

OFFICIAL MINUTES
OF THE 4TH CONVENTION OF THE
NORTH AMERICAN TURNERBUND
HELD IN PITTSBURG, PA.
MAY 29 TO JULY 1, 1870

FIRST SESSION

SUNDAY, MAY 29, 1870 AT 10 A.M.

The President of the Vorort, S. Spitzer, opened the Convention. He greeted the delegates and then added, that in the social activities of American life, no institution is misrepresented more than our Turnerism. However, that it appears as a friendly, green piece of earth in the desert of our situation. He states, success in our undertaking to make Turning a national enterprise, in spite of the vicious attacks which are leveled at us, depends upon the Turners in general and more specifically on this Convention.

Turner Spitzer was then appointed as temporary President and C. Duerfeld from Cleveland, as temporary Secretary.

A Committee, consisting of Lackner from Chicago, Steinmetz from New Jersey, and Schleier from Knoxville, was appointed to examine the mandates.

Recess of one half hour was then declared.

After the Convention again convened, the Committee reported that the following districts are represented by the delegates listed below:

Vorort - S. Spitzer, H. Metzner.

Boston - 8 votes - C. Lewison, C. Knappe.

Central New York - 4 votes - Franz Wachtel.

Chicago - 21 votes - Ed. Rummel, Wm. Gloy, Franz Lackner.

Cincinnati - 21 votes - Adalbert Kriegar, Friedrich Gehring, Richard Meinhardt, Albin Stecher, Anton Kutzleb, Heinrich Schneider.

Hudson River - 3 votes - M. Rapp.

Kansas - 7 votes - H. Heintz.

Lookout Mountain - 4 votes - T. M. Schleier.

Michigan - 5 votes - G. Dehnel, R. Schumacher.

Minnesota - 9 votes - Lambert Naegele.

New Jersey - 7 votes - Emil Herwagen, Chr. Ehrlich.

New Orleans - 5 votes - B. Armbruster, S. Schmidt.

New York - 16 votes - C. Kuhm, A. Gruenberg, C. Stahl.

Upper Mississippi - 10 votes - E. Claussen, E. Krell.

Passaic - 4 votes - C. Steinmetz, C. Stier.

Philadelphia - 9 votes - A. Voight, H. Heyer.

Pittsburg - 12 votes - C. Duerfeld, F. Lehr, Wm. Muegge, F. Kress, A. Lambert, C. F. Bauer, C. Conrad, T. Tolley, J. Froehlich, J. Busch, A. Meckelburg, Nikolaus Graeser (Later in place of Kress and Lambert Wehn and in place of Meckelburg; Best was substituted.)

St. Louis - 19 votes - Hugo Gollmer.

South East District - 4 votes - J. R. Fellman and H. R. Kluckhuhn.

West New York - 7 votes - M. Loewenthal, Ph. H. Bender.

Wisconsin - 23 votes - E. Wallber, R. Richter.

The following districts were not represented:

Savannah with 2 votes.

Rocky Mountain with 2 votes,

Omaha with one vote.

For the Detroit, Michigan society, reported Turner Hermann Kuhn, and for the Utica, New York society, Turner B. Jansky as delegate. They were
ted in as delegates and given seat and vote.

The Mandate Committee report was accepted and the permanent organization of the Convention followed.

The following officers were elected:

President - F. Lackner of Chicago.

Vice-President - E. Rummel of Springfield, Ill.

1st Secretary - J. R. Fellman of Baltimore.

2nd Secretary - C. Duerfeld of Cleveland.

Motion passed, that a greeting telegram be sent to Pacific Turnerbund which held its Convention at this time in Marysville, California.

The following resolution was presented by Turner Rummel of Springfield, Illinois:

As it is generally known that, according to our tradition, Decoration Day will be observed tomorrow in the United States when the graves of our fallen heroes will be decorated with flowers. Therefore, the delegates of this Convention of the North American Turnerbund do hereby

Resolve to honor our Turner brothers who gave their lives in the Union War by planting a rose on their graves as an honorable remembrance. To always remind the living that their great sacrifices for their country should be an example for us to follow to fight for freedom, human rights, and tolerance.

This resolution was amended by Turner C. F. Bauer as follows: That the delegates of this Convention should take part in decorating the graves of our Turner soldiers and also to be present at the laying of the cornerstone of the Soldier Monument.

This resolution and the amendment was unanimously adopted.

Turner's Spitzer, Bauer, and Gollmer were appointed and with the President of the Convention, were instructed to set up the Order of Business for the Convention. Also to propose appointments of various Committees.

After a short recess, this Committee reported as follows:

Committee on Platform and Statutes: Rummel, Bauer, Spitzer, Kluckhuhn and Gollmer.

Committee to revise the books and the report of the Vorort: Wallber, Knappe, and Kutzleb.

Committee to receive tabulated reports and general instructions and questions: Voigt, Grueneberg, and Schleier.

Committee on practical Turning: Gloy, Conrad, Stahl, Metzner, Steinmetz, and Meinhardt, and with the suggestion that this Committee can add others to their group.

Committee for complaints and appeals: Lewison, Kuhm, and Claussen.

The order of business of the Boston Convention was adopted.

The above proposals were received and adopted.

The report of the Vorort, as printed and distributed to the delegates, was received and turned over to the Revision Committee.

YEARLY REPORT OF THE VORORT OF THE

NORTH AMERICAN TURNERBUND

TO THE TURNER CONVENTION AT PITTSBURG, PA.

MAY 29, 1870

It is again our very pleasant duty, to present to this Convention our report about the Turner activities during the past year, as well as the existence and activities of our Bund in general.

The adoption of the 15th amendments to the Constitution of the United States gives us the opportunity to congratulate our Bund for the Victory they have won. Since the founding of our North American Turnerbund, we battled by word and writing for the ballot box and on the battlefield for the principle which was finally won through this 15th amendment.

Since the publication of our last report (Zukunft No. 37 and 48 of last year), there was no important development or change to report. Our organization definitely moves forward, although somewhat slowly during the past year. The loss of membership which was reported last year, was again made up during the

Boston Convention. The coming year should permit us to show a good gain over the present, because in several of our Western States and in Texas, a very active Turner life is beginning to develop.

The Turner activities in our societies are at this time much improved over last year. So the activities of the Vorort could be much more successful.

It seems to be the right time for our Bund to earnestly consider the question of making Turning a Volkmatter, this means, to make it a branch of our public education.

A general agitation should be organized to accomplish same. It is known that many German organizations were started for the purpose of introducing the German language into our public school system. In many places they were successful. It is here recommended that our Turner organization and Turner Bund plan to unite with these groups, which seems to be very desirable, also to work for the introduction of our Turner system and we will assist them in their objectives.

In the first place, however, it will be necessary for us Turners to know the value of our Turner system; this can be brought about by all of us participating in the Turner exercises and to permit our children to join the gym classes in our Turner organizations.

It is a matter of fact that our Turner classes, especially those of the girls, could be far more effective and popular, if the Turners themselves would help to organize and improve same and be more impressed about its desirability. Only then can we expect to get support from outsiders and make an impression on school officials.

Our effort in this undertaking should not cool off. Through this, many citizens will become interested in our Turner activities and thereby gain additional membership.

The lack of good Turn teachers, one of the setbacks to promote Turner instructions, made it necessary to organize the Turn Teachers' Seminar. The second course started January 3, 1869, and ended July 2, 1869. The jobless situation all over the United States was a main factor that the participation was again small. Many of the applicants could not be assisted to get suitable part-time jobs. At graduation time, five of the students received first grade diplomas and three, second grade diplomas. The opening of a third course was not permitted, due to the poor situation of our National Treasury. We sincerely hope that this Convention will find ways and means by which this institution can be permanently established for the future. Our experiences have shown us the great importance of such an institution.

The committee on Turner activities, which will be appointed by this Convention, will receive from us suggestions for the Seminar.

(The National Turnfest in Chicago, which has contributed much for the advancement of our Turnerism, had a representative of the Vorort present. We urge all delegates to read his report, which was printed in the "Zukunft" Number 27.

The activities of the Turner societies in behalf of mental culture seems to be limited to lectures and debates which are promoted by the so called Debate Clubs. Entertainment features and foolish distractions are most considered and promoted. The mental culture is of secondary importance so that the fundamental laws and the platform of our Turner organization are neglected. This unsatisfactory situation exists, no doubt, because society officers are not taking a proper stand to govern their societies according to the National Constitution. This Convention must take steps to bring about an active consideration that the radical activities, as stated in the platform, should be program consideration in each society. The National executives did everything in their power to stimulate interest but the Constitution of the Turners does not permit them to take more definite action in behalf of the mental activities

In our last yearly report (Zukunft No. 37), we recommended to the District Vororts, a plan which showed various considerations for an improved reform. But repeated effort on our part did not arouse attention for or against this undertaking. The only reply came from the Board of Directors of the Cincinnati District, which was answered by Secretary A. Kriegar, who instructed their societies to make this report a fundamental request for consideration in all of their Turner societies.

Due to the importance of this matter for the future of our Bund, it will be necessary to have this Convention pass resolutions which will again bring this matter before all National societies.

The remarks which were made at that time when the motion was entertained are again stated here:

"The question: What future do our Turner societies have in the United States, if we do not earnestly and in all consideration, work toward improving our society activities? This question is so important that, if neglected, it can be considered as a criminal offense against our Turner Movement. There is no connection anywhere which would aim toward a higher goal of human endeavor. But still it was not possible to date to get attention, consideration, and action, which would enable us to take a stand to show the proper tendency for the movement. We must take a stand here and now because the local Turner societies do not act as requested."

The resolution which was introduced before by us, is at this time again presented in a somewhat changed form and we request that it will be passed and same be added as part of our National Constitution:

"The Turner societies are requested to provide for mental culture for all its members as an educational measure, through recitals, lectures, and debates at least once a month, to which the public should obtain free admission."

"The societies must make a monthly report to their district board about the execution of this paragraph. This report must contain the following: The

subject of the lectures etc. with the date and statement of membership participation.

Societies who do not carry out the above ruling, will be reminded once more and if no suitable answer is forthcoming, the district is then requested to take this society from the membership list of the district and report same to the Vorort for similar action."

"Report formulas from the Vorort must be sent to all district and they in turn will supply all of their societies in order to receive a uniform report. These reports will be properly arranged and then mailed to the National Office. A combined report will then be issued for publication."

No society has a right to disregard this paragraph, the smallest societies can all do something in this respect. If suitable persons are not available, to give lectures, one can take passages from good books, articles from pamphlets, etc. to read and use for debate. This will show whether or not our efforts did take root for the majority of Turners. The sooner we get definite proof about this point, the better it will be for the future of the Turnerbund.

The situation which took place recently in the New Orleans Turner society demanded us, after careful investigation in the matter, to make five requests on the society. As an answer, this organization made known to us its intention to make their appeal to this Convention. This Convention has the authority to decide this case.

That the settling of the slave question and the equality of all citizens of the republic is now a national law; this should not be a burning question anymore for the Turner societies.

There can be no more appropriate time than now to work for our radical reform movement in the field of politics so that mis-understanding will be definitely out of the question.

Our Bund, whose duty it is to enlighten all members about politics and religious questions, cannot consider any of the old traditions and useages as

Bigotry and intolerance is again raising its head and from Pittsburg we see that the friends of free-thinking are again attacked. We must take steps that our Turnerbund shall never give in and forever take a firm stand for our moral, social, and political freedom.

For the radical standpoint, which our National Organization takes in all outstanding questions which aim to change social conditions, it must be considered that the debate in this Convention, as well as the resolutions which are passed, must be of a far reaching nature for the advancement and the future of our Turnerbund.

Believing that the delegates of this Convention know about the importance of their action and knowing that their united effort will bring about desired results for the good of the Turnerbund,

I am closing with Turner Greeting,

The Vorort

S. Spitzer, 1st Speaker

H. Metzner, Cor. Secretary

Fr. Baillet, 2nd Speaker

H. Merz, Treasurer

Dr. S. Sowards, Prot. Secretary

Jac. Heintz, Wm. Heeseler, Irmscher, Braun

STATISTICAL REPORT

Only two societies neglected to send in their report for this year. This makes it possible to make a complete report about the membership, the active Turners, the Boys' and Girls' classes. The result is in general, very good. The loss of societies which we supported during the year of 1868 is again more than covered. We again reached a membership which we had at the time of the Boston Convention. The next half year will again bring us a very substantial increase, because several districts reported that several new Turner societies are making application to join our Turnerbund.

I. NEW YORK TURN DISTRICT

<u>SOCIETIES</u>	<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>ACTIVES</u>	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>
1. New York	350	130	450	30
2. Williamsburg	201	50	157	30
3. Brooklyn	56	35	40	0
4. Bloomingdale	48	25	50	0
5. Harlem	43	17	15	0
6. Morrisania	42	20	33	0
7. New Brooklyn	25	3	12	0
8. East New York	22	8	25	0
9. Staten Island	15	10	15	0
	<u>802</u>	<u>298</u>	<u>797</u>	<u>60</u>

The New York District had 8 societies and 896 members, now a gain of one society; however, a loss of 94 members. The State Island Turn Verein was taken in this year. The societies Bloomingdale and Harlem did not send in a report although they were again requested to make a report. It was, therefore, necessary to use their last Years' report.

II. CINCINNATI TURN DISTRICT

1. Cincinnati Turngemeinde	435	133	162	12
2. Louisville	98	25	60	0
3. Columbus	85	56	15	0
4. Dayton	108	82	28	0
5. Newport	49	12	0	0
6. Terre Haute	33	16	20	0
7. Covington	33	12	30	0
8. Piqua	29	14	10	0
9. Tell City Turngemeinde	25	8	30	0
10. Louisville T. V. Vorwaerts	24	24	43	0
11. Hamilton German T. V.	18	15	0	0
12. Ironton	15	10	0	0
13. Indianapolis T. V.	49	25	46	0
14. Portsmouth	25	15	20	0
15. Shelbyville	24	24	14	0
	<u>1050</u>	<u>471</u>	<u>478</u>	<u>12</u>

The Cincinnati Turn District had 17 societies with 1258 members last year. Considering this, we lost two societies and 208 members.

The Turner society from Detroit and Ripley resigned. (The first to join the Michigan District.) The Evansville Turn Society disbanded. The new Turner society "Vorwaerts" from Louisville joined the Bund.

III. ST. LOUIS DISTRICT

1. St. Louis	222	80	60	0
2. Highland	114	68	32	0
3. Boonville	89	10	20	0
4. Jefferson City	62	25	6	0
5. Sedalia	59	20	15	0

<u>SOCIETIES</u>	<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>ACTIVES</u>	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>
6. Springfield	48	20	Ø	Ø
7. Bloomington	48	15	15	Ø
8. Hannibal	48	30	25	Ø
9. Little Rock	45	25	Ø	Ø
10. Washington, Mo. T. V.	42	20	32	Ø
11. Memphis T. V.	38	10	Ø	Ø
12. Trenton, Ill.	30	16	15	Ø
13. Virden	21	12	Ø	Ø
14. Centralia	23	11	23	Ø
15. Red Bud	12	10	Ø	Ø
16. St. Charles	<u>30</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>Ø</u>	<u>Ø</u>
	931	402	243	Ø

The St. Louis District had in 1869, 17 societies with a membership of 1247. This year, they lost one society and 316 members. This loss was mostly brought about through the resignation of the N. O. Turngemeinde, which started a new District.

The following societies also resigned from the district: Waterloo T. V., Freedom T. V. and T. V. "Reform" of Springfield. Taken into membership were societies from Hannibal, Little Rock and Birden.

IV. BOSTON DISTRICT

1. Boston T. V.	190	75	30	14
2. Lawrence T. V.	71	32	24	Ø
3. Greenfield T. V.	60	23	8	Ø
4. Shelburne Falls T. V.	30	15	6	Ø
5. Norwich T. V.	<u>25</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>Ø</u>
	376	156	124	14

The Boston District had last year, 3 societies with 273 members; this is a gain of 2 societies with a membership of 103. The societies are Norwich and Greenfield.

V. SOUTH EAST DISTRICT

1. Baltimore Soc. Dem. T. V.	125	34	20	Ø
2. Washington T. V.	35	10	10	Ø
3. Martinsburg	<u>16</u>	<u>Ø</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>Ø</u>
	176	44	54	Ø

In relation to last year, the South East District showed a loss of 2 members.

VI. CHICAGO DISTRICT

1. Chicago Turngemeinde	265	115	254	16
2. Chicago Aurora T. V.	108	78	97	22
3. Freeport T. V.	92	36	62	Ø
4. Chicago T. V. "Vorwaerts"	90	46	125	Ø

<u>SOCIETIES</u>	<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>ACTIVES</u>	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>
Peoria Union T. V.	90	60	42	0
6. Peoria T. V.	60	18	30	0
7. Ottawa T. V.	50	15	15	0
8. LaSalle T. V.	44	32	15	0
9. Pekin T. V.	38	12	24	0
10. Peru T. V.	36	24	10	0
11. Cairo Turngemeinde	32	32	0	0
12. Chicago Union T. V.	31	17	43	0
13. Jacksonville T. V.	28	18	0	0
14. Ft. Wayne T. V. "Vorwaertz"	25	20	0	0
15. Chatsworth Saenger-and T. V.	20	12	0	0
16. Champaign City T. V.	15	8	0	0
17. Logansport T. V.	15	5	0	0
	<u>1039</u>	<u>548</u>	<u>717</u>	<u>38</u>

The Chicago District consisted last year of the same number of societies with 914 members; this is a gain of 125 members.

VII. WISCONSIN DISTRICT

1. Milwaukee T. V.	201	55	125	0
2. Milwaukee T. V. - South Side	155	64	28	13
3. Milwaukee T. V. - East Side	65	35	30	0
4. Milwaukee T. V. - North Side	78	40	125	0
5. Racine T. V.	42	10	12	0
6. Monroe Social T. V.	45	17	0	0
7. LaCross T. V.	68	25	36	0
8. Madison T. V.	90	43	36	0
9. New Holstein T. V.	62	37	31	0
10. Sheboygan T. V.	36	24	32	0
11. Hamilton Concordia T. V.	27	12	10	0
12. Farmington T. V.	38	15	0	0
13. Oskosch T. V.	89	51	30	0
14. Cedarburg T. V.	59	19	22	0
15. Appleton T. V.	59	20	0	0
	<u>1114</u>	<u>467</u>	<u>517</u>	<u>13</u>

The Wisconsin District had last year, 11 societies with 800 members. This year there is a gain of 4 societies and 314 members. The Kiel T. V. resigned from the district. The following societies are new this year: East and North Side from Milwaukee, the Concordia, Cedarburg and Appleton Turner societies.

VIII. NEW JERSEY DISTRICT

1. Newark Soc. T. V.	143	117	115	0
2. Trenton T. V.	76	40	0	0
3. Orange T. V.	55	20	15	0
4. New Brunswick	20	6	6	0
5. Rahway Soc.	21	18	14	0
6. Milltown T. V.	24	20	7	0
	<u>339</u>	<u>221</u>	<u>157</u>	<u>0</u>

The New Jersey District had 257 members in 1869. The gain this year is 2 members. The society report shows no changes.

IX. WEST NEW YORK DISTRICT

<u>SOCIETIES</u>	<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>ACTIVES</u>	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>
1. Rochester T. V.	83	35	52	0
2. Syracuse Soc. T. V.	72	24	42	0
3. Buffalo T. V.	60	30	25	0
4. Utica Soc. T. V.	50	18	15	0
5. Auburn T. V. "Frohsinn"	30	15	6	0
6. Utica Union T. V.	24	20	12	0
7. Suspension Bridge T. V.	<u>23</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>21</u>	0
	342	158	173	0

This district had last year, 5 societies; this is a gain of 2 with an increase in membership of 43. New societies taken in are T. V. "Frohsinn" Auburn, and the Union T. V. Utica.

X. PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT

1. Philadelphia Turngemeinde	259	104	140	0
2. Scranton T. V.	40	22	15	0
3. Egg Harbor City T. V. Vorwaerts	30	14	18	0
4. Wilmington T. V.	30	18	21	0
5. Wilkes-Barre T. V.	30	10	13	0
6. Manayunk T. V.	30	12	8	0
7. Riverside Progress T. V.	<u>17</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>16</u>	0
	436	190	231	0

The Philadelphia District had last year, 6 societies with 458 members, that means a gain of 1 society, but a loss of 22 members. The Wilmington T. V. was again taken into the Bund.

XI. UPPER MISSISSIPPI DISTRICT

1. Davenport T. V.	160	129	143	0
2. Rock Island T. V.	50	30	20	0
3. Burlington T. V.	47	26	0	0
4. Dubuque Soc. T. V.	47	25	60	0
5. Des Moines T. V.	40	21	18	0
6. Moline T. V.	36	20	18	0
7. Muscatine T. V.	30	12	0	0
8. Keokuk T. V.	26	26	0	0
9. Council Bluffs T. V.	<u>44</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>	0
	480	309	273	0

This district consisted last year of 8 societies with a membership of 428. (This did not include Keokuk Society; they did not send in a report.) This shows a gain this year of one society and 52 members. The new society is Council Bluff T. V.

XII. PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

<u>SOCIETIES</u>	<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>ACTIVES</u>	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>
1. Pittsburg T. V.	145	50	62	0
2. Johnstown T. V.	114	45	14	0
3. Wheeling Soc. T. V.	95	30	25	0
4. Cleveland T. V.	67	34	73	8
5. Cleveland Social T. V.	48	21	23	0
6. Allegheny T. V.	68	26	40	0
7. Birmingham T. V.	85	40	20	0
	622	246	257	8

The Pittsburg District had last year, 9 societies and 789 members, that shows a loss this year of 2 societies and 165 members. The Detroit Free T. V. resigned to join the Michigan District. T. V. "Vorwaerts" from Cleveland did not send in a report; we may expect that they also stepped out of the Bund.

XIII. MINNESOTA DISTRICT

1. St. Paul T. V.	120	30	35	0
2. Minneapolis T. V.	88	30	20	0
3. Winona T. V.	80	35	40	0
4. New Ulm T. V.	53	9	43	18
5. St. Anthony T. V.	34	18	6	0
6. Hastings T. V.	29	14	6	0
7. Rochester T. V.	25	8	18	0
	429	144	168	18

The Minnesota District had 6 societies last year and 285 members. A gain this year of one society and 114 members. New society taken in was the T. V. from Hastings.

XIV. KANSAS DISTRICT

1. Kansas City T. V.	70	20	30	0
2. Leavenworth T. V.	68	19	42	0
3. Lexington T. V.	49	8	14	0
4. St. Joseph T. V.	48	33	20	0
5. Topeka T. V.	34	20	0	0
6. Wyandotte T. V.	24	18	0	0
7. Eudora T. V.	21	14	6	0
8. Fort Scott T. V.	18	9	0	0
9. Atchison T. V.	16	16	0	0
10. Junction City T. V.	12	6	0	0
	360	163	112	0

The Kansas District had no report in last year, so that no comparison can be made.

XV. PASSAIC DISTRICT

1. Jersey City T. V.	60	25	30	14
2. Paterson T. V.	54	24	20	0

<u>SOCIETIES</u>	<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>ACTIVES</u>	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>
3. Hudson City T. V.	28	27	17	0
4. Passaic T. V.	17	10	12	0
5. Hackensack	<u>32</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>0</u>
	191	102	97	14

From this district, no report was received.

XVI. LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN DISTRICT

1. Nashville T. V.	75	0	25	0
2. Chattanooga T. V.	73	30	15	0
3. Knoxville T. V.	<u>52</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>0</u>
	200	54	54	0

No change from last year in this district. The membership, however, increased by 22.

XVII. HUDSON RIVER DISTRICT

1. Poughkeepsie T. V.	45	20	10	0
2. Rondout T. V.	50	30	20	0
3. Newburgh Free T. V.	<u>32</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>0</u>
	127	60	38	0

No change in society membership, but they lost 43 members.

XVIII. CENTRAL NEW YORK DISTRICT

1. Troy T. V.	108	108	0	0
2. Albany Soc. T. V.	38	20	0	0
3. Albany Capitol T. V.	<u>43</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>0</u>
	189	171	61	0

This district had 2 societies last year; they gained one society and 20 new members. The Albany Capitol is the new society.

XIX. SAVANNAH DISTRICT

1. Charleston T. V.	48	20	15	0
2. Savannah T. V.	<u>36</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>0</u>
	84	32	24	0

This district did not forward a report last year.

XX. ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT

1. Denver T. V.	50	15	35	0
2. Central City T. V.	<u>55</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	105	25	35	0

This and the following districts were organized last year.

XXI. MICHIGAN DISTRICT

<u>SOCIETIES</u>	<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>ACTIVES</u>	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>
1. Detroit Soc. T. V.	92	35	20	∅
2. Detroit Free T. V.	106	47	80	34
3. Sandusky T. V.	<u>30</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>∅</u>	<u>∅</u>
	228	97	100	34

The last society was taken in during this year. The figures are tentative, because no report was received.

XXII. OMAHA DISTRICT

1. Omaha T. V.	50	20	∅	∅
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The Fremont T. V. which was a member, seems to be disbanded again.

XXIII. NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT

1. New Orleans Turngemeinde	250	130	60	∅
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SUMMARY REPORT OF SOCIETIES

<u>INNER DISTRICTS</u>	<u>SOCIETIES</u>	<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>ACTIVES</u>	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>NAT. VOTES</u>
1. New York	9	802	298	797	60	16
2. Cincinnati	15	1050	471	478	12	21
3. St. Louis	16	931	402	243	∅	19
4. Boston	5	376	156	124	14	8
5. South East	3	176	44	54	∅	4
6. Chicago	17	1039	548	717	38	21
7. Wisconsin	15	1114	467	517	13	22
8. New Jersey	6	339	221	157	∅	7
9. West New York	7	342	158	173	∅	7
10. Philadelphia	7	436	190	231	∅	9
11. Upper Mississippi	9	480	301	273	∅	10
12. Pittsburg	7	622	246	257	8	12
13. Minnesota	7	429	144	168	18	9
14. Kansas	10	360	163	112	∅	7
15. Passaic	5	191	102	97	14	4
16. Lookout Mountain	3	200	54	54	∅	4
17. Hudson River	3	127	60	38	∅	3
18. Central New York	3	189	171	61	∅	4
19. Savannah	2	84	32	24	∅	2
20. Rocky Mountain	2	105	25	35	∅	2
21. Michigan	3	228	97	100	34	5
22. Omaha	1	50	20	∅	∅	1
23. New Orleans	<u>1</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>130</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>∅</u>	<u>5</u>
	156	9920	4500	4770	211	202

The Bund had in 1869, a total of 143 societies and 9382 members. This year it shows a gain of 13 societies and 538 members. The relation of the actives to

membership remains the same. The number of boys gained 516. The girls lost

H. Metzner

FINANCIAL REPORT

FROM APRIL 1, 1868, TO APRIL 30, 1870

In the last financial report to the Convention, the Vorort made a motion that the extra assessment should be discontinued; it was passed. One expected that the reduced membership dues would help to raise the membership and also better the Treasury. Also the prompt payments of old bills from the district should improve our Treasury.

It was expected that the continued payment of Turner school books and the upkeep of the Turn Teachers' Seminar would reduce the Treasury a great deal, but not, if payments are coming in promptly, that the Treasury of our d would have to curtail all activities.

However, the Turn Teachers' Seminar had to be closed, although we all realize its great importance. The amount of money now outstanding is \$1,600. If this amount would be promptly paid, many necessary activities can again be restored.

The budget for the next two years will be about as follows:

For expenses, etc.	\$1,500
Turn Teacher Seminar	800
School books and fee to pay	<u>200</u>
Total	\$2,500

The effective property of the Bund after deducting the amount of inventory (\$269.33) is \$1,744.39. Regular national dues of 8 cents per head from about 10,000 members for a 2 year period --

	\$1,600.00
Profit from the sale of school books	<u>198.00</u>
	\$3,542.39

This would give us on April 30, 1872, a total property of \$1,042.39. In order that this amount is not too greatly reduced, we recommend for the future that the per capita tax per member shall be raised to 10 cents.

All parties, to whom the old Bund owed money, have been paid with the exception of one firm which, it is reported, is no longer in existence.

All the Turner school books are now up to the 4th reader. Those published are 1st and 3rd readers, handbook of Geography, Textbook of world history, with a total cost of \$707.50. The total net income since 1867 was \$248.06; this is the same as an earning power of about 12 percent gain per year.

This result can be considered as good business, however, a much larger circulation could have been obtained if Turner societies showed a greater interest in circulating the books. If we take in consideration that the (jectives of our Turner aims are to promote mental and physical growth and to take an active interest in timely questions, it must be understood that these Turner school books are important.

Regular support is coming from some societies. We hope that this Convention will be in a position to interest the delegates more in behalf of our Turner literature.

It is expected that the Vorort will go to another district, therefore, we are proposing that a permanent school book committee be appointed which should be from New York.

With the best wishes for a continued success for our Turnerbund,

Signed for the Vorort

Henry Merz, Treasurer

BALANCE OF APRIL 30, 1870

VORORT OF THE NORTH AMERICAN TURNERBUND IN NEW YORK

DEBIT

To H. Metzner	\$100.00
Jos. Deghuee	4.96
A. Frey	.60
Gravert and Douai	<u>69.38</u>
Total Debit	\$174.94
Balance or Capital	<u>2,013.72</u>
	\$2,188.66

CREDIT

Per New York Turn Verein	\$ 31.84
Per Invetar Credit	269.33
Per New York District	53.38
Per Boston District	114.14
Per South East District	1.50
Per Philadelphia District	140.29
Per Pittsburg District	89.42
Per Savannah District	18.82
Per N. Mississippi District	171.45
Per Securities (Bonds)	216.57
Per Central N. Y. District	6.00
Per Lookout Mountain	14.24
Per Turner Books Credit	120.30
Per Wisconsin District	53.52
Cincinnati District	231.01
Per Rocky Mountain District	14.40

Per Turner Emblems	\$ 244.50
Per Treasury Credit	321.98
Per St. Louis District	33.97
Per New Haven T. V.	12.00
Per Chicago District	<u>30.00</u>
Total Property	\$2,188.66

SUMMARY LOSS AND GAIN FROM APRIL 1, 1868 to APRIL 30, 1870

LOSS

From Turner Districts for cancelled debts and society resignations	\$ 164.16
From Expenses	1,468.21
From Publication	246.25
From Teachers Seminar	328.50
From Debt Release for none Bund Societies	286.68
From Turner Emblems lost by Express	20.00
From Balance or gain	<u>87.05</u>
	\$2,600.85

GAIN

Per Districts for member dues and application dues of societies	\$1,699.69
Per W. H. Hoffmann reducing 50 percent on his bill	80.00
Per securities (Bonds) for interests	31.38
Per Turner emblems	213.75
Per King and Baird cancelled bill	512.10
Per Turner Books	28.64
Per increase through inventory	<u>35.29</u>
	\$2,600.85

The capital on April 1, 1868, was \$1,926.67

Add gain from April, 1868 to April, '70 87.05

no date total

42 012 72

SECOND SESSION

MONDAY, MAY 30 at 9:00 A.M.

The Convention was called to order by President Lackner. Absent were delegates Bauer, Froehlich, Busch, and Graeser, from the Pittsburg District and Loewenthal from West New York.

The minutes of the first session were read and adopted.

No committee was ready to report. It was decided that all committees should continue their work. If more advantageous, committees may turn over definite instructions to other committees.

A letter from W. Staengel from St. Louis, who expressed his viewpoint about the work of this Convention, was read and turned over to the committee on Platform and Constitution.

J. R. Fellman, Secretary

THIRD SESSION

MONDAY, MAY 30 AT 4:00 P.M.

The Convention was called to order by President Lackner. The following delegates were absent: Lehr, Muegge, Stahl, Tolley, Graser, and Armbruster. Delegate Loewenthal from West New York was accepted.

The minutes of the second session were read and adopted.

The committee on receiving instruction and classification reported that such instruction will be classified for the time being into two parts.

1. Such, which are to be turned over to other committees for consideration and
2. Such, which could not be delegated to another committee.

Report was adopted and motion passed, that this committee should discuss instructions under part 2 and should make definite proposal to the Convention about same.

The committee on complaints reported about the New Orleans situation. The report was received and after some changes, was adopted in the following form:

After a careful examination of the situation, as presented by the two delegates from New Orleans, Schmidt and Armbruster, as well as by the representative of the Vorort, H. Metzner, and a careful inspection of all related correspondence, one from Lieutenant Governor Dunn, the committee came to the conclusion that the Vorort rendered its decision fully in accordance with the Constitution. In consideration, however, of the document and explanations given by the New Orleans delegates, the committee proposes to the Convention to adopt the following resolutions and then consider this matter as closed.

The Turnverein from New Orleans was informed:

1. To recall its decision of May 2nd in a regular meeting and this retraction should be published in the official Turnerpaper.
2. The names of members, which on account of the resolution passed on March 9th this year resigned from the society, should be forwarded to the Vorort. These Turners should be made known to all national societies.

Recess.

J. R. Fellman, Secretary

FOURTH SESSION

TUESDAY, MAY 31 AT 9:00 A.M.

The Convention was called to order by President Lackner. Delegates Kuhn and Stahl were absent.

The minutes of the 3rd session were read and adopted. The committee's practical Turning was received and after considerable debate and a few changes, was adopted in the following form:

Decided, in order to have a uniform command for free exercises, that the following must have consideration:

- 1. Every command has two parts:
 - a. The explanatory
 - b. The command of the execution.

The explanatory command must embody all that is needed to know for proper execution.

(It may also be necessary to explain the exercise and give a demonstration.). Then follows a short pause, then the command of the Execution. This is generally a one syllable word and must be given short and sharp. Then to follow up the command the instructor may count 1, 2, 3, etc.

2. If an exercise is not started from a fundamental position, you will call this position the STARTING POSITION, same must be given and commanded as separate exercise.

3. Before giving a command, one may also give a warning command such as "Attention".

Decided, to adopt Lion's manual as a guide for the free and marching exercises.

Decided, that the German language be used in the Turnhall and when hiking with the exception of the military sections of societies.

Decided, to purchase the Lion's books: "The Exercises of the Mixed Jumps" to be recommended to all societies and especially the method used about grouping exercises, is hereby called to the attention of everyone and suggested to use same for class instruction.

Decided, to have pole vaulting and speer throwing in all societies where ever it can be done.

Decided, to urge all members of National Turner organizations whose children are not as yet members of childrens' classes, to send same to join when they reach the age of 6 years.

Decided, that the Turn Teachers' Seminar should be continued, but should be changed to Chicago and should be under the management of the Vorort as decided upon by the St. Louis Convention.

PRIZE TURNING AND NATIONAL TURNFESTS

Decided, that the rules set up for prize Turning should be in force at future Turnfests with the following modification and additions:

In order to shorten the time for prize Turning as much as possible, a group of 40 or less actives should turn in two divisions and if the number of participants exceeds 40, one should have as many divisions as the apparatus will allow. A number of judges must be appointed so that on every apparatus, three judges can function. In the events of running, jumping and climbing, only two are necessary.

The prize Turning on apparatus should all be done at the same time, as soon as a squad is finished on their apparatus, they will go to the next, etc. The judges to remain on the same apparatus on which they started. The obligatory exercises will be made up by all apparatus judges before the actual judging takes place. The result will be obtained by the summation of the individually performed exercises.

Decided, that the winners at the district and national Turnfests, should be limited to three, who are to receive wreaths and in the special events, the first winner only should receive the prize.

Decided, that judges shall not permit the same optional exercise to be repeated on another apparatus.

Decided, that the registration for the prize Turning should be done at the place of the Festival city as soon as the Turners arrive.

Decided, that Turner Steffen should be requested to give his opinion about free exercises and have same printed in the official Turner paper.

40

The Committee on Complaints made the following report which was received and after some changes adopted:

An appeal from the Social Turn Verein from Utica against the decision of the W. New York Turner District was presented; the latter passed three motions as follows:

1. To concur with the expulsion of Turners Reinhold Miller, Karl Gammel and George Klingmann.

2. To disapprove the application of the newly started Utica society to join the Bund.

3. To permit the Social society to join the Central New York Turner District.

After careful examination of all documents and after listening to the representative of the Social Turnverein from Utica, Gansky and the delegates (the West New York District, Turners Bender and Loewenthal, the Committee came to the conclusion that there was misunderstanding on both sides. We find that the Social society had a right to annul the expulsion and the authority to have these Turners re-instated with full privileges. This was done after the Complaint Committee found out that angry situations were mostly responsible for the punishment. This settled point 1 and 2. Point 3 could not be considered at all by this committee, because this request was in opposition to Paragraph 3 of the National Turner Constitution.

The Committee is under the impression that it is very damaging to our Turner Movement when such frictions continue for a period of a year or more and then develop to a high degree of unpleasantness. We urge this Convention to recommend to both Utica societies to bring about a satisfactory settlement, but if this was not possible, at least to be willing to live in peace and harmony in the same district and to do constructive work for our Turner Movement.

A recess was declared for 15 minutes.

The Committee on Classification of Instructions made its report, which was received and the individual points were disposed of as follows:

1. The Vororts' report has recommendations and
2. All instructions, agitations against intolerance and hypocrisy as well as the enactment of a manifestation was turned over to the Committee on Platform and Constitution. The question, how Turning could be made a part of our public education and receive National support, was turned over to the committee on practical Turning.

Instructions, which has as its aim, to entirely ignore political daily questions as Turners, was tabled.

The recommendation to establish a life insurance and sick benefit branch, was referred to a committee of 5 consisting of Turners Gehring, (gt, Knappe, Richter, and Ehrlich.

Instructions about national organ and literary prize questions was also turned over to a special committee consisting of Turners Bauer, Naegle and Loewenthal.

Decision about Vorort, Convention and National Turnfest was postponed.

The remaining points were disposed of as follows:

Decided, to introduce a membership card which was also a receipt for paid dues. This is a recommendation to all societies.

Decided, to instruct the Vorort to have suitable diplomas made for District Turnfests and to turn over a required amount to all districts for the cost price.

Decided, that the Vorort is empowered to contact the new organized teacher association for the purpose of uniting in working for the general interest of youth education and to work especially for the introduction of our Turning in public schools. This to be done as far as it is in harmony with the tendencies of the national organization.

Recess taken until 3:00 P. M.

J. R. Fellman, Secretary

FIFTH SESSION

TUESDAY, MAY 31 at 3 P.M.

The Convention was called to order by President Lackner. Delegates Armbruster, Best and Loewenthal were absent,

The committee for revision of Vorort's books, etc., made a complete and detailed report which was adopted:

Decided, that the present National Treasurer be requested, to have proper vouchers for the various items in his treasury book, when same is turned over to the new Vorort. If this new Treasurer finds things in proper order, then the report can be accepted.

Decided, that a standing committee on schoolbooks be appointed by the Vorort for the period of two years.

Decided, that the Vorort be instructed to send Turner insignias only when requested by the district.

Decided, that the districts pay only \$2.75 a piece for the Turner insignias which are now in use.

Decided, that the Cincinnati Turner district will be granted more time to pay up their old bill to the Turnerbund.

Decided, that the National Treasurer should attend the Conventions if at all possible.

Decided, that the affairs of the Upper Mississippi District should be settled as soon as possible by the new Vorort.

Decided, that the Convention give a vote of thanks to the Bundes Vorort their effort in the past two years.

The committee on complaints reported about the appeal from the former Turner Casper Bub, who was expelled from the Baltimore Turn Verein, After

refully examining all documents, the committee reported that this appeal should be refused. This was passed.

This same committee also made an explanation in regard to the decision of the affairs of the Utica society against the West New York District. The representatives of the district were satisfied.

The committee on platform and constitution made its report which was received and then taken up in detail for debate.

Platform and Constitution shaped up as follows:

Article 1 of the Platform remains as is.

Article 2 of the Platform is changed to read as follows:

"This Bund shall be a planting school of all ideas which come from a natural, and as such from a rational, general view of the world. The Turners will oppose every attempt to curtail the conscious freedom as well as all curtailment of human rights which do not coincide with truly humane and democratic principles."

Article 3 and 4 of the platform remained unchanged.

Paragraph 1 and 2 of the Statutes remained unchanged.

Paragraph 3 change the word "appropriate" to "admissibility."

Paragraph 4 and 5 remain unchanged.

Paragraph 6. To be added at the end: "Districts which are not represented without proper excuses, or which are not represented through other delegates, will be considered as leaving the Bund."

Paragraph 7 remains unchanged.

Paragraph 8. Change Paragraph 8 to Paragraph 10.

Paragraph 9 and 10 remain as is.

Paragraph 11 is changed as follows:

"The Turner societies are requested, for the mental advancement of their members, to have speeches, lectures, and debates at least once a month.

The Districts are requested to make a half yearly report about this paragraph and to see to it that the societies carry through its obligation. The report must include: The theme of the lectures, etc., which were given during this term, the dates and the number of members present. The Vorort is requested to have a list of lecture topics prepared and mailed to the district executives for distribution to their societies. The mailed in reports are to be organized and forwarded to the Vorort - the latter is to publish the combined report. In addition, it is the duty of all societies to work for the establishment of good German-English schools, free from any sectional tendencies. The following subjects shall be a part of the instruction: Music, singing, drawing, and our Turner system of physical education. Also to see to it that the German language will be a part of the teaching program in all public schools."

Paragraph 12 remains as is.

Paragraph 13 to be changed as given:

"Every member of the National Turner organization who is not as yet a citizen of the United States, is hereby instructed to take steps immediately to become a citizen."

Paragraph 14. The number 30 to be changed to 60.

Paragraph 15. After the word "should" in the 4th line, the following should be added: "as soon as it is known."

Paragraph 16. The word "he" in the second line is superfluous and should be stricken out.

Paragraph 17, 18 and 19 remain unchanged.

Paragraph 20 is changed as follows:

"The awards for Turner activities given by the Bund, District, or societies should consist only of diplomas and honor wreaths, and no organization shall be permitted to award money or other valuable prizes. However, it will be permitted to award such prizes for literary work. The literary prize award from a National Turnfest is to be printed in pamphlet form and copies of same is to be mailed to all Turner societies. The themes for the literary prize competition should be set up by the Vorort."

Paragraph 21 remains as is.

Paragraph 22 to be changed as follows:

"No national society shall be permitted to publish accusations against any other society or against the Vorort. If definite proof for complaints are at hand, societies are then instructed to present same to the district Vorort."

Paragraph 23, 24 and 25 remains as is.

All changes in the Platform and Constitution were made by voting of the district votes and by obtaining the necessary two-third majority.

Then recess was declared.

J. R. Fellman, Secretary

SIXTH SESSION

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1ST, 9:00 A. M.

The Convention was called to order by the President Lackner.

The following delegates were absent: Meinhardt, Schneider, Lehr, Armbruster, Froehlich, Busch, Gollmer and Loewenthal.

The minutes of the two last sessions were read and adopted.

The Committee on Platform and Constitution made the following motions which were adopted:

Resolved: That the Turnerbund is opposed to any religious sect receiving support from a State or nation in any way, shape or manner. Especially that they should receive no part of a school fund or be free from paying taxes on church property and against the use of any books on sect religion for the public schools.

Resolved: The National Turners are for the principle of obligatory schooling. The members of the Turner societies are requested to work for its adoption.

Resolved: The Vorort was instructed to have a manifestation published in regard to the above resolution.

A motion from the Revision Committee made the following two decisions:

Decided, to raise the National dues to 10 cents per member, starting January 1st, 1871.

Decided, to turn over \$250 per year to the Vorort for officers' salaries.

The Special Committee on sick and death benefits made its report, but its proposals were rejected.

Decided, that the platform of the North American Turnerbund and the manifest of the Vorort should be printed in the German and English language and distributed.

The Committee on Complaints reported about the appeal of Isaac Price, alias Preuss, about his expulsion from the Turner society from Chatsworth, Chicago District, and it was

Decided, that the society Chatsworth be requested to grant a new investigation for Turner Preuss.

The Committee on practical Turning handed in an additional report which was accepted.

Decided, the organizations who have qualified leaders should start leaders' classes and if several organizations are in one city, they should start a leaders' corps.

Decided, that the Turnteachers' Convention should be held at the time of the National Turnfest and should organize themselves during the first day of the Festival.

The Special Committee about National Affairs made its report and after a spirited debate, the following was considered by a vote of 141 against 57.

Decided, that the National organ, the "Zukunft" should be retained according to the rules laid down by the Boston Convention.

Decided, the heading "Turnerisches" in the official Turner organ should be changed to "Official Part."

Decided, with 93 against 52 votes, that the Vorort should remain in New York.

Decided, to request the New York District to re-elect the first two officers.

Decided, to hold the next Convention in Louisville, Kentucky.

Decided, to hold the next Turnfest in Williamsburg, New York.

Decided, to urge all societies who are having Festivals, to conduct same in a purely Turner style.

The Convention was informed of the death of Turner Bernhardt Domschke and the following resolution was adopted by a quiet rising vote:

Resolved, that the delegates of the Fourth National Convention of the North American Turnerbund assembled at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, May 29 to June 1, 1870, view the passing of Turner Bernhardt Domschke with deepest sympathy and regret and further

Resolved, that we express to his family our partaking in their loss and

Resolved, that a copy of this resolution with the request that it be printed in the paper, be forwarded to the Milwaukee Herald, the deceased having been its chief editor until his death. Also a copy be sent to the District Vorort of the Wisconsin District.

Decided, that the delegates of this Convention express to the Pittsburg Turner Society and to the German citizens of the city, our sincere thanks for their friendly reception and hospitality which we received during our stay.

Decided, to say thank you to the officers of this Convention.

Decided, to have H. Metzner and the Secretary edit the minutes of this Convention in a way that same can be printed as the official minutes.

Recess followed until 3:00 P.M.

J. R. Fellman, Secretary

LAST SESSION

The Convention was called to order by President Lackner.

The following delegates were absent: Meinhardt, Stecher, Naegele, Steinmetz, Best, Graeser and Loewenthal.

The minutes of the last session were read and adopted.

Recess sine die.

J. R. Fellman, Secretary