

DEPARTMENT OF OHIO SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR.

The 77th. Annual Encampment of Ohio, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War was held in the Deshler-Hilton Hotel, Columbus, Ohio, June 12-13, 1959. Department Commander Fred Pfiester Jr. presiding.

The following minutes were taken during the regular sessions, and will be considered correct, but further references to original copies of the resolutions and recommendations will be found in the office of the Department Secretary, William Selz, 16 Buckeye St., Dayton 2, Ohio.

Friday morning, June 12, 1959 - - -

A joint opening was held along with the Auxilliary with C. Earl Corbin, Department Patriotic Instructor presiding.

Department Commander Fred Pfiester Jr. was presented along with the Department President of the Auxilliary Ethel B. Constance.

A representative of the Mayor of Columbus welcomed the Encampment to the Capitol City.

Special music by Marie Campbell of the Auxilliary in Akron, Ohio and selections by the Xenia Home Band of Xenia, Ohio, followed by timely remarks by Floyd Hartpence, Sup't of the Xenia O.S. & S.O. Orphans Home.

At 11:00 A.M. the first session of the Department was called to order by Department Commander Pfiester, who appointed the following committees to serve during the Encampment.

Credentials ----- Paul Selby, John Decker

Constitutions and Resolutions - - R. W. Ballard, M.R. Battey

Ritual and Ceremonies --- C. Earl Corbin

Officer's Reports --- Louis Blair, John Decker, Wm. Coffin

Press Committee --- Dan Clancey

Fraternal Relations --- Harry Constance

Officer's Reports -

Reports were received and read and filed from the following officers:

Senior Vice Commander --- Clyde V. Neff

Junior Vice Commander --- Carl Burcaw

Assistant Secretary --- R. D. Austin

Council --- Walter Winnall, John Decker. Chas. Bigley absent.

The Secretary-Treasurer's report related the following facts and figures:

Membership ----- 328

Camps ----- 28

Income ----- \$1,012.27

Expenses ----- \$1,033.56

Balance on Hand-- \$ 486.54 - A breakdown of this figure is as follows:

Organization Fund ----- \$ 76.63

G.A.R. Hiway #6 Fund --- 42.00

Xenia Home Fund----- 107.98

Dep't Pat. Instr. Fund - 94.00

Encampment Fund ----- 23.00

General Fund ----- 132.93

Some years ago, the Department donated the amount of \$50.00 to the Xenia Home Christmas Fund, but later years this has been cut to \$25.00 so a motion was made by C. Earl Corbin and seconded by Harry Constance that this Department increase this amount to \$50.00 for the year of 1959 only. Vote taken resulted favorable.

The Department Commander's report was very concise and the committee congratulated him for his fine efforts during the past

year in this office and the following recommendations were acted upon:

1. The Department take action on the efforts being made, to change the observance of Memorial Day from May 30th to last Monday in May. This was recommended--not to change this date.
2. New Hampshire Plan to be considered (further on this recommendation from the resolution committee).
3. Term of Encampment be changed to Convention. Recommended, and to be sent to the National for action.
4. Registration Fee be made and used for convention fund. Recommended if fee not to be over \$1.00.
5. Incoming Commander assist in every way possible that 1st Regiment S. of U.V. Reserve Unit be formed.
6. Fund be created to assist in the formation of 1st. Regiment, \$15.00 to \$20.00 be sufficient, so a motion was made by C. Earl Corbin and seconded by M. R. Battey that the Department set aside the organization fund money for this work (\$76.73). Secretary-Treasurer to keep money in his hands and pay the bills as presented and when this fund is spent, the unit has authority to collect further monies as they feel fit to do so. Vote taken resulted favorable.
7. Department Centennial Committee work along with the 1st Regiment Unit.
8. Twelve men over the Department be selected to work on membership, and help the Department Commander in plans for the Centennial Observance. All of the above recommendations approved by the committee.

Department Senior Vice Commander --- Clyde V. Neff

Department Junior Vice Commander --- Carl Burcaw

Department Council --- R. W. Ballard, John Decker, Chas. Bigley

Department Sec'y-Treas. --- Wm. A. Selz cast the ballot for the above officers.

Department Commander Pfiester Jr. made the following appointments:

Press Conference --- Dan Clancey

Asst. Sec'y & Press Correspondent --- R. D. Austin

Department Chaplain --- Louis Blair

Department Chief of Staff & --- C. Earl Corbin
Department Patriotic Instructor

Department Organizers - District #1 - H. D. Huttenhower
District #2 - J. A. Edie
District #3 - W. W. Dorsey

Delegates to the National Encampment in Long Beach, California, will be selected by the Department Commander, or some other so designated from those that are at the meeting.

On Saturday morning, June 13th, the presentation of the special project gifts were made giving the Crippled Children's Society of Franklin Co., from the Sons of Veterans and Auxiliary a wheel chair costing \$202.95 and will be of great assistance to those using it.

The W. R. C. presented another wheel chair, the L. of G.A.R. a Hospital Bed. Allied Orders presented a check to the amount of all in the treasury, as this is the last meeting of this part of the Grand Army Family. Ohio Circle #37 W.R.C. of Columbus, Ohio presented an adjustable Chair that will be beneficial to both patient as well as the one giving treatments. A Mr. Triss of the Society accepted with thanks and very grateful that such orders are willing to assist in their work of helping the unfortunate to be able to take their places in active living.

The annual banquet was held on Friday evening in the Grand Ball Room of the Deshler-Hilton Hotel. Wm. C. Duvall, member of the U.S. Senate Naval Affairs Committee was the speaker of the evening using the topic "What Price Liberty" and stressing the points as follows:

1. Some feel that the Flag of 48 stars is obsolete, but a Flag is never obsolete as long as it is usable.
2. People of this day and age are different from those living during the Civil War Days, all seem to live for the day that they will reach the age for retirement from active work and receive a monthly check.
3. A majority of persons feel that they should be paid for everything they do and wonder why they should give freely to service projects that make for a better community and nation.
4. All should take inventory and ask "How could I serve Country and self?"
5. Will each dedicate themselves to elect better persons to City, State and National Offices so we may continue to be a free Nation. Twenty-one to date have fallen, do we want to be the twenty-second?

On Friday evening a reception for Department Officers was held in the Hall of Mirrors, a fine program enjoyed and Department Commander Pfiester showed colored slides taken in Cincinnati and vicinity.

The Encampment closed with a joint Installation of Department Officers along with the Auxiliary.

Robert D. Austin
Assistant Secretary
Ohio Department
S. of U. V.