

Department of Ohio Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

The 82nd. Annual Encampment of the Department of Ohio, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War was held at the Leland-Mansfield Hotel in Mansfield, Ohio, June 18-19-20, 1964 with the Senior Vice Commander of the Department, Eldon Brown presiding, due to the sickness of the Department Commander Howard Sprague.

On Thursday evening, the Department Council held a short meeting to audit the department books, and a get-together sponsored by the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, at which time the drum corps from Mt. Vernon, Ohio rendered a number of selections to the enjoyment to those present.

The following minutes were taken during the business session and will be considered correct, but further references to the original copies and reports will be found in the Secretary's office, Chas. Bigley, 417 No. Pearl Street, Risingsun, Ohio. P.O.Box #245. Zip Code 4357:

Friday morning - a very short opening of the Encampment along with the Departments of the Auxiliary and Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, after which each group adjourned to their meeting rooms for the business sessions.

Department Senior Vice Commander, Eldon Brown, presided over the Sons of Union Veterans meeting and made the following appointments:

Registration Committee --- C. B. Woods
Resolutions Committee --- Paul Selby, Clyde Neff.
Credentials Committee --- C. B. Wood
Officers Reports --- Paul Selby, Neal Garver
Greetings Committee-
Auxiliary --- M. R. Battey, John Decker
Ladies of the G.A.R. - Clyde Neff, Fred Pfeister Jr.

Roll call of the Department Officers was held:

Department Commander, Howard Sprague absent due to sickness.
Department Senior Vice Commander - Eldon Brown.
Department Junior Vice Commander - John Decker.
Department Chaplain - Donald Mathews, absent.
Department Secretary-Treasurer - Charles H. Bigley
Department Council - Paul Grate, Fred Pfeister, Jr.

Carl Burcaw
Department Ass't. Secretary and Press Correspondent -
R. D. Austin

Acting Department Commander Eldon Brown appointed Neil Garver as Senior Vice Commander for the session and Carl Burcaw as Chaplain for the meetings.

The Registration Committee reported the following in attendance:

National Officers	2
Past Dept. Commanders	11
Delegates	4
Total	17

Officer's reports as follows:

Department Commander Sprague had a written report but due to his illness did not have a chance to present it but all know he has filled the office in a very fine manner and traveled over the Department extensively as well as to Texas, Washington, D.C. and to many of the Centennial celebrations in other States.

Department Senior Vice Commander Eldon Brown gave his report orally and expressed his appreciation of having the opportunity to serve the Ohio Department the last year.

Junior Vice Commander John Decker reported on the Cleveland Camp as well as traveling over the Department.

Department Patriotic Instructor and Chief of Staff as well as the Department Secretary-Treasurer's reports are as follows:

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

June 30, 1963 to June 30, 1964

June 30, 1963	Bal. Fwd.	(Pfiester-a/c	- - - - -	\$194.54
"	"	(Selz -a/c	- - - - -	<u>380.00</u>
Total balance fwd.				- - - - - \$574.54

RECEIPTS

Cash Received	-	Per Capita Tax from Camps	- - - - -	-\$ 349.40
"	"	- Donation	Christmas Fund	- - - - - 15.00
"	"	- "	Ch. of Staff Fd.	- - - - - 40.50
"	"	- "	Pat. Inst. Fd.	- - - - - <u>81.50</u>
Total				- - - - - -\$1060.94

DISBURSEMENTS

C. Bigley, (Salary-Sec'y-Treas.)	- - - - -	\$ 200.00
National Secretary (Per Capita Tax)	- - - - -	246.50
" " (Supplies)	- - - - -	28.80
Printing-Stationery-Postage, etc.	- - - - -	126.57
Misc. - Flowers (Powers	- - - - -	\$12.50
- Corbin (Conv.)	- - - - -	4.36
- Central Reg. Dues	- - - - -	5.00
- Bond Prem.	- - - - -	5.00
- Gift-Nat'l. Pres.	- - - - -	16.59
- B'k. Ches.	- - - - -	3.22
- Coffin, Lincoln Tomb	- - - - -	16.00
- Xenia Home	- - - - -	<u>25.00</u>
		87.67
		<u>712.94</u>
Balance (Toledo Trust Dept.)		\$340.00
Checks on hand (too late for deposit)		8.00
		19.20
		<u>1.20</u>
Total		\$368.40
Less: Ch. Stf.	- - - - -	\$40.50
Pat. Inst.	- - - - -	<u>65.50</u>
		<u>106.00</u>
Balance Department Funds		\$262.40
On Hand - 1 U.S. Series E. Bond		100.00
2 " " " "		<u>50.00</u>

CHIEF OF STAFF REPORT

To Commander Howard Sprague and Brothers of the
Ohio Department Son's of Union Veterans.

As Chairman of the Encampment Committee and Chief of Staff, you have a lot to take care of during the year. The Chairman has to start looking for a place next year. He should have a place ready to report on at the Encampment which we have been able to for the past few years. We will have two or three to pick from this year.

It takes some time and traveling to do this at no cost to our Department. Thanks to our Department Commander Brother Sprague for his assistance.

As Chief of Staff, I did the same. As for our Special Project, 50 letters were sent out telling you that it cost to have an encampment. The reply on it was fair.

If the Brothers would pay their dues we would not have to work so hard trying to carry these things along. I want to thank the Brothers who sent the money, and I hope we have money to pay our share. Our Auxiliary has been very good to us in helping us out. The past few years we have carried on, but by the report of the Treasurer, I am not sure.

Your Committee meets three or four times a year to work everything out. We hope you will be pleased with this.

Yours in F. C. & L.

W. Earl Corbin
Chief of Staff
&
Convention Chairman

WEC/cb

DEPARTMENT PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR REPORT
to
Department Commander Howard Sprague
and
Brothers.

My report is not very good as I do not get any reports from any Camps of the Department of Ohio. I know there is some Camp activity and they do take part on Memorial Day and other special days and they hold banquets such as Lincoln's Birthday and so on.

I attended tree planting in Cleveland on June 8th, 1964. Our Department President of the Auxiliary, Irene Polito, paid for everything herself and no cost to the Auxiliary. Judge Day was the speaker and after the presentation we were taken to the May Company for dinner.

The Department President also presented a flag to one of the schools in Cleveland. I want to thank Irene for having these special occasions. It keeps our Auxiliary and the Grand Army of the Republic Centennial before the public and she paid these out of her personal money.

I have tried to keep the Ohio Department Son's of Union Veterans out in front as we need it badly. We are going backwards instead of ahead. I have tried to cover as many meetings as I could. It costs money to travel and no one seems to care.

I sent out about 50 letters telling the Brothers what we would like to do. We have some Brothers who respond very good. Our Special Project is one we thought would please everyone as it is for the older people as we are all getting along that way.

I received some letters objecting to our Special Project. I think as I have told our Brothers at our Encampments that it is one thing that helps us stay close to our Auxiliary and the Ladies of the Army of the Republic.

I would like to have it settled this year - if we are, or are not going to keep it up so your Patriotic Instructor will know what to do.

Thanks.

W. Earl Corbin

Motion by Paul Grate and seconded by Clyde Neff that the above reports be accepted and placed on file. Vote taken, resulted favorable.

At this time a visiting speaker was introduced. Harold Clarke, Chaplain at the Soldiers and Sailors Home in Sandusky, Ohio spoke on the work in the Home and asked all to make a visit at any time. There are 800 veterans in resident and about 250 hospital patients.

Alan Spink, National Historian, gave a fine explanation of workings of other Departments as well as business transacted at the National Commandery-in-Chief.

Kenneth Wheeler, National Geneologist, spoke on activity on the Eastern Coastal towns as well as the Encampment in New Hampshire.

The following resoltuion was introduced and approved by the Encampment:

Subject: Resolution offered to hold Members.

To: Commander Howard N. Sprague, Officers and Members,
Ohio Dep't. SUVCW meeting in Encampment, Mansfield,
1964.

Resolution

Having in mind the loss of a whole Camp at Friendship, Ohio, because the members voted to disband; other Camps who ceased to exist, in recent years, for many reasons; and the problem existing within Dennison Camp #1 right at this moment; therefore, be it resolved, that:

"When any member learns of the above happenings, to contact the Commander, Secretary and other Officers of our Department and all concerned, and those Officers to either visit with the Camp and if nothing can be done to save it, to get the mailing list of the members and to send them a letter inviting them to become Members-At-Large of the Ohio Department, until such time when they may again become affiliated with a Camp near their home."

In order to maintain their interest, they should be given same attention that others do.

Sincerely yours,

in F. C. & L.

Fred Pfiester, Jr., PDC
Chm. Council 1963-64

Motion approved and accepted.

May we ask that you bring before your Camp membership the following details of the Amendments to the National Constitution. Report to this office at an early date your sentiments regarding our favorable action for the approval of same. This will be taken at our Department Encampment to be held in Mansfield next month, June 18, 19, 20.

The following Amendments to our Constitution were adopted by the 82nd National Encampment in Miami Beach, Florida, August 17-22, 1963 and in accordance with Article 8 are now referred to the several Departments for their approval:

ARTICLE 111

Eligibility to Membership

In the first sentence after the second word, add the word "Lineal" making the article read:

"All Male lineal decendants etc."

The Encampment Voted NO on this.

ARTICLE VII

Membership

Strike out Section 3 of Article VII and in lieu thereof insert:

"Departments and Camps may admit as Associate Members, male persons who are not eligible for full membership. No Camp shall, at any time, elect Associates when the number of Associates will exceed one half the number of regular members at the time of such election."

The Encampment Voted NO on this amendment.

ARTICLE VII

Add an additional Section as follows:

Section 4, - Honorary Members.

"The Commandery-in-Chief, upon recommendation from a Camp, Department, or the National Council of Administration, may grant honorary membership to persons of acknowledged eminence who are especially distinguished for conspicuous and consistent loyalty to the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and who have been active and eminent in maintaining the supremacy of the same and are known not to be eligible for membership in the Order".

The Encampment Voted YES on this.

Past Department W. W. Dorsey spoke briefly on changes in the Department letter-heads and felt that it would be an advantage to have some History of the Sons of Union Veterans as well as items of interest from Civil War records placed on the back of the letter-head so all receiving a communication will have the feeling that we, as Sons of Civil War Veterans are willing to do all in our power to keep before the public the principles for which we stand.

Motion by W. W. Dorsey and seconded by John Decker that historical data be gathered and placed on the letter-heads and have the same printed.

Vote taken resulted favorable.

On Friday evening, June 19th, the banquet was held with the Mayor of Mansfield, Ohio, Chas. Scott, National President of the Auxiliary, Aneta Selby, National President of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, Molly Mercer as well as Alan Spink and Kenneth Wheeler of the Sons of Union Veterans in attendance.

The speaker of the evening was Robert Levering, member of U. S. Congress. Points brought to the attention of those present were the thought of the destruction of war, but the advances in science as well as steps in medicine resulting.

Many a man has entered the ranks unknown, but by deeds accomplished was emerged as a person of reknown as all are on their own during battle and each have a chance to give of their best.

Man has always been willing to stand between the enemy and home to save that which he believes to be right and wishes to preserve for future time. Freedom is a priceless heritage and people all over the world would like to have it but many times are deprived of it through oppression and those willing to sell out for personal gain.

We have Freedom, let's keep it!

The special project this year was items for the Richland County Home. Mr. and Mrs. Nye of the Home were at the banquet and wheel-chairs as well as a pool table were presented for the use of the residents of the Home.

Saturday, June 20, 1964

W. E. Corbin, Department Patriotic Instructor, spoke briefly on efforts made to raise funds for the special projects and the poor response from Camps.

\$107.00 was received for the Patriotic Instructors fund and \$25.00 for the Chief of Staff fund.

Bills for the Encampment meeting were as follows- one-third of the expenses are our share and the following is one third of the cost:

Memorial wreathes	\$12.98
Wheel chairs, etc.	75.94
Badges	10.50
Programmes	9.35
Place Cards (Banquet)	10.42
Officers tickets	8.75
	\$127.94

This leaves a balance on
hand of - - - - - \$ 4.06

Motion by W. E. Corbin and seconded by Paul Grate that this amount be placed in the general fund. Vote taken resulted favorable.

Fred Pfiester Jr., promoted a fund raising project which amounted to \$25.00 and the registrations \$15.00.

Greeting committees were received from the Relief Corps, Daughters of the Union Veterans, Ladies of the Grand Army as well as from the Auxiliary.

It is customary to present the National Officers from the Department a gift during the meeting of the National Commandery in Chief and since we have the National President of the Auxiliary, Aneta Selby, a motion was made by Fred Pfiester Jr., and seconded by M. R. Battey that we, as a Department present the Department Auxiliary a \$25.00 check to be added to monies collected to be given the National President. Vote resulted favorable.

W. E. Corbin, convention chairman, spoke on plans for the 1965 meeting. It is felt that since the Grand Army of the Republic started the Xenia Orphan's Home, it would be nice to hold the 1965 meeting at the Home as a climax to the Centennial Celebration (1961-1965), but as rooms and meeting halls can't be secured, perhaps Dayton would be the place of meeting. A motion was made by Fred Pfiester, Jr., and seconded by Paul Grate that we meet in Dayton but go to the home one day for visitation, if this is satisfactory with the other Orders affiliated. Vote resulted favorable.

Past Commander-in-Chief, Wm. Coffin spoke on the need of a council of administration for the Department as it would save time at the Encampment meetings by eliminating discussions as items of interest would have been cleared through this body and better meetings would result. No action taken.

P. C. in C. Coffin offered a recommendation since the Department Commander, Howard Sprague, could not be at the Encampment meeting, but has filled the office so well, that a member of the Mansfield Camp be authorized to present him with his Past Department Commanders badge at an early date. Vote on this resolution resulted favorable and Clyde Neff was to do the honors.

A resolution was introduced to thank the Mansfield-Leland Hotel for all favors given those in attendance as well as thanks to Mayor Scott for taking time from his busy life to attend the banquet as well as addressing the meeting. Vote resulted favorable.

The final item of business of the Encampment is the nomination and election of officers for the new term. This resulted as follows:

Department Commander	Carl Burcaw of Salem, Ohio
Department Senior Vice Commander	Edward Brown of Columbus, Ohio
Department Junior Vice Commander	John Decker of Cleveland, Ohio
Department Council	C. B. Wood of Alliance, Ohio Paul Grate of Warren, Ohio Fred Pfiester Jr. of Cincinnati, Ohio

The following appointments were made by the Department Commander Elect:

Carl Burcaw	
Patriotic Instructor	W. E. Corbin of Akron, Ohio
Chief of Staff	W. E. Corbin of Akron, Ohio
Chaplain	Paul Grate of Warren, Ohio
Guide	Paul Selby of Mansfield, Ohio
Color Guard	Clyde Neff of Mansfield, Ohio
Color Bearer	M. R. Battey of Alliance, Ohio

Past Commander-in-Chief Wm. Coffin installed the officers and Alan Spink acting as guide.

Chas. H. Bigley
Department Secretary

Past Department Commander Wm. F. Powers was presented with his Past Department Commanders badge by Wm. Coffin.

All were sorry to learn of the death of Adolph Keller at his home in Florida. He formerly lived in Dayton and attended all Department Encampments.

Eldon Brown, a member of the National Centennial Committee reminded all to visit the 'General' used in the Civil War by the 'Raiders' as it arrives in a number of towns over the State of Ohio in the months of July and August.

On Friday evening June 21st, the joint banquet of all three orders was held with 102 in attendance. The speaker of the evening was Judge R. M. Draper who urged all to carry on the tradition of the Grand Army of the Republic as they kept the Union as one and a United Nation has been able to win the conflicts we were engaged in. A proud heritage - let's preserve for the future.

State and National officers were introduced along with the Commander-in-Chief Chester Shriver and National President of the Auxiliary, Mrs. Leroy Stout.

Each year money is raised for a special project to assist some worthy home or institution in their work. This year the one selected was for Cerebral Palsy and a walkie-talkie presented for their use. Those accepting were the one in charge, Mrs. Victor Workin and the president, Philip Drake.

Following the banquet and presentation, a reception of the Department officers was held.

The above notes were taken during the sessions and are to be considered the official minutes of the Encampment held in Columbus, Ohio, June 20-22, 1963.

Chas. Bigley
Department Secretary

R. D. Austin
Assistant Secretary