# THE JR. O. U. A. M.

## Report of The National Council Meeting Held at Asheville, North Carolina.

### The Largest and Most Important Session Ever Held—Laws and Rituals Thoroughly Revised.

The national council of the Jr. O. U. A. M. convened Tuesday morning in the hall of Asheville Council No. 6, which had been appropriately decorated, flags and mottoes covering the walls, and flowers being about the room and at the officers' stations. The most noticeable of the mottoes was one representing two soldiers of the blue and gray clasping hands, and bearing the words, "One Country, One People."

National Councilor Kibbe presided, assisted by National Vice Councilor J. G. A. Richter. After the report of the credential committee had been approved and the new delegates obligated and admitted, the roll was called, showing 89 in attendance, one more than at the Detroit session of last year.

A resolution was adopted fixing the hours of the day from 9 a. m. to 1:30 p. m., and from 3 p. m. to 7. The minutes of last session were approved as printed.

The committee on law presented an amendment to strike out the distribution committee, through which much delay had been occasioned at previous sessions, and the amendment was adopted.

The local reception committee presented an invitation to the national council to visit the Vanderbilt estate the next morning, and to participate in the parade in the evening, both of which were accepted.

The national councilor's report was then taken up for consideration. His action in regard to the Liberty Bell fund was approved, and a motion adopted to appropriate a sufficient sum of money to make up the deficiency required to provide the carriage.

Considerable discussion was occasioned over one of his decisions which related to the eligibility to membership of those who, by reason of accident or misfortune, had been so maimed as to prevent them from giving the signs of the order. The decision was finally approved in the special case, and the matter referred to the law committee, with instructions to frame a law that would properly cover the question.

All recommendations in relation to finance were deferred until after the consideration of the finance committee's report. In every other particular the report of the national council was approved.

Before closing the morning session, it was agreed, on motion of National Secretary Deemer, that the election be held at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and the b dy then took a recess for dinner.

At the afternoon session some routine business was dispatched, and the nomination and election of officers was taken up, Past Sate Councilor H. Wells Buser, of Pennsylvania, acting as judge; Past National Councilor Elbert, of New Jersey, and Representative Minesinger, of Ohio, as tellers, and National Secretary Deemer as clerk. The result of the election was as follows:

J. G. A. RICHTER, of Ohio,
National Councilor.

National councilor, J. G. A. Richter, of Ohio; national vice-councilor, C. W. Tyler, of Virginia; national treasurer, J. Adam Sohl, of Maryland; national council conducter, George W. Nutz, of Delaware; national council warden, Fiery Toms, of Indiana; national council in side sentinel, G. H. Burnham, of North Carolina; national council outside sentinel, W. H. Cole, of Michigan.

For place of next session, Cincinnati, Ohio, and Omaha, Neb., was placed in nomination, the latter winning by a vote of 45 to 44.

A very able report was presented by the national secretary, and approved without discussion.

One of his recommendations related to the use of councils of emblems not authorized by the national council, and a vote of censure was passed upon all such. His recommendation that a form for receiving councils visiting in a body was referred to the ritual committee with instructions to report at this session.

The report of the national treasurer was then taken up and approved. It shows:

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|---|---|
| Balance on hand last report | $ 7,345.17 |
| Amount received fro c Nat Sec'y | 22,788.30 |
| TOTAL | $ 30,133.47 |
| Pd. out as per ords. Nos. 800 to 894 | $ 20,019.80 |
| BALANCE ON HAND | $ 10,103.67 |

The finance committee's report occupied considerable time, and was still under consideration when the hour of the day arrived.

A motion was made that the national council adjourn, to meet at 3 o'clock the next afternoon, to permit the members to visit the Vanderbilt estate in the morning.

Wednesday afternoon when the national council reconvened, consideration of the report of the finance committee was resumed, all of its work being approved and the following recommendations adopted:

We would recommend that upon organization of state councils they be furnished with books and supplies to t e value of $75 instead of paying premiums.

We recommend that the premium of $25 be continued for organization of councils until 100 councils are instituted.

The committee was authorized to advance money to councils for whom a special fund had been provided.

The national council then adjourned to take part in the parade.

Thursday morning the report of the finance committee was concluded. The recommendation concerning periodicals was that $1,000 be appropriated for one good paper, but this was amended to

ELW. S. DEEMER,
National Secretary.

allow $500 to the *Pittsburg American*, the same amount to the *Junior Mechanic* and $200 to the *Southern Patriot*.

Resolutions of regret on the death of Brother Charles L. Walters were presented by the New Jersey delegation, and adopted with a rising vote.

The committee on Orphans' Home presented a report, in which it was stated that considerable interest had been shown in the project generally by councils, although the sum guaranteed was only a small portion of what would be needed. The committee was continued and instructed to select a location for the home, subject to the approval of the national council at the next session, and that the national council aid the committee in its work by calling the matter to the attention of the several state councils, and also request the support of the various publications of the order.

The report of the committee on law, which included a complete revision of the laws of the order, was then considered. It was decided to hold a night session to consider the report of the ritual committee. This was an extremely interesting feature, but no report of the work in this connection can be given, other than no great change has been made in the present work, so far as the sentiment and design of the ritual is concerned, the phraseology being improved and certain portions made more explicit. The new rituals will be ready on November 1, when each council will be furnished a set at cost, the old to be disposed of according to instructions that will be issued by the national secretary.

Friday morning the consideration of the laws was again resumed and occupied the entire morning and part of the afternoon, and were finally approved as a whole.

Following the action of other patriotic orders, June 14th, the day upon which congress adopted the present American flag, was designated as Flag Day, to be observed by displaying the flag from residences and all public buildings.

It was decided that the new national council constitution go into effect at once, but the old general laws will be in force until September 1st, when the new laws will be ready to be issued.

A supplementary report, presented by the ritual committee, providing a form for admitting councils visiting in a body, was adopted.

The report of the legislative committee was read and approved, and the incoming committee was instructed to urge the adoption of the Stone immigration bill.

The report of the committee on patriotic congress was received with thanks, and the committee was continued.

At the last session of the national council a committee was appointed to prepare certain forms and ceremonies, among others a memorial service for deceased members of the order. This committee made its report, and the national council held a council of sorrow, during the exemplification of the ceremony, with special reference to such members of the national council who had been claimed by death. It was a most impressive service. Representative Eastman, of Massachusetts, presided, and Rev. John R. Bobilts, Rev. J. Morgan Reed and Rev. H. H. Slaughter, delivered the charges. Eulogies were pronounced upon Chas. L. Walters, of New Jersey, by National Councilor Kibbe, Joseph W. Granger, of Maryland, by P. N. C. Bobilts and H. L. Sparks, jr., of Colorado, by Representative James Powell.

The committee was highly complimented on the ceremony, and after the affecting exercises, and out of respect for the memory of the deceased, the national council adjourned, to meet again that evening.

Friday evening a vote of thanks was returned to the Idlewood Flower Company for the fresh flowers which were presented daily.

The forms for flag presentation and corner-stone laying, submitted by the committee, were approved, and all of the forms referred to the board of officers for preparation for printing.

The appeal committee reported that they had not been called upon to act during the year. This was accepted as an indication of complete harmony.

Communications from Dawson Lawrence and E. T. Morlan, in regard to charts were read, asking special privileges, which was referred in both cases. The committee which has heretofore had charge of the relations between the national council and Dawson Lawrence was discharged, and the board of officers will superintend all such details.

A motion was adopted requesting state councils to change their laws to conform with the alterations made by the national council.

A resolution of thanks was tendered the board of officers for their excellent services during the year, and Brother Z. Taylor Wobensmith was also thanked for his services as reading clerk.

A resolution presented by the representatives of Ohio, endorsing the Daughters of America as the official auxiliary of the Jr. O. U. A. M., gave rise to a lengthy debate, and was finally rejected by a large majority, the sentiment of the national council appearing to be that the Daughters of America and Daughters of Liberty should stand on their own merits, both now having equal recognition from the national council.

A communication was read from the state council of Missouri in regard to the difficulties they have met there, and a donation o' $84 76 was made to assist them in meeting certain accounts.

A communication from councils of the District of Columbia, asking for separation from the state council of Virginia and the granting of a charter for the district was read. This matter has been before the national council frequently, and always heretofore opposed by the Virginia delegation. This time, however, they voted in favor of it, and the separation was made and state council charter granted.

A resolution thanking the council of Asheville and the citizens for courteous treatment was adopted.

A resolution approving the action of the board of officers of Pennsylvania in the school cases at Pittsburgh and Gallitzin, and the board of officers of New Jersey for the patriotic legislation secured, was adopted.

The national council then adjourned.

Saturday morning, under the new ritual, a chaplain is provided for, and the first business of the last day's session was to elect Past National Councilor John R. Biblits, of Maryland, to that office in the national council.

A vote of thanks was tendered the law committee of this and the previous year, for the very complete work performed by them.

On motion, the board of officers were instructed to appoint a national organizer for this year.

All committees not provided for under the new laws, with the exception of the Orphans' Home committee and the delegates to the patriotic congress, were declared discharged.

On motion of National Organizer Collins, it was decided that any person having any African blood in his veins, be ineligible to membership.

The new officers were then installed by Past National Councilor John W. Calver, and brief addresses were made by each.

On behalf of the national council, Past National Councilor Walter Orange presenting the retiring national councilor, Brother H. A. Kibbe, with a gold emblem of his office, in language that was eloquent and full of fraternity and patriotism.

The body then joined in singing "America," prayer was offered by Chaplain Bobilts, and the session of the national council closed.

### Rome Fights Secret Orders.

There is quite a disruption among the members of the Roman Catholic church. Bishop Becker has caused it, by sending forth an edict that members of the Catholic church will not be granted absolution, who are members of the K. of P., Odd Fellows, Golden Eagle and other similar organizations.

The most interesting thing about the fight against these organizations is that the blow is aimed more particularly against the K. of Ps. This should not be, as that organization, or at any rate its members belonging to the Catholic church, for years past have been potent factors in the upbuilding of the church.

But that is not all. The members of the orders who are not Catholics have been most liberal in helping the church financially.

Just where the objection on the part of the church comes in with any amount of good taste is something we do not see. Of course it falls within the providence of those at the head of the church to issue these orders.

The unpleasant part of the fight is felt more keenly by the priests of the different churches, some of whom are in sympathy with the objects of the orders that the fight is being waged against. They recognize the charity and christian spirit with which these orders and its members are imbued.—*Savannah (Ga.) Independent.*

### ONE MORE VICTIM.

#### Another Poor Deluded Victim of Priestcraft Incarcerated in a Convent.

The Convent of Perpetual Adoration at Hunt's Point, last Easter, again opened its doors to receive a poor deluded victim of priestcraft—a young girl under twenty years of age who "weds the church" as the infamous deception is called. Her name is withheld. She is, of course, an heiress, nothing else is wanted at Archbishop Corrigan's famous establishment. Her parents accompany her to the door that closes on her, never to permit them to see her again, except through a double grating. These women, young and pretty, are cut off from all all access to the outer world. No complaint they may ever make can by any possibility reach the ear of any one but God. No cry for help can bring deliverance from possible attacks made upon their virtue by the lecherous celebates of Rome who alone can have access to this prison-trap. No struggle to maintain honor and innocence against possible priestly brutality can be of the slightest avail. From this place alone the government inspector, the detective and the newspaper reporter are rigorously excluded. Their sufferings unknown, their woes unexpressed, they drop into an early grave. The tomb seals their history. There may be foul play; murder or malpractice may have their place in that history. No certificate of burial. No coroner's jury. All is dark and secret—suspiciously, suggestively secret. The body is taken to the basement in a pine coffin, pushed in on a shelf and the opening sealed with cement. The possible story of wrong, outrage and cruelty is shut up behind that cement until the Great Day of Reckoning. The parents and most intimate friends are excluded. Their demand for admission to investigate these dark and suspicious circumstances would be treated as an impertinence. Only Archbishop Corrigan and his celibate priests may have access to these deluded dupes of priestcraft. Stall-fed bachelors with imaginations fired with confessional experiences and passions heated with wine, are considered the proper persons to visit young females whose natural propensities are pent up and intensified by forced seclusion, a feeling of personal irresponsibility, a training whose tendency is to uproot the sense of self-respect, and a thorough confidence in their complete exemption from all deference to public opinion.

Furthermore, the existence of these dark prisons is directly and shamelessly unconstitutional. In this free republic no person can be restrained of liberty or deprived of property except by the decision of one of our courts. In these convents liberty is forever forfeited and all property confiscated.

Over and over again we have asked the question, why Americans permit these blots upon public decency to continue. We now ask: "How long, O Lord?"—*Primitive Catholic.*

### Rome Wins Again.

It is announced that the French government has annulled the order, issued in April last, suspending the stipend of the archbishop of Lyons and all arrears will be immediately paid. This, evidently, is another step toward conciliation with Rome. The first step was taken yesterday, when Mgr. Ferrata, papal nuncio, walked with only a little silk skull cap on his head from the Elysee palace to the cathedral of Notre Dame behind the remains of the late president of France.

Consequently, the regime of President Casimir-Perier opens, the day after the funeral of his predecessor, with improved relations with the vatican.

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