEMORIAL HALLS AND MONUMENTS—Provides for a tax not exceeding one mill which may be levied by the board of supervisors upon all taxable property in the county for the relief of and to pay the funeral expenses of honorably discharged indigent United States soldiers, sailors and marines and their indigent wives and widows and minor children not over 14 years of age, if boys, or not over 16, if girls, or for the erection of monuments or memorial halls in any cemetery or public place, said fund to be expended for all purposes set out in the statute by the joint action and control of the board of supervisors and relief, which shall consist of three persons, one of whom shall be an honorably discharged union soldier, sailor or marine to be appointed by said board, and also provides for markers for graves of dead soldiers.

PREFERENCES LAW—Gives preference in appointments, employment and promotion in every public department and upon all public works in the state of Iowa, and of the counties, cities, towns and school boards thereof
to honorably discharged soldiers, sailors, marines and nurses from the army and navy of the United States in the late Civil War, Spanish-American War, Philippine insurrection, China relief expedition and war with Germany, and provides the legal method of enforcing compliance with its provisions.

RECORDING OF DISCHARGE, AND FREE COPIES OF RECORDS—Provides for the recording of discharge records by the county auditor; provides that no fee shall be collected from the soldier, sailor or marine requesting such record, providing he is an actual resident of the county. Provides for the furnishing free of charge of certified copies of any of the public records if necessary to protect any claims of an ex-service man or his dependents.

RELIEF FOR INDIGENT VETERANS PROVIDED—The overseer of the poor, under the supervision of the board of supervisors, shall provide for the relief of such poor persons as should not in their judgment be sent to the county home. The relief may be either in the form of food, rent or clothing, fuel and light, medical attendance or in money; providing that no person who has served in the army or navy of the United States or their widows or families requiring public relief shall be sent to the county home when they can and prefer to be relieved to the extent as herein provided.

ROSTER OF SOLDIERS, SAILORS AND MARINES—Appropriated the sum of $15,000 to complete the compilation of the roster and records of Iowa soldiers, sailors and marines.

SOLDIERS' HOMES—Provides that Iowa Soldiers' Home, Marshalltown, shall be maintained for dependent honorably discharged United States soldiers, sailors or marines, and army and navy nurses, their dependent widows and wives.

VETERANS' WELFARE COMMISSION—Veterans' welfare commissions and boards have been instituted.

KANSAS

AMERICAN LEGION EMBLEM—Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem.

ARMISTICE DAY—Armistice day made a state holiday.

BONUS— Provision was made for a bond issue of $7,000,000, in addition to $25,000,000 already appropriated for the payment of $1 per day to ex-service men. Legislation was enacted requiring a time limit for payment be set for June 30, 1919. Final date for filing applications was July 1, 1925. There have been over 78,000 claims filed, and approximately 75,000 have been paid at an expenditure of $29,000,000.

CERTIFICATES—A measure authorizing the bureau of vital statistics to furnish free of charge as many copies of birth and death certificates as may be needed in the prosecution of the claim of any veteran for compensation or pension.

CONSTITUTION—Requiring the teaching of the constitution of the state of Kansas and the constitution of the United States in the high schools of the state and any student who does not have a credit in this subject cannot receive a certificate of graduation.

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.

KANSAS BANNER—A Kansas state banner endorsed by the Legion was adopted by the legislature.

MAINTENANCE OF AMERICAN LEGION—A biennial appropriation of $2,000 is made 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, and a law enacted legalizing contests under the supervision of a commission.

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.

ARMISTICE DAY—An act passed making Armistice day, November 11, a legal holiday.

BIRTH AND DEATH CERTIFICATES—An act requiring the state board of health to furnish birth and death certificates to all ex-service men when required to secure the benefits of federal legislation.

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.

FEDERAL ADJUSTED COMPENSATION—A joint resolution by both houses of the legislature memorializing congress to enact an adjusted compensation law.

NATIONAL DEFENSE ACT—A resolution by the senate memorializing congress to pass all legislation necessary to carry out the provisions of the National Defense Act.

NOTARY'S JURAT—An act requiring notaries public to attach their jurat to any papers required by ex-service men to obtain benefits of federal legislation.

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 do 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.

TEACHING OF THE CONSTITUTION—An act requiring the teaching of the constitution in the public schools.

LOUISIANA

AMERICAN LEGION CONVENTION—State legislature appropriated $25,000 to help defray expenses of Fourth Annual National Convention of the Legion at New Orleans and adopted concurrent resolution welcoming Legionnaires to the convention.
AMERICAN LEGION EMBLEM—Law passed for protection of the Legion emblem.

AMERICAN LEGION HOME—State legislature passed law permitting New Orleans to turn over to the Legion the home it now occupies at the corner of Royal and Conti streets. New Orleans amended its charter to permit commission council to transfer, lease or authorize the use of the old mortgage building to the Legion, which it now occupies.

DISABLED—Concurrent resolution adopted memorializing congress to provide adequate funds for the care and support of ex-service men wounded or disabled as a result of service in the late war with Germany.

RECORDING OF DISCHARGES—The clerk of court of each parish in the state, New 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 25 cents.

SERVICE COMMISSIONER—Creating the office of state service commissioner, who is to be an ex-service man appointed by the governor on the recommendation of the executive committee of the Legion. Salary $3,000 annually, and $7,000 for the conduct of office and necessary traveling expenses.

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 state bonus.

AMERICAN FLAG PROTECTION—Use of the American flag or state flag for advertising purposes, or desecrating, mutilating, defacing or trampling upon either flag, whether public or private property, punishable by a fine of from $5 to $50.

AMERICAN LEGION EMBLEM—Any person wilfully wearing without authority the Legion emblem or a United States discharge button shall be punishable by imprisonment for not more than thirty days or fine not exceeding twenty dollars.

ARMISTICE DAY—Armistice day, November 11, made state holiday.

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. Public laws of 1925 extended the period for filing applications to January 1, 1929. Thirty-two thousand claims have been paid to date, aggregating $3,200,000.

BOXING BOUTS LEGALIZED UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES—This law, called the American Legion boxing bill, allows amateur boxing contests of not more than four rounds of three minutes each, in which new six-ounce gloves are used and there is not more than five pounds difference in the weight of the contestants, who are to be examined by a physician immediately prior to the contest. Decisions may be given, and the receipts must either go into the treasury of the organization or to charity. Prizes limited to medals or merchandise, no cash prizes being allowed.

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.

DEPENDENTS OF DECEASED OR DISABLED VETERANS—The cities, towns, and plantations shall raise money by taxation or otherwise to
relieve the necessitous circumstances of the wife, children under the age of
16 years, the infirm and dependent father, mother or other member of the
family incapable of self-maintenance, of any soldier, sailor or marine, killed
in battle or dying, or who has become disabled as a result of the casualties
of war or of sickness contracted in the line of his duty, and not of his
own fault, during the World war, in the service of the United States, pro-
vided that on April 1, 1917, such soldier, sailor or marine was a resident
of the state. The money so raised shall be paid directly to the dependents,
or to the parent or legal guardian of any who are minors, by the municipal
officers of the cities, towns and plantations wherein such dependents re-
spectively reside, in sums not exceeding $5 a week to the wife, father or
mother, and not exceeding $2 a week to each child under the age of 16
years or other member of the family incapable of self-maintenance.

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST UNIFORMS—There is a penalty for dis-
crimination 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.

INDIGENT VETERANS—No soldier, sailor or marine, honorably dis-
charged 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.

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 90 of the
Public Laws of 1925.

MEMORIALS AND HISTORIES—Cities and towns may raise money to
procure the writing and publication of their histories, to celebrate any
centennial or other anniversary of the settlement or incorporation of such
city or town, and to publish the proceedings of any such celebration;
to defray the expenses of the observance of Memorial day, Armistice day,
etc., and a sum not exceeding $5,000 in any one town for erecting a suit-
able monument or memorial in memory of the soldiers and sailors who
sacrificed their lives in defense of their country in the war of 1861, or
in the World war, and a reasonable sum to secure, grade and care for a lot
appropriate for such a monument or memorial.

RECORDING OF DISCHARGE CERTIFICATES—Section VII 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 25 cents, and if it is the
clerk will advise.)

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.
The 1925 general assembly enacted a constitutional amendment to be sub-
mitted to the voters at the coming state election, providing for the payment of a state bonus.

RELIEF OF VETERANS OF THE WORLD WAR—Enacted into law, Chapter 344, Section 1, appropriating $75,000 to be expended at the rate of $25,000 a year during 1925, 1926 and 1917, the money being raised by a small state tax, and available after March 15, 1925. It is an emergency fund to be used to assist Maryland veterans of the World war who are in need of temporary relief, and is not intended to be in the nature of a bonus. Applications are investigated by local posts of The American Legion and must be approved by such organization in addition to two reputable citizens. Sums ranging from $25 to $100 paid to applicants. Less than one-half of the amount to be expended by December 31, 1925, has already been paid for relief of World war veterans. The bill was enacted solely through the efforts of The American Legion.

MASSACHUSETTS

ADJUSTED COMPENSATION—(a) Under Chapter 211, 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 prerequisite 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 prior to entry into the service, and who upon entry gave it as his residence and whose services were credited to 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.

Yeomen (f) were expressly excluded, but due to the efforts of the Legion in 1924 they were made eligible to the gratuity.

The dates of the period for which service is credited are April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1919.

About 200,000 veterans have been paid at a cost of about $21,000,000, raised by a $3 additional tax for three years on non-service men.

AMERICAN LEGION—Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem. Chapter 225 of the 1923 laws provides quarters at the statehouse 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 EXAMINATION—Amended bill allowing aliens to take bar examinations provides that no persons 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 $80 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. (Chapter 129, Acts of 1919.)

(b) Chapter 378 of the Acts of 1922, which provided for the reim-
bursement of posts up to fifty dollars for expenses incurred in the burial of overseas dead has been amended by Chapters 258 and 396 to cover cases of army and navy nurses and of those who died overseas after the Armis-
tice of November 11, 1919, 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 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. (Chapter 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 the war, a man's dependents may be given state aid on application to the state aid agent in the town of their 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 need the benefits of this act. (Chapter 587, Acts of 1914, as amended by Chapter 108, Acts of 1918, and Chapter 151, Acts of 1919.)

(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 151, 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 statehouse 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 in insurrection, and for the proper observance of Memorial day.

MILITARY RECORDS—Made appropriations for copying and perpetuat-
ing the records of Massachusetts troops in the World war. (Chapter 546, Acts of 1922, and Chapter 126, 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. (Chapter 463, Acts 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, Statehouse, Boston, who is the agent for the home, by the local state aid agent or by the veteran personally. 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—Pays $15 for each month of service between April 6, 1917, and August, 1919. There is no time limit set for filing of applications. Up to May 20, 1924, a total of 149,539 claims were paid, the amount paid out being $30,549,165.

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 of 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 a law providing for incorporation of the Legion. Provision is made for the use of the various national guard armories by Legion posts and of the state capitol for department headquarters. Appropriations made by counties legalized.

ARMISTICE DAY—Armistice day, November 11, 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.
BAR ADMISSION—Admission to the bar provided for disabled soldiers who receive diploma or certificate from an accredited law school of Minnesota.

BONUS—A bonus of $15 for each month in service between April 6, 1917, and July 20, 1921. The last date for filing application was June 30, 1924. Up to June 25, 1924, a total of 103,656 applicants had received the Minnesota bonus, the total amount paid in claims amounting to $22,696,916.38. The board averaged payments of $32,529.99 monthly. Surplus funds were transferred to soldiers' welfare fund.

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. One hundred dollars each is allowed. Headstones provided under certain conditions for graves of veterans already buried.

CEMETORIES—Certain counties may purchase lands to be used as a cemetery for the interment of the bodies of the soldiers of all wars.

COMMITMENT OF INSANE—Commitment of feeble minded, inebriate or insane veterans to veterans' bureau hospitals is authorized.

COUNTY WAR RECORDS COMMITTEE—Certain counties can expend $5,000 to complete the activities of their county war records committee.

DENTAL EXAMINATIONS—State board of dental examiners to issue license.

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.

FLAG CODE—Memorializing congress to enact legislation for the adoption of a national flag code, as recommended by the national flag conference held under the leadership of The American Legion.

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 the 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 Tenth District neuro-psychiatric hospital at St. Cloud, and the allotment of monies for the building of a proper institution for tubercular patients in the state.

The session of 1925 also memorialized congress, asking for the construction of a 500-bed tuberculosis veterans' bureau hospital in Minnesota.

MEMORIAL DAY—Three hundred dollars is provided for each seventy-five thousand of population for the observance of Memorial day in certain cities; $25 to any Legion post by county boards.

PEDDLING WITHOUT LICENSE—Chapter 41, Laws of 1919, permits honorably discharged veterans to peddle goods without a license, but only on their own account after application to the usual licensing authority. This will not prevent cities or towns charging fees for peddling within their limits.

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 25 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.

REQUIREMENTS 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.

SALARIES CONTINUED—It is provided that the salaries of municipal, county and state employees should continue during the military service.

SOLDIERS' HOME—The benefits of the soldiers' home are extended to men who served in the World war and their dependents under certain conditions.

SOLDIER PREFERENCE—Preference in appointment is given honorably discharged soldiers.

STATE SOLDIERS' WELFARE FUND—Provisions 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 welfare of soldiers. The state soldiers bonus surplus money has been turned over to this fund.

TEACHING OF DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE AND OF 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

ADJUTANT GENERAL—Changing of the Mississippi national guard qualifications for the adjutant general so that a World war veteran could be appointed. Following the amendment of the law fixing the qualifications Department Commander Curtis Green was appointed adjutant general and held both offices.

AMERICAN LEGION EMBLEM—Law passed for the protection of the Legion emblem.

ARMISTICE DAY—Armistice day, November 11, made a state holiday.

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.

STATE SERVICE COMMISSION—Creation of the state service commission and the appropriation of a salary of $2,500 per annum and an expense fund of $750 per annum. The law requires the governor to appoint annually a state service commissioner who is recommended by the Mississippi Department executive committee, The American Legion. This office is usually held
by the department adjutant and he looks after the claims of ex-service men
as state service commissioner but through the American Legion office.

WAR TROPHIES—Appropriation of $500 by the state legislature for the
transportation of war trophies to Mississippi.

MISSOURI

AMERICAN LEGION EMBLEM—Law passed for the protection of the
Legion emblem.

ARMISTICE DAY—Armistice day, November 11, 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 officers in the military service above the rank
of lieutenant, or before and by any officers in the navy above the rank of en-
sign; 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) Ten dollars a month for each ex-service man
who resided in the state for a year prior to enlistment was passed by refer-
endum vote August 2, 1921. A bond issue was sold to cover these payments.
One hundred and seventy-three thousand veterans have been paid the bonus,
and 36,000 further claims will be paid starting July 1, 1924. Money expended
for this purpose, $18,900,000. The last date for filing applications is Decem-
ber 31, 1925.

RECORDS OF MISSOURIANS IN THE WAR—The adjutan? general has
been instructed to compile the records of the 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. 565.)

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' EMPLOYMENT ORGANIZATION—The
Missouri soldiers' and sailors' employment organization assists ex-service men
in obtaining employment.

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 appli-
cant 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 Sixteenth 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 80 to 4 in the house and 42 to 9 in
the senate. This proposed amendment to the state constitution was defeated
by 1400 votes at the general election, 1924.

BURIAL FOR SOLDIERS—The body of any honorably discharged sol-
dier, 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 tem-
porarily absent therefrom. (Chapter 178 of the Sixteenth Legislative Assem-
by; approved March 17, 1919.)

RECORDING CERTIFICATES OF DISCHARGE—Certificates of dis-
charge will be recorded without charge, and soldiers indicated for preferen-
to appointments to state and county offices. (Chapter 211, Legislative, 1921.)
SOLDIERS' MORATORIUM—Under penalty of double damages the foreclosure of real estate or chattel mortgages until one year after discharge is prohibited. (Chapter 105, Sixteenth 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. The sum of $18,000 was appropriated in 1925 for the use of the commission for two years.

WAR TROPHIES—The adjutant general allowed the expenditure of $2,500, which had been appropriated to cover transportation charges on war trophies.

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.

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 in 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 of $60.

CERTIFICATES OF DISCHARGE RECORDED FREE OF CHARGE—Certificates of discharge may be recorded in the office of any county clerk free of charge.

DISCHARGE COPIES—County clerks shall furnish the veterans' bureau and its sub-divisions certified copies of discharges without 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 to the 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.

POLL TAX EXEMPTION—Disabled men are exempted from paying poll taxes.

SOLDIERS AND SAILORS' HOME—The Nebraska Soldiers and Sailors' Home at Burkett, and the branch at Milford, will admit honorably discharged veterans of the World war, residents of the state two years immediately preceding their application, who 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. Application for admission to be made 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 ordinarily apply to such wills are waived.

NEVADA

AMERICAN LEGION EMBLEM—Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem.

BOXING CONTESTS—Boxing contests under auspices of posts or units of nationally recognized ex-service organizations can be held tax or license free.

CIVIL SERVICE PREFERENCE—Has adopted 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 Elinemucca 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.

POST PROPERTY TAX FREE—All property belonging to posts or units of nationally recognized ex-service organizations, state, county and city tax free.

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION—All ex-service men with income of less than $1,800 annually, tax exempt on property, personal and real, to extent of $1,000.

WAR TROPHIES—Appropriation of $750 to obtain by paying freight Nevada's quota of war trophies.

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 volunteer 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 10, 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 expense 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.

**EXEMPTION FROM POLL TAX**—All World war veterans are exempt from the payment of any poll tax now or in the future, as well as the widows of World war veterans. This act also exempts veterans from the payment of property tax upon property to the value of $1,000, providing that the combined property of the veteran and his wife does not exceed $5,000.

**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.

**ARMISTICE DAY**—Armistice day, November 11, made a state holiday.

**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. Application 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 wars of the United States, who die without leaving money to pay funeral expenses. The expense of this funeral shall not exceed $100. (Chapter 207)

**CIVIL SERVICE**—Preserves priority right to appointment or promotion of persons under civil service while engaged in the military or naval service of the United States. (Chapter 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. (Chapter 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
Report of the National Legislative Committee

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 claim 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 service shall be charged.

NEW MEXICO

ADJUSTED SERVICE CERTIFICATES SAFEGUARDED—All ex-service men may file their bonus certificates in the office of the county clerk, where
CERTIFIED COPIES OF MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES ISSUED FREE — All ex-service men who are drawing compensation from the veterans' bureau can secure duly certified copies of their marriage certificates as required by bureau regulations, free of charge. The law makes it the duty of the county clerks to prepare and certify such copies.

DEATH CERTIFICATES ISSUED FREE — The state board of health is authorized to issue certified copies of the death certificates of ex-service men to their dependents, free of charge.

LAND SETTLEMENT ACT — A state land settlement board was created for the purpose of cooperating with the federal government in settling ex-service men upon the land. This law was passed in anticipation of action by the federal government in regard to the land settlement feature of the bonus bill. The law is of no value, however, unless the federal government should act on this matter.

TAX EXEMPTION — All ex-service men who were in the service for thirty days or more, and the unmarried widows of such, are entitled to have their real and personal property exempted from taxation in the sum of $2,000. Ex-service men are also exempted from the payment of road taxes.

NEW YORK

ADJUSTED COMPENSATION — Legislature memorialized congress to enact the adjusted compensation bill.

AMERICAN LEGION EMBLEM — The penal law was amended by making it a misdemeanor for anyone not a member of The American Legion to display the Legion emblem on an automobile.

AMERICAN LEGION — An annual appropriation of $1,500 for the printing of the record of the annual conventions of The American Legion, Department of New York.

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 Bath. (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 678, Laws of 1923)

BONUS — A state bonus providing $10 for each month of service between the dates of the declaration of war and the armistice was passed by a vote of the people with a majority of more than 800,000, appropriating $45,000,000 to meet the payments. The last date on which applications for this state bonus may be made is July 1, 1926. Any person, male or female, who served in the army, navy, marine corps, army or navy nurse corps at any time between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918, and who resided in New York state at the time of entry into service is eligible for the state bonus. The bonus is payable at the rate of $10 a month with a maximum of $150. Those residing out of the state may obtain blanks from the department.
headquarters of the Legion from the state in which they now reside. Claims totaling 346,000 have been paid, at a cost of $44,500,000.

Eligibility extended to the relatives of those who died in service and to those who died prior to the time the bonus act of 1924 became effective. This provides that the relatives of those who died in service shall receive one hundred and fifty dollars and the relatives of those who died after service and prior to the time the bonus act of 1924 was passed, shall receive ten dollars a month for each month of service with the maximum of one hundred and fifty dollars. Authorization was also given for using the premium derived from the sale of the bonds for the payment of the expenses of the administration of the bonus bureau. In addition, a deficiency appropriation of two and one-half million dollars was made by direct appropriation.

CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSSES—The law providing for the issuance of conspicuous service crosses to those who were cited during the World war, which had been repealed, was re-enacted.

DISABLED—A further appropriation of forty thousand dollars was made so that those veterans who are in the New York state N. P. hospitals may receive vocational training under the charge of the state, thus doing away with the dual authority which had heretofore existed.

Provision was made in the highway program for the construction of a state road leading into United States Veterans' Hospital No. 98.

DISCHARGES—Certificates of honorable discharge of veterans shall be recorded in the office of the county 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 of 1923)

- INDIGENT VETERANS—The county law was amended by allowing boards of supervisors to provide funds for carrying on the administrative work in looking out for the cases of veterans or their families who are in need.

- INSANE AND INCOMPETENTS—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.

The procedure in the appointment of committees of incompetents has been greatly simplified by the passage of a law which provides that upon presentation of proof that a man has received an award from the veterans' bureau based upon incompetency, the court may appoint a committee for the purpose of administering the funds to be received from the veterans' bureau, without the necessity of having a jury trial.

- LEAVE FOR RESERVE MEMBERS—Granting state and municipal employees, members of the military, naval and marine reserve, leave of ab-
sense with pay when called for active duty, not to exceed thirty days in any one year. (Chapter 458, Laws of 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 of 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 809, Laws of 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 of 1923)

HOSPITALS—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 of 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 of 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 the war be considered in rating members of the New York city police department on permanent examinations. (Chapter 625, Laws of 1923)

WAR TIME RATINGS TO BE PERMANENT—Providing that those who received civil service promotions and increases in salary in 1920 because of conditions caused by the war and who have served in such higher grades for three years shall, upon passing examinations, be given permanent positions and seniority ratings from date of entry into service.

PROTECTION OF UNIFORM—Making it a misdemeanor to wear the uniform of the United States army, navy or marine corps or of the national guard of the state of New York while soliciting alms or engaged in selling merchandise of any sort.

SOLDIERS AND SAILORS’ HOME—The board of trustees of the Soldiers and Sailors’ Home at Bath was given the right to spend the principal of bequests, in addition to the income, for making things more comfortable for the inmates of the home.

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.

NORTH CAROLINA

DISSECTION OF DECEASED VETERANS PROHIBITED—The delivery of the body of a veteran of the World War or his wife to any medical school or any other organization for dissection is prohibited even though such body is to be interred at public expense. (Chapter 110, Public Laws of 1923)

EXEMPTIONS OF PENSIONS AND BONUSES FROM TAXATION—Any pension or compensation received from the United States or from any other country by any person because of service in the World War shall be exempt from all taxes. (Chapter 269, Laws of 1923)
INTERMENT FUNDS FOR INDIGENT VETERANS—The board of county commissioners of any county may appropriate from the county funds money with which to inter an indigent veteran of the World war dying in the county. (Chapter 119, Public Laws of 1923)

LOANS—The legislature of 1923 enacted a bill providing that honorably discharged veterans who served more than sixty days during the period of United States participation in the World war may be loaned a sum of money not to exceed $3,000, for the purpose of acquiring homes. Such loans are to be made from a fund known as the World war veterans loan fund if, and when, the issue of state bonds up to two million dollars to provide such fund has been authorized by vote of the people at the general election in 1924.

PROBATING WILLS OF SOLDIERS AND SAILORS—The will of a veteran of the World war, executed while in actual service, will be admitted to probate upon the oath of three credible witnesses as to the genuineness of the signature. (Chapter 216, Laws of 1919)

REGISTRATION OF DISCHARGES—The honorable discharge of any veteran of the World war may be registered in the office of the register of deeds of any county in the state. (Chapter 198, Laws of 1921)

NORTH DAKOTA

AMERICAN LEGION EMBLEM—Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem.

ARMISTICE DAY—Armistice day, November 11, made a state holiday.

BONUS—A bonus of $25 for each month in the service has been provided for use without restrictions. The last day on which applications for North Dakota bonus may be made has not yet been determined. Service is credited from April 6, 1917, until November 11, 1918. Men now living outside the state should make application to the Adjutant General's Office, Bismarck, North Dakota. About 16,175 claims have been paid so far, costing about $9,000,000.

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.

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. No time limit has been set when applications must be filed. Service is credited from date of entrance into military service to date of discharge providing applicant served honorably at some time between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918, the maximum credit being twenty-five months of service. Applicants for the Ohio adjusted compensation residing outside of the state of Ohio must make their applications in the same manner as those residing in the state, namely, through an official blank, which will be furnished upon request. To date approximately 211,000 veterans have received their adjusted compensation. The amount of money expended thus far is $28,493.52. The adjutant general in his official report credits Ohio with the services of 233,000 persons. Thus far 223,000 have filed their claims, 17,000 of which were disapproved because of inability of the applicants to prove residence. This leaves approximately 5,000 persons who have not applied. Bonus is not payable to conscientious objectors, but is payable to heirs-at-law of deceased men who would have been entitled to it. Application of heirs-at-law must be filed on special blanks. The last date for filing application was September 1, 1925.

BURIAL—The county commissioners of each county shall contract at a cost not to exceed one hundred dollars with the undertaker selected by
the friends of the deceased and shall cause to be interred in a decent and respectable manner, the body of any honorably discharged soldier, sailor or marine having at any time served in the army of the United States, or the mother, wife or widow of any such soldier, sailor or marine, or any army nurse who did service at any time in the army of the United States, who dies not having the means to defray the necessary funeral expenses. Counties, townships and municipalities empowered and authorized to purchase and maintain in cemeteries plots of ground for burial purposes.

CIVIL SERVICE—Any soldier, sailor or marine or Red Cross member who has served in the army, navy or hospital service of the United States during the World war, who holds an honorable discharge and who is a resident of Ohio may file with the civil service commission a certificate of service and honorable discharge, whereupon he shall receive additional credit in the regular examination in which he competes, of 20% of his total credit providing the total credit is not less than 70%. In other words every ex-service person must take an examination for appointment but he will have an advantage over other applicants because he will receive 20% additional credit of his total credit. That is, if his total credit is 75%, he will receive 15 additional points, or a total of 90 points.

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.

MEMORIAL BUILDINGS—Providing for the construction and maintenance, when proposed by not less than 2 percent of the electors of the county, and approved by 60 percent of the voters at the next ensuing county election.

Providing for the construction and maintenance when petitioned by not less than 15 percent of the electors of the township and approved by a majority of the votes cast at the election when the question is voted upon.

SOLDIERS AND SAILORS' HOME—An institution provided as a home for honorably discharged soldiers, sailors and marines who have been citizens of Ohio one year or more and who at the time of making application for admission are disabled by disease, wounds or otherwise, and by reason of such disability, incapable of earning their living.

SOLDIERS AND SAILORS' ORPHANS' HOME—A home for the care and education of children of deceased, disabled or indigent soldiers and sailors.

SOLDIERS' RELIEF ACT—The provisions of the Soldiers' Relief Act have 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)

STATE COMMISSIONER OF SOLDIERS' CLAIMS—It is the duty of the commissioner of claims to furnish necessary instructions and advice to the soldiers, sailors and marines of Ohio, their heirs or legal representatives, regarding their claims against the United States by reason of military or naval service, assist in collection of such claims and perform such other duties pertaining to his office as the governor may require. For the purpose
of prosecuting claims the commissioner shall visit officially the state soldiers’ home and the National Military Home at Dayton at least once every three months. At the discretion of the governor he shall visit officially several governmental departments at Washington, D. C., and personally prosecute claims for the best interest of the claimants.

TRAVELING MERCHANTS’ LICENSE—Providing that honorably discharged soldiers or sailors who participated in the World war are exempt from payment of full fee.

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 percent 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 a ward building at Norman for veterans who are shell-shocked and mental cases.

In 1925 $100,000 was appropriated for a vocational psychotherapy building as an addition to the veterans’ ward at Norman. This hospital now has an 84-bed capacity which cares for shell-shocked and mentally deranged men. This capacity is being doubled. This institution is supported entirely by the state of Oklahoma. There has also been appropriated $7,500 to landscape the grounds of the Norman hospital.

An appropriation of $100,000 for additional ward buildings at Soldiers’ Tubercular Sanatorium at Sulphur.

In 1925 the legislature also appropriated $100,000 for additional facilities of the Soldiers’ Tubercular Sanatorium located at Sulphur. This sanatorium has a capacity of 130 beds and is under the management of the soldiers’ relief commission. It is supported wholly by the state. Any ex-service man in Oklahoma with tuberculosis can gain admission into this hospital without any red tape. No service connection is needed. It is supported by the taxpayers of Oklahoma.

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, 1923.

Also appropriated in 1925 $35,000 a year for the next two years, for the aid of sick and disabled returned service men of the World war and Spanish-American war, their widows and minor children of Oklahoma. This aid is dispensed by the soldiers’ relief commission, which is composed of three Legionnaires, with approval by the state Department of The American Legion.

The state also maintains one ward in the university hospital in Oklahoma City for the sole purpose of caring for emergencies of sick and disabled
veterans of the World war and Spanish-American war. This costs about $20,000 a year. Last year, 1924-1925, nearly 500 cases went through this emergency ward.

The soldiers' relief commission was re-organized under a new law providing for a non-partisan commission of three members, two to be from the majority party and one from the minority. These three are selected by the governor of the state from a list of ten Legionnaires submitted by the state executive committee of The American Legion.

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 convention at New Orleans.

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.

AMERICANIZATION—Had created a department of Americanization in conjunction with the public schools, and a non-paid commission to assist in the administration.

ARMISTICE DAY—Armistice day, November 11, made a state holiday.

BATTLESHIP OREGON—Had created a committee of five to have charge of the battleship Oregon, provide a fee for visiting the ship, caring for its maintenance, exempting from payment of admission all men in the military or naval forces of the United States or those having an honorable discharge therefrom.

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 desired 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 $3,900 or 75 percent of the appraised valuation of the property. Time for making initial application for cash or loan bonus expires June 30, 1926. Application should be made to World War Veterans' State Aid Commission, Salem, Oregon. To June 30, 1925, a total of 21,866 claims had been filed for cash bonus, and $4,720,998 paid out; while 6,157 claims for loan bonus had been filed, with $15,146,800 paid out. Under an amendment to the law a veteran now has the right to refund the cash bonus at 5 percent
interest, and qualify for the loan, if proven that cash was received under
misapprehension.

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 in 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—Anyone not a veteran is pro-
hibited 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 anyone not a veteran for the purpose of im-
personating a veteran.

LAND SETTLEMENT COMMISSION—Oregon land settlement com-
misson 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-fifth 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 vet-
erans. 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 re-
quired 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 dis-
charged service men.

STATE MEDAL—A state service medal is issued to all honorably dis-
charged 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

AMERICANIZATION—Provides for the equalization of educational op-
portunity and the encouragement of the study of citizenship.

AMERICAN LEGION EMBLEM—Passed law for protection of the
Legion emblem.

AMERICAN LEGION POST PROPERTY—Exempts post property from
taxes. These homes must belong to veteran organizations.

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 $200. Supreme court ruled the bill
must be voted upon by the people in 1928.

BURIAL OF SOLDIER DEAD AND DEPENDENTS—Authorizes con-
tribution of $75 by county commissioners in defraying expenses of funeral
for veterans, where total expense does not exceed $400, and application made within one year from date of burial.

Authorizes payment of $75 toward funeral expenses of widows of veterans, where total expenditure does not exceed $400.

Permits application for headstones, burial plots and markers by any friend of deceased service man, upon approval of such application by veteran organization, and provided that nearest relative does not enter objection.

Permits grave markers to be made of suitable material instead of metal with bronze alloy.

Permits veteran organization to apply for burial plots, headstones and markers for deceased service men, who die within the county and whose bodies are unclaimed by relatives or friends, regardless of residence of deceased.

Creates commission to select an historic spot for cemetery for deceased service men, etc., extending time for making report of commission.

CIVIL SERVICE PREFERENCE—Honorably discharged war veterans given credit for experience and training from military service by additions of 15 percent to grade in civil service examination.


Constitutes a commission of five members, who were former Pennsylvania soldiers, sailors, marines or nurses in the United States forces during the World war, to make an investigation of condition of disabled World war veterans of Pennsylvania and to take appropriate action to assure such veterans of relief and full benefits and advantages; also makes appropriation of $7,500.

LICENSE TO PEDDL—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 and Armistice 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)

Providing for the care and maintenance by cities, boroughs, etc., of any soldiers' monument, gun or carriage or other similar memorial where there is no person, body or organization in existence to care for the said memorials.

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 was engaged. (Act No. 317, Laws of 1921)

RHODE ISLAND

BONUS—Lump sum bonus of $100 was paid by Rhode Island, regardless of length of service. In case of death, it is payable to dependents or heirs-at-law. Any legal resident of the state, who served with the federal forces
actively "on or after April 6, 1917, and prior to November 11, 1918," was eligible for bonus. The final date for the filing of applications for the bonus was June 15, 1922. The bonus board and board of appeals have gone out of existence; as the appropriation has been exhausted. Twenty-five thousand six hundred and nineteen veterans have received $100, totaling $2,561,900. This sum was cared for in four appropriations; the first, $2,600, 000; second, $65,000; third, $10,000, and fourth, $3,100.

BURIAL EXPENSES—Soldiers' home burial lot fund of $1,000 established. (Chapter 1488)

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—One thousand dollars appropriated for decorating on Memorial day the graves of Civil war veterans and of the veterans of any other war of the United States.

METALLIC MARKERS—Metallic markers are furnished for graves of service and ex-service men.

POLIT 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 the soldiers' home. Applications for admission should be sent to State Board of Soldiers' Relief, State House, Providence, Rhode Island. (Chapter 1751, 1919, Public Laws, amendment Chapter 104, General Laws)

USE OF STATE ARMORIES—Any legally organized veterans' organization may, for the purpose of holding meetings or entertainments, use the state armories, prior to June 1, 1927.

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. Commission extended to February 28, 1926, and an additional sum of $20,000 appropriated for use until that time, for the aid of needy unemployed ex-service men or dependent families of such persons. Assistance limited to those with legal residence in state at time of entering service and whose dependent families are now residents. Applications handled by Soldiers' Welfare Commission, State Capitol, Providence, Rhode Island, and Red Cross division officers.

SOUTH CAROLINA

EXEMPTION FROM TAXATION—Veterans under certain conditions are exempted from state taxation.

FREE TUITION IN STATE COLLEGE—Veterans shall, upon comply-
ing 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 973)

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.

ARMISTICE DAY—Armistice day, November 11, made a state holiday.

BONUS—South Dakota pays $15 for each month in active service be-
tween April 6, 1917, and October 1, 1919—maximum $400. The 1925 legis-
lature created a soldiers’ compensation board to care for delinquent applica-
tions under old law and appropriated $36,000 for payments. Veterans residing
outside the state should communicate with W. A. Hazel, the Adjutant
General, Aberdeen, South Dakota, or The American Legion, Department of
South Dakota, 315 Dakota Life Building, Watertown, South Dakota.

BURIAL EXPENSES—In case the estate of the deceased veteran is
not sufficient to defray funeral expenses the state pays such expenses, in-
cluding cost of burial lot, the whole not to exceed $100 for any honorably
discharged veteran or his wife or widow.

Appropriated $5,000 for this fund.

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.

Hospital Ward, Sanator, South Dakota, accepted fifty-bed tubercular
ward erected by Auxiliary for South Dakota ex-service men. Appropriated
money for improvements at Soldiers’ Home, Hot Springs.

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 percent 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 less than one-half per cent per annum, or more than 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 per-
sonal 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 pur-
chased after July 1, 1925. (Act of March 15, 1919)

POLITICAL PREFERMENT—The employment by the state and munici-
pal 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 pur-
suance of any contract except those contracts contained in any life insurance
policy.”

SOLDIERS’ RELIEF COMMISSION—Relief is given sick or disabled vet-
erans 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 percent 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 percent of the balance of such 10 percent to the treasurer of the beneficiary fund of The American Legion, Department of South Dakota, to become a part of such fund and 50 percent to 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.) (Appropriation of $10,000 per annum provided for this purpose.)

REGISTRATION OF DISCHARGES—Honorable discharges shall be registered free of charge, instead of having to pay a fee, as formerly.

SOLDIERS' SETTLEMENT ACT—A soldiers' settlement board has been appointed for the purpose of general co-operation 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 reclamation 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 emblem.

ARMISTICE DAY—Armistice day, November 11, made a state holiday.

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 statutes 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 emblem.

ARMISTICE DAY—Armistice day, November 11, made a state holiday.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS—Public schools permitted to remain open on any holiday, but required that a portion of the day be devoted to a program of exercises properly commemorating such holiday.

RECORDING OF MILITARY RECORDS—Every county recorder, upon presentation, shall record free of charge honorable discharges from the service 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, any organization of veterans of any war shall have free use of ar-
VERMONT

AMERICAN LEGION EMBLEM—Passed law for protection of the Legion emblem.

ARMISTICE DAY—Armistice day, November 11, made a state holiday.

BONUS—Vermont pays a bonus of $10 per month for each month in service, but not to exceed one year, of $120, payable to men in the World war. Provisions do not apply to commissioned officers. Vermont has paid a bonus to 15,340 ex-service men at a cost of $1,197,034. Application should be made to State Treasurer, Montpelier, Vermont, for blanks. No time limit has been set on applications.

VIRGINIA

AMERICAN LEGION—Passed a law for protection of the Legion emblem.

Declaring posts of the Legion to be “benevolent and charitable organizations” and thereby exempting, for state and local taxation, all property actually owned and occupied by posts of the Legion.

ARMISTICE DAY—Armistice day, November 11, made a state holiday.

DISCHARGE RECORDATION BILL—Directing the clerks of county and city courts, to record in special World war memorial record books the honorable discharges of Virginians who served in the World war, such recordations to cost only thirty-five cents each; also providing for the issuance of certified copies of such discharges for fifty cents, such certified copies to have the same force and effect as the originals and to be acceptable in courts.

HISTORICAL RECORDS—An appropriation of $1,000 has been made for obtaining 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.

An appropriation of $10,000 has been made to conduct a contest among architects for a suitable war memorial at Richmond, which has donated the site, not to cost more than $250,000, for which funds are now being raised.

WASHINGTON

ARMISTICE DAY—Armistice day, November 11, made a state holiday.

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 serving with any of the Allied governments. Widows of deceased veterans eligible; also parents of deceased veterans who can prove dependency. No time limit has been set in which claims must be filed. Eligibles residing outside of the state of Washington who have not applied for the bonus may do so by communicating with Veterans' Compensation Department, State Auditor's Office, Olympia, Washington, or Department Headquarters, The American Legion, Seattle. The total number of ex-service men from the state of Washington who have received adjusted compensation is 57,356, receiving a total of $11,466,212.84.

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 the 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 West 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.

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 cash bonus not exceeding $10 for each month of service, with a minimum of $50. If a man died in the service, his service is credited to July 1, 1919. Others receive credit until the date of discharge, but no payments made for time when a state of war no longer existed. Total number of men receiving cash bonus up to April 1, 1925, was 115,081, at a cost of $19,865,490. Provisions have been made for the payment of all outstanding bonus claims, and applications for same should be made to the Soldiers' Rehabilitation Board, Capitol Building, Madison, Wisconsin.

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 or 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 three months' active service during the war (exclusive of time spent in the S. A. T. C. 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 of 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 $1,090 to one person. This law was amended at the last session of the state legislature, and now pays $30 a month to those men only who were unable through physical or mental disability to accept it.

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 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 with 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 soldiers' rehabilitation board by the state board of education. A surplus remaining from the bonus fund was turned over to the soldiers' rehabilitation board for administration, to be used for hospitalization and medical attention only. The state board has the right to enter into and make contracts with state institutions, county institutions, private institutions and religious and denominational institutions in the order named, for hospitalization and medical attention regardless of whether the man's disability is service connected. The total number of veterans receiving the educational bonus to April 1, 1925, is 8,320 at a cost of $4,102,978.

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. 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.)

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 946, 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 monies received by the state from the United States for the care of veterans disabled during the World 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 co-operate 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. The amount exempted under this in 1924 was $9,488,162.

Training Camp Pay

Pay for attendance at the Third Officers' Training camps has been extremely involved during the past few years, numerous decisions by the comptroller general having been rendered on the subject, to which have been added decisions by the court of claims and the United States supreme court. The situation governing payment at the present time is as follows:

1. In no case can pay at the rate of $100 a month be authorized for any period beyond June 30, 1918. This was decided by the supreme court of the United States in the Rider case, in a decision handed down by the court March 19, 1923. The reason given for this was that the act of June 15, 1917, which provided the $100 a month pay for enlisted men in training for commissions in the reserve corps, was a deficiency appropriation bill and did not authorize pay beyond June 30, 1918.

2. The $100 a month is not payable to enlisted men of the navy or marine corps. This was ruled in the Cunningham case, Review No. 4311, March 14, 1924, by the comptroller general. The reason given was that the additional pay was provided in an army appropriation bill and therefore did not apply to the navy or marine corps.

3. Payable only for training for commissions in combat organizations. This was ruled in the Wilcox case, comptroller general's decision, Review No. 5544, November 26, 1923. In this it was held that all soldiers who trained in schools providing training for commissions in non-combatant or staff organizations, such as the quartermaster corps, ordnance corps and medical corps, are not entitled to the $100 pay rate.
4. Pay at the rate of $100 a month for civilians especially designated by the secretary of war for training to receive commissions is approved. The act of May 12, 1917, gave the secretary of war this authority.

5. Pay at the rate of $100 a month allowed enlisted men on detached service from an organization who were detailed to a camp for training for a commission. Comptroller general's decision in the Newell case, Review No. 4540, September 27, 1923.

6. Pay at $100 a month to those men who enlisted at camps for the purpose of obtaining commissions has been refused by the comptroller general. This was done in the Graham G. Brotherson case, Review No. 2794, November 14, 1923, comptroller general's office.

This ruling was cited on March 20, 1924, in comptroller general's decision A-1004, in the case of Edward B. Buckenmeyer, whose claim was disallowed for substantially the same reasons cited in the Brotherson case.

Buckenmeyer thereupon appealed the comptroller's decision to the court of claims, and that court in Decision No. D-155, handed down on June 1, 1925, reversed the ruling of the comptroller and caused judgment to be entered to Buckenmeyer. The decision of the court of claims in this case is quoted in full as follows:

"Plaintiff, a citizen of the United States, was a student at the Ohio State University when he was designated by the commandant of the corps of cadets at said college to attend the third officers' training camp at Camp Sherman, Ohio. This designation was approved and plaintiff reported at Camp Sherman, Ohio, on January 5, 1918, and received mileage at the rate of 314 cents per mile for the distance traveled to the camp. He enlisted on said date in the army for the duration of the war, and was in attendance at the third officers' training camp from January 5, 1918, to April 12, 1918, during which period he received pay at the rate of $33 a month. The plaintiff served as an enlisted man in the army until July 24, 1919, when he was honorably discharged. One year of his service was in France."

War department special regulations No. 49, dated January 5, 1918, as to training schools for candidates for commissions in the infantry, cavalry, and field artillery, defines the status of students at the third officers' training camp as follows:

"2. Enlisted men of the regular army, national guard, and national army will be carried on detached service in the grade they held when sent there while students at these schools. They will receive the pay and allowances of their grade, except that privates will receive the pay of privates, first class, while at the school.

"3. * * * The civilians sent to these training schools will upon arrival be enlisted for the regular army (except in national guard divisions) for the duration of the war. Those civilians sent to schools in national guard divisions will be enlisted for the national guard. As soon as these civilians have been enlisted the training school commander will issue an order appointing them first-class privates. Where men are of draft age they will be inducted into the military service upon their arrival at the camp."

If entitled to judgment the amount due plaintiff is $216.63, as the difference between $100 and $33 a month for the period from January 5, 1918, to April 12, 1918.

CONCLUSION OF LAW

Upon the foregoing findings of fact the court decides as a conclusion of law that the plaintiff is entitled to recover the sum of $216.63. It is therefore adjudged and ordered that the plaintiff recover of and from the United States the sum of $216.63.
REPORT OF THE NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

OPINION

Hay, Judge, delivered the opinion of the court:

The plaintiff in this case sues for the sum of $216.63, the difference between the $100 per month and $33 per month, the pay received by him from January 5, 1918, to April 12, 1918, when as an enlisted man of the army he was in training at the third officers' training camp at Camp Sherman, Ohio. He enlisted on January 5, 1918, in the army for the duration of the war, which he was required to do upon reporting at the camp.

The order under which he enlisted provided that while a student at the training camp he would receive the pay and allowances of a private, first-class. This order or regulation was issued by virtue of the provisions of the act of May 12, 1917, 40 Stat. 69, 70, which authorized the secretary of war to pay to persons designated by him for training as officers in the army during the period of their training the sum of not to exceed $100 per month in addition to the allowances authorized by said Section 54, and the government contends that the secretary of war was exercising the discretion conferred upon him by that act when he fixed the pay of the plaintiff as that of a private, first-class.

Congress, however, had subsequently passed the act of June 15, 1917, 40 Stat. 188, which provided:

"For pay of enlisted men of all grades, including recruits, and pay at $100 per month for enlisted men in training for officers of the reserve corps, $226,882,560."

This was a deficiency appropriation and authorized pay at the rate of $100 per month up to June 30, 1918. The supreme court in an opinion by Chief Justice Taft says that this act "was obviously passed to put enlisted men on a level with civilians going through the same training for commissions in the reserve corps." United States v. Rider, 261 U. S. 363-366.

The regulation which fixed the pay of the plaintiff as that of a private, first-class, was issued on January 5, 1918, subsequent to the passage of the act of June 15, 1917. Congress provided that the pay of an enlisted man in training for officer of the reserve corps should be $100 per month, and the secretary of war could not by a regulation nullify the act of congress.

The plaintiff was an enlisted man during the whole period while he was in training for an officer of the reserve corps. That period was from January 5, 1918, to April 12, 1918, within the time when the appropriation was available under the act of June 15, 1917, and the plaintiff is clearly entitled to receive the pay provided for him by congress.

The government contends that the plaintiff was not an enlisted man of the line within the meaning of the act of June 15, 1917, but he was enlisted to serve for the duration of the war. He was thus an enlisted man in the military forces of the United States; he was not in a local or state force, and the fact that he was in training at a camp for officers of the reserve corps does not alter his status as an enlisted man in the army of the United States. He was not enlisted for the period of training, but for the duration of the war, and as a matter of fact he did serve in the army during the entire period of the war, one year of such service being in France, and he was thereafter honorably discharged.

A judgment will be entered in favor of the plaintiff for the sum of $216.63. It is so ordered. Downey, Judge; Booth, Judge, and Campbell, Chief Justice, concur. Graham, Judge, took no part in the decision of this case.

Your committee immediately took up with the comptroller general the question of whether, in view of the Buckenmeyer decision, he would now authorize payment in similar cases. Under date of June 29, 1925, the comptroller general notified your representatives that he would not authorize payment in similar cases and stated that he would apply to the United States supreme court for a writ of certiorari to review the judgment of
the court of claims in the Buckenmeyer case. This letter of the comptroller general reads as follows:

"Replying to your letter of June 23, 1925, requesting advice as to whether this office, in view of the decision of the court of claims rendered June 1, 1925, in the case of Edward B. Buckenmeyer v. The United States (No. D-155), will now authorize payment of amounts alleged to be due in similar cases involving civilians who enlisted for the purpose of attending third officers' training camps, you are advised that this office has recommended that an application be made to the United States supreme court for a writ of certiorari to review the judgment of the court of claims in the Buckenmeyer case. In view of such recommendation no further action will be taken at this time by this office in similar cases."

The comptroller has until September 1 to request the review by the supreme court, and the action of that body may not be expected for some time later. In the meantime veterans with similar claims are advised to file them with the Comptroller General of the United States, Washington, D. C., who has informed us that although their disposition will be withheld pending the action of the supreme court, following this due consideration will be given them by him. Therefore, should the supreme court sustain the decision of the court of claims, it will not be necessary for veterans with claims to employ attorneys in order to obtain payment, and they are accordingly warned against signing "fee agreements" issued by attorneys desiring to represent them in like cases.

Universal Draft

The St. Paul convention of the Legion adopted vigorous resolutions advocating the immediate enactment of the universal draft bill, and the convention recommend that this legislation be made a part of the Legion's major legislative program. Your National Legislative Committee accordingly placed it upon the major program for preferred action, and this was clearly stated to President Coolidge in a memorandum submitted by National Commander Drain prior to the opening of congress. Because of the forcefulness of the St. Paul resolution on this subject it is herewith quoted in full as follows:

"Whereas, the Fourth Annual Convention of The American Legion at New Orleans unanimously adopted the following universal service act which had been prepared by the Military Policy Committee of The American Legion and which reads 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.

"(1) 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 limit as the president may fix shall be drafted without exemption 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 ser-
services and commodities are required by the government or by the civilian population."

"And, Whereas, this universal service act is now embodied in specific legislation introduced in congress during the past session by Representative Royal C. Johnson in the house of representatives and Senator Arthur C. Capper in the senate.

"Therefore, our committee recommends to this national convention that the passage of this important legislation be made one of the major activities of The American Legion during the coming year, and that the full influence and support of our organization be used to make effective as soon as possible this legislation which the Legion believes will help insure our country against war and provide that in any future emergency there shall be no more slackers or profiteers and that we shall have in the future equal service for all and special profit for none."

At the opening of the session three measures to provide the universal draft were pending in congress. These were the following:

1. H. J. Res. 128, known as the McSwain resolution, which had been favorably reported by the house military affairs committee and was on the house calendar. This measure had been introduced by Representative John J. McSwain of South Carolina, Legionnaire, who has demonstrated intense interest and great activity in furthering this legislation. The McSwain resolution, however, would not make the universal draft effective, but would provide for the appointment of a commission to study the subject and draft legislation for introduction in the congress, which when enacted into law would provide for the universal draft.

2. H. R. 4841, the Johnson bill, introduced by Royal C. Johnson of South Dakota, Legionnaire. This was the measure recommended for enactment by the New Orleans convention and succeeding Legion conventions and had been before congress through Representative Johnson’s initiative for three years.

3. S. 2561, the Capper bill in the senate, introduced at our request by Senator Arthur J. Capper of Kansas, a staunch friend of the service men in the senate. This bill was identical with the Johnson bill.

There is determined opposition to legislation of this character both within and without congress and your representatives realized at the beginning of the session that only through a miracle would any of the measures be enacted into law during the short session of congress. The McSwain resolution was in a favored position and because its enactment would mean only a step toward the completion of the legislation it would have been an easier matter for your representatives to have pushed this measure. However, the convention mandate specifically mentioned the Johnson bill and it was therefore necessary for your representatives to employ their efforts in furthering that measure.

Hearings had been completed on the Johnson bill before the house military affairs committee prior to the close of the first session of the 68th congress, so with the convening of the second session of the 68th congress in December, 1924, all that remained for the house military affairs committee to do in connection with the Johnson bill was to take a committee vote on whether to report the measure. Your representatives therefore began bringing pressure upon individual members of the house military affairs committee urging them to bring the question of the bill’s favorable report up before the committee. This was in spite of a determined opposition of many members of this committee, who felt that they had gone far enough in recommending the McSwain resolution for passage.

On January 24th, Senator King of Utah introduced S. Res. 312, which provided that the senate approve the principle that in the event of war it should be the government’s policy to draft not only its manpower but its material and industrial resources. This measure was referred to the senate
committee on the judiciary, which failed to hold hearings on it and it therefore died with the session without action of any kind being taken on it.

Representative Johnson, author of the bill, was enlisted for action by your representatives. He appeared with us before the house military affairs committee and urged the report of the measure and on January 31 made an extended speech on the floor of the house of representatives outlining the provisions of the measure and laying great emphasis upon the fact that the Legion had been furthering this legislation for three years. He called upon the military affairs committee to report the bill. This action had no apparent effect upon the opposition in the military affairs committee.

As the session drew to a close and measures in which the Legion was vitally interested and which had excellent chances of enactment, such as legislation affecting the disabled, became of great prominence in congress, it was necessary to throw the full influence of the Legion behind them in order to assure their passage in the short session. It became increasingly apparent at this time that there was little or no hope for the enactment of universal draft legislation at that session and toward its end your representatives therefore ceased pushing it in order to clear the track for legislation which had an opportunity of enactment.

The situation confronting the universal draft legislation was called to the attention of the National Executive Committee at its June 15 meeting by your committee and in order that the convention may carefully consider the circumstances surrounding this legislation, your committee desires the delegates and the various convention committees to carefully consider the principles involved together with the necessary steps which will have to be taken in order to obtain this legislation.

During the three years in which this legislation has been before congress the difficulty of its enactment has become increasingly apparent. While many leaders in both the house and the senate have constantly declared that in the event of another war all resources of the nation including manpower, industry, transportation and money, should be drafted for service so that there will be no slackers and no profiteers, nevertheless there is strong opposition to any measure which would place all elements of our population on an equality of service without profit in the event of war. This is a major piece of legislation, and it is not only necessary to educate the congress, but the nation as well, concerning its value in war time and its fairness to all, before a sufficient sentiment will have been aroused to force its enactment.

Legion activity caused the late President Harding to go on record in favor of the universal draft in a number of his addresses, and the number of other leaders, chiefly outside the halls of congress, who have endorsed it in principle has been increasing as time goes on. However, their strength is still insufficient to win the victory. Largely due to the Legion's advocacy of this measure, the war department has made a deep study of it in all its elements, and under the leadership of the assistant secretary of war, Dwight F. Davis, Legionnaire, who has been acting secretary of war for several months, the war department has worked out plans for a universal draft in so far as it is able without additional legislation.

The Johnson bill would provide a completed piece of legislation which would make effective the universal draft. This is the reason for the determined opposition to it. On the contrary the legislation provided by the McSwain resolution would be merely a forward step in the desired direction. But this latter measure is of a constructive nature, and its enactment would mean material progress toward the final goal. It would be much easier to obtain from congress than the enactment of the universal draft legislation.

Your committee has given this question serious consideration. On the other hand, the last three national conventions have instructed your com-
mittee to press for the enactment of the universal draft legislation as provided in the Johnson bill.

We ask that delegates and members of the convention committees at Omaha give this situation thought, when defining the Legion’s legislative policies for the congress which convenes next December. This is a just piece of legislation. It is of vital importance to the nation that it be enacted, and your representatives desire that the surest road toward its fulfillment be traveled by the Legion in pressing toward the desired end.

**War Frauds**

Two laws were enacted in the closing days of the last congress, which assure the continuation of the government’s efforts to recover money on fraudulent or unfair war contracts and transactions.

One of these measures appropriated $1,000,000 for the investigation and prosecution of alleged frauds, while the other provided for a two-year extension of two acts enabling the department of justice to prosecute such cases. These laws are as follows:

Public law number 502—page 15 (H. R. 11753—appropriation bill for the departments of state, justice, commerce and labor), approved February 27, 1925.

"Investigation and prosecution of war frauds: 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, rents 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, books of reference, and other necessary equipment and supplies at the seat of the government, $1,000,000, 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 two persons shall be employed hereunder at a rate of compensation exceeding $10,000 per annum each, whose aggregate compensation shall not exceed $30,000, but the attorney general may fix the compensation of not to exceed six persons at not to exceed $10,000 each."

Public law number 601, (S. 3913), approved March 4, 1925:

"That the last proviso of Section 51 of the judicial code, as amended by the act entitled ‘An act to amend Section 51 of Chapter 4 of the judicial code,’ approved September 19, 1922, is amended to read as follows: ‘Provided further, That this act shall be effective for a period of four years after September 19, 1922, after which said Section 51, Chapter 4, as it exists in the present law shall be and remain in full force and effect.’"

"Sec. 2. That the last paragraph of the act entitled

‘An Act to amend Section 876 of the revised statutes,’ approved September 19, 1922, is amended to read as follows: ‘This amendment shall be effective for a period of six years after September 19, 1922, after which Section 876 as it exists in the present law shall be and remain in full force and effect.’"

The war transaction section of the department of justice has reported the recoveries on account of war-time contracts and transactions for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1925, to be $3,217,631. The total sums collected by this department to date on the account are given as $8,677,321.
War Trophies

Public law number 234 of the 68th congress, approved June 7, 1924, authorized an appropriation by the federal government of $39,000 for the distribution of the captured and surrendered trophies of the World war to the respective states, territories and the District of Columbia. This sum authorized in the bill was to pay the expense of loading the trophies upon cars, the expense of transportation of the trophies to be borne by the various states receiving them.

Public law number 631, the 2nd deficiency bill, 1925, approved March 4, 1925 (H. R. 12392), appropriated $20,000 to remain available until June 30, 1926, to pay the government’s part in the distribution of the trophies. The war department had requested the full appropriation authorized for this purpose of $39,000, but the appropriations committee of the house reduced this to $20,000, the sum appropriated for this purpose by the congress which adjourned March 4, 1925.

On April 15, 1925, the war department forwarded schedules to the various states and territories showing the individual allocations of trophies which had been determined as their quotas. By July 1, eight states, to wit: Iowa, Maryland, Mississippi, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, South Carolina and Vermont, had notified the war department of their acceptance of the trophies and on that date shipments to these states commenced. Shortly thereafter allocations were completed for Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New York and Virginia. At that time only one state, Wisconsin, had notified the war department that its legislature had declined to appropriate the funds for the transportation of the trophies. However, it is thought that the Legion of Wisconsin will work out a satisfactory method by which these trophies may be obtained.

Under the regulations laid down by the war department the states have until April 15, 1926, to accept the trophies allocated to them. If they have not accepted by that date their allocation will revert to the secretary of war, who may make such disposition of them as he desires. Several states have requested trophies in excess of the amounts allocated. The war department is not in a position to state whether an excess will be available next year, but there are a great many trophies which have not been allocated due to the fact that no provision has been made by congress for their distribution, and these can not be distributed to the various states unless additional legislation is enacted.

The larger trophies, such as artillery, are located at Port Newark, New Jersey, while the smaller pieces are at Raritan Arsenal, Metuchen, New Jersey.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>9-32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>39-44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>45-48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>49-55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>56-70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>70-94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DEDICATION, THOMAS RILEY MARSHALL

NATIONAL OFFICERS

VIEWS OF NEW NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

“TAPS”

“OMAHA, THE CONVENTION CITY”

FOREWORD

NATIONAL ADJUTANT, REPORT OF

JUDGE ADVOCATE, NATIONAL, REPORT OF

HISTORIAN, NATIONAL, REPORT OF

ENDOWMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, REPORT OF

ENDOWMENT CORPORATION, REPORT OF

AMERICAN LEGION PUBLISHING CORPORATION, REPORT

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, NATIONAL, REPORT OF

TREASURER, NATIONAL, REPORT OF

AMERICANISM COMMISSION, NATIONAL, REPORT OF

REHABILITATION COMMITTEE, NATIONAL, REPORT OF

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE, NATIONAL, REPORT OF
# INDEX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADJUTANT, NATIONAL, REPORT OF</td>
<td>Sec. I 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADJUTANTS, DEPARTMENT, CONFERENCE OF</td>
<td>Sec. I 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADMINISTRATION DIVISION</td>
<td>Sec. I 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AERONAUTICS COMMITTEE</td>
<td>Sec. I 67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY</td>
<td>Sec. I 63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMERICAN LEGION PUBLISHING CORPORATION</td>
<td>Sec. I 49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMERICANISM COMMISSION, NATIONAL, REPORT OF</td>
<td>Sec. II 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All-American Conference</td>
<td>Sec. II 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Education Week</td>
<td>Sec. II 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Legion Auxiliary</td>
<td>Sec. II 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americanism Conference at Omaha</td>
<td>Sec. II 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American-made Flag</td>
<td>Sec. II 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy Scouts</td>
<td>Sec. II 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communistic and Radical Activities</td>
<td>Sec. II 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community and Civic Betterment Bureau</td>
<td>Sec. II 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Aliens</td>
<td>Sec. II 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disaster Relief</td>
<td>Sec. II 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay Contest</td>
<td>Sec. II 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extreme Pacifism</td>
<td>Sec. II 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flag Code</td>
<td>Sec. II 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Get-out-the-vote Campaign</td>
<td>Sec. II 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harmon Foundation</td>
<td>Sec. II 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holidays</td>
<td>Sec. II 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration</td>
<td>Sec. II 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Sec. II 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior All-American Baseball</td>
<td>Sec. II 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislative Program</td>
<td>Sec. II 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motion Pictures</td>
<td>Sec. II 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narcotics</td>
<td>Sec. II 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Boys’ Week</td>
<td>Sec. II 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Defense Day</td>
<td>Sec. II 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naturalization</td>
<td>Sec. II 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>Sec. II 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania School Award</td>
<td>Sec. II 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Relations</td>
<td>Sec. II 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio</td>
<td>Sec. II 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognition of Soviet Russia</td>
<td>Sec. II 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration of Aliens</td>
<td>Sec. II 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riley, John L., In Memoriam</td>
<td>Sec. II 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural and Urban Hygiene</td>
<td>Sec. II 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Service”</td>
<td>Sec. II 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speakers’ Bureau</td>
<td>Sec. II 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Star Spangled Banner</td>
<td>Sec. II 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Story of the American People</td>
<td>Sec. II 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Conference</td>
<td>Sec. II 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment</td>
<td>Sec. II 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodrow Wilson Memorial</td>
<td>Sec. II 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARD SYSTEM, MASTER</td>
<td>Sec. I 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHILDREN’S WELFARE DIVISION</td>
<td>Sec. I 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CREVISTON, RUSSELL</td>
<td>Sec. I 11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**INDEX—(Continued)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DEDICATION, PERMANENT HEADQUARTERS</td>
<td>Sec. I 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEDICATION, THOMAS RILEY MARSHALL</td>
<td>Sec. I 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMBLEM DIVISION</td>
<td>Sec. I 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENDOWMENT CORPORATION</td>
<td>Sec. I 44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENDOWMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, REPORT OF</td>
<td>Sec. I 39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, NATIONAL</td>
<td>Sec. I 56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FILM SERVICE</td>
<td>Sec. I 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINANCE COMMITTEE, NATIONAL</td>
<td>Sec. I 64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMISSION, PERMANENT, REPORT OF</td>
<td>Sec. I 61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOREWORD</td>
<td>Sec. I 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRANCE CONVENTION TRAVEL COMMITTEE</td>
<td>Sec. I 64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HISTORIAN, NATIONAL, REPORT OF</td>
<td>Sec. I 35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUDGE ADVOCATE, NATIONAL, REPORT OF</td>
<td>Sec. I 33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE, NATIONAL, REPORT OF</td>
<td>Sec. II 47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accomplishments</td>
<td>Sec. II 49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accomplishments, Second Session Sixty-eighth Congress</td>
<td>Sec. II 49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjusted Compensation</td>
<td>Sec. II 61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Legion, reports of</td>
<td>Sec. II 63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archives</td>
<td>Sec. II 63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Army Aviation</td>
<td>Sec. II 65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aviation</td>
<td>Sec. II 64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battle Memoranda Commission</td>
<td>Sec. II 66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical Warfare Service</td>
<td>Sec. II 96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizens' Military Training Camp</td>
<td>Sec. II 96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Service</td>
<td>Sec. II 68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defense Test Day</td>
<td>Sec. II 96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desertion Charges</td>
<td>Sec. II 97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disabled Men, legislation amending Reed-Johnson Bill</td>
<td>Sec. II 74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>Sec. II 97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreword</td>
<td>Sec. II 47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrison, Ramon B</td>
<td>Sec. II 97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Construction</td>
<td>Sec. II 79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrants, non-quota</td>
<td>Sec. II 85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrants, Preference within quota</td>
<td>Sec. II 86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrants, quota</td>
<td>Sec. II 86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration, deportation and naturalization</td>
<td>Sec. II 84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land</td>
<td>Sec. II 88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislation, Bills passing House only</td>
<td>Sec. II 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislation, Bills reported to House</td>
<td>Sec. II 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislation, partially accomplished</td>
<td>Sec. II 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limitation of Armaments</td>
<td>Sec. II 95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Affairs</td>
<td>Sec. II 96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Disabled Soldiers' League</td>
<td>Sec. II 98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Guard</td>
<td>Sec. II 97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naval Affairs</td>
<td>Sec. II 99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naval Aviation</td>
<td>Sec. II 66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naval Construction</td>
<td>Sec. II 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naval Omnibus Bill</td>
<td>Sec. II 101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naval Reserve</td>
<td>Sec. II 101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officers' Reserve Corps</td>
<td>Sec. II 98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pershing, General John J</td>
<td>Sec. II 98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posthumous Award of Commission</td>
<td>Sec. II 98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**INDEX—(Continued)**

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE, NATIONAL, REPORT OF—Continued**

| Preference Rights to Veterans | Sec. II | 95 |
| Reclamation Appropriation      | Sec. II | 93 |
| Reserve Officers’ Training Camps | Sec. II | 98 |
| Retirement of Disabled Emergency Officers | Sec. II | 101 |
| Slackers                       | Sec. II | 106 |
| State Beneficial Legislation   | Sec. II | 106 |
| Alabama                        | Sec. II | 106 |
| Arizona                        | Sec. II | 107 |
| Arkansas                       | Sec. II | 107 |
| California                     | Sec. II | 107 |
| Colorado                       | Sec. II | 108 |
| Connecticut                    | Sec. II | 109 |
| Delaware                       | Sec. II | 109 |
| Florida                        | Sec. II | 109 |
| Georgia                        | Sec. II | 109 |
| Idaho                          | Sec. II | 110 |
| Illinois                       | Sec. II | 111 |
| Indiana                        | Sec. II | 113 |
| Iowa                           | Sec. II | 114 |
| Kansas                         | Sec. II | 115 |
| Kentucky                       | Sec. II | 117 |
| Louisiana                      | Sec. II | 117 |
| Maine                          | Sec. II | 118 |
| Maryland                       | Sec. II | 118 |
| Massachusetts                  | Sec. II | 119 |
| Michigan                       | Sec. II | 120 |
| Minnesota                      | Sec. II | 120 |
| Mississippi                    | Sec. II | 122 |
| Missouri                       | Sec. II | 123 |
| Montana                        | Sec. II | 123 |
| Nebraska                       | Sec. II | 124 |
| Nevada                         | Sec. II | 125 |
| New Hampshire                  | Sec. II | 125 |
| New Jersey                     | Sec. II | 126 |
| New Mexico                     | Sec. II | 127 |
| New York                       | Sec. II | 128 |
| North Carolina                 | Sec. II | 130 |
| North Dakota                   | Sec. II | 131 |
| Ohio                           | Sec. II | 131 |
| Oklahoma                       | Sec. II | 133 |
| Oregon                         | Sec. II | 134 |
| Pennsylvania                   | Sec. II | 135 |
| Rhode Island                   | Sec. II | 135 |
| South Carolina                 | Sec. II | 136 |
| South Dakota                   | Sec. II | 137 |
| Tennessee                      | Sec. II | 138 |
| Texas                          | Sec. II | 139 |
| Utah                           | Sec. II | 139 |
| Vermont                        | Sec. II | 140 |
| Virginia                       | Sec. II | 140 |
| Washington                     | Sec. II | 140 |
| West Virginia                  | Sec. II | 141 |
| Wisconsin                      | Sec. II | 141 |
| Wyoming                        | Sec. II | 143 |
| Training Camp Pay              | Sec. II | 143 |
| Universal Draft                | Sec. II | 146 |
| War Frauds                     | Sec. II | 149 |
| War Trophies                   | Sec. II | 150 |
INDEX—(Continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, REPORT OF</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>NAVAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, REPORT OF</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>NEW NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>NEWS SERVICE</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>OFFICERS, NATIONAL</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>&quot;OMAHA, THE CONVENTION CITY&quot;</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>ORGANIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP DIVISION</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>OVERSEAS' GRAVES ENDOWMENT FUND</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>REHABILITATION COMMITTEE, NATIONAL, REPORT OF</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Compensation Claims</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Disability Rating Schedule, new</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Guardianships</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hospital Facilities</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hospitalization</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hospitals, Congressional inspection of</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Insurance, Government</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Legislation</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Medical Service</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Service Division, Washington Office</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Statistical Report, annual</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Veterans Bureau, co-operation with</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Veterans Bureau, important Bureau Orders, Regulations and</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Legal Decisions issued since Sixth Annual Convention</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Veterans Bureau, Legion support given</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Veterans Bureau, organisation and claims and rating boards</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Veterans Bureau, progress of</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vocational Rehabilitation</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women Veterans</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>“TAPS”</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>TREASURER, NATIONAL, REPORT OF</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>TROPHIES AND AWARDS COMMITTEE</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>VICE-COMMANDERS, NATIONAL</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>VIEWS, THE NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS</td>
<td>4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>VISITS TO NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>WORLD PEACE, COMMITTEE ON</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>