

*Official Minutes of the*  
**Forty-First Convention**

*of the*



Held at  
**Athenaeum Turners**  
Indianapolis, Indiana

*August 30, 1946 to September 1, 1946*

## FIRST SESSION OF THE CONVENTION Friday, August 30, 1946

This session was called to order in the Ballroom of the Athenaeum Turners, Indianapolis, Ind. at 2:30 P.M. by President Carl M. Weideman.

President Weideman first asked the audience to rise and sing the National Anthem.

He then announced that, in accordance with procedure at previous conventions, he had appointed a Credentials Committee with instructions that they meet at 11:00 o'clock preceding the Convention and formulate their report. He stated that this committee consisted of Herman Eisele, Chairman, and all of the Regional Directors of the American Turners, of whom the following were present at the time set for the meeting of the Credentials Committee: Edward L. Hohenstein, Edward Groth, Wm. J. Kramer, Louis O. Greiner, John M. Stocker and Lester H. Dau.

Upon inquiry from President Weideman, Edward L. Hohenstein, Secretary of this Committee, stated that the preparation of the report was in process but had not been completed.

President Weideman then submitted his Annual Message as follows:

### ANNUAL REPORT OF PRESIDENT CARL M. WEIDEMAN

To the FORTY-FIRST CONVENTION of the AMERICAN TURNERS at Indianapolis, Indiana:

As we are convening in the city of Indianapolis, Indiana, I wish to express our appreciation to the Athenaeum Turners of Indianapolis for the excellent program which they have undertaken and for their extension of the wonderful spirit of Turner hospitality that this society always shows.

In this, our first post-war Convention, your National Executive Committee comes here with a great feeling of enthusiasm and hope that the immediate future will witness a growth in both our numbers and the character of our society facilities. Especially noteworthy has been the interest shown by our returned youth. In many societies, where they have participated in the operation and direction of the Turn Vereins, renewed enthusiasm and a growth in membership has been shown.

In the past year I have visited all the Turner Societies on the Pacific Coast (with the exception of Seattle), Kansas City, many societies in the mid-west and spent a week in the New England District. We have had our annual round table conference at National Headquarters during the past winter at which every region was represented. This round table conference was held in conjunction with the National Technical Committee for the first time. Your President has attended many conferences and meetings in various cities in our national federation. I have come to this conclusion concerning the future status of the Turner Movement in America and the hope for its future.

(1) In those cities where the older Turners refuse to allow or encourage youth to participate in the operation of the society, there is a gradual weakening and dying out of those Turner societies. If these so-called elders could only attend our National Convention, they would get a different picture of the Turner Movement. They seem to be so firmly entrenched in their local societies that they are re-elected to control year after year. I call upon our returned youth to become active in their respective societies, and to get more younger members into the societies. I call upon them to strive to get elected to local office to institute some of the changes which the National Committee recommends and which we believe will mean the salvation of many societies and the preservation of their property and the carrying on of Turnerism in a manner to make Turners proud to belong to our organization.

(2) I have found that those societies whose governing boards refuse to raise the annual society dues are among the declining societies in our organization. The societies that charge their members a reasonable amount per annum for dues are flourishing. Those that insist on charging only three dollars are living in Turn Halls that generally are not being conducted as a Turner society should be. They have no full-time instructor, no educational program and no social or youth program. In those societies which charge their members a reasonable amount for their dues, sufficient income is gained so that a full-time physical director can be employed. The highest society dues per year are those at Detroit which is thirty-six dollars per year including tax. Included in the upper bracket are the societies at Cleveland, Indianapolis, Rochester, St. Louis and some other societies. An examination of buildings owned by these societies and of the facilities, courses and program offered for its members is so far in advance of our societies paying smaller dues that there is no comparison. I recommend that these societies that are paying only three dollars per year dues per member raise their dues immediately to ten dollars and use the difference to employ a full-time instructor. Many societies claim that they cannot afford to pay an instructor. Here is a method to test your loyalty to Turnerism: raise your dues and allocate the additional dues collected for the payment of an instructor.

The Turner Movement is definitely on the up-grade. We have maintained our membership during this war and I am confident that in the next five years we will have a considerable increase in our numbers.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PAST YEAR:

During the past year your National Executive Committee has accomplished these things.

(1) The establishment of a Leaders' Course of the American Turners. This course was held at Cleveland from July 1-13 under the direction of Professors Carl Hein and Therese Pletz. Your President was present at the graduation exercises and spent a full day watching the operation of the school. I have never witnessed such capable teaching and more willing students during my entire experience in the Turner Movement. The youth, whom the various societies sent to study in this Leaders' Course, were among the most enthusiastic, cleanest and intelligent group of young people that I have ever seen.

(2) We are presenting to this Convention a recommendation of a pension or retirement plan for the Turner employees of every society in which participation is optional. We believe that this plan fills a long felt need to provide retirement funds for our trusted and faithful employees.

(3) We are presenting to this Convention, for the first time, the series of picture slides depicting the history, purposes, aims and meaning of the Turner organization. This lecture was prepared under the direction of Turner Waldemar Eickhoff, National Chairman of this special project. He has made a wonderful contribution to Turnerism. The use of this projector-slide history of Turnerism should allow any Turner to make an intelligent speech on Turnerism to be used for the education of our new members and for the securing of new members. We urge each district or society to purchase this course of lecture slides.

(4) We have had a round table meeting for the first time of our regional members and our members of the National Technical Committee. This round table discussion has kept in contact with our local societies and has helped in the intelligent administration and forming our program.

(5) Your national bowling tournament was re-established. This will be one of our annual events in the future. The South Bend Society is to be complimented for its excellent supervision. Our National Champions of bowling are the South Side Turners of St. Louis. Who will win next year?

(6) Your National Committee has continued its scholarships to the Normal College of the A. G. U. of Indiana University. This has been a worthwhile project and an inducement to some of our younger Turners to get into the physical education field.

(7) Your National Executive Committee has appointed Mrs. Therese Pletz, one of the ablest teachers of physical education for women, as special consultant to the National Technical Committee. This is the first time that a woman has been a member of this committee. We wonder why we have overlooked this for so long. The work which Mrs. Pletz did in the preparation for the course of instruction for the Leaders' Course has been tremendous. Her direction of physical education for women is progressive and very far in advance of the field. We are proud that she is one of our Turner teachers.

(8) Two free issues of Turner Topics have been sent free to every member of each local society; this has cost the American Turners \$1,700.00.

(9) National dues have been cancelled for every Turner during the entire time they have been in the Armed Forces or the merchant marine of the United States. We believe that every local society has also cancelled its dues.

(10) Turner Topics have been sent free to every service man or woman during the entire period of their service.

(11) Turner Topics have been sent to every known camp or Training Station during the duration of the war.

## PROPOSALS FOR THE COMING YEAR:

- (1) Should a committee be appointed to make a study as to whether or not our present method of organization should be changed?
  - (a) Should we be incorporated?
  - (b) Should the American Turners enlarge its authority so that it be able to own, operate and manage real estate?
  - (c) Should the National Body advise a greater control and supervision over the local organization?
- (2) Should a uniform system of accounting be recommended for the use of the various societies?
- (3) Should this Convention request the Jahn Fund to establish and give prizes for the best plans submitted for a model building or buildings to house Turn Vereins of various sizes?
- (4) Should a minimum payment of dues be recommended to various local societies?
- (5) Should an attempt be made to standardize and establish a more uniform set of constitutions and by-laws for the local societies?
- (6) Member societies should be urged to function more fully as Turner institutions.
  - (a) All societies should operate their gymnasiums immediately.
  - (b) Cultural and educational activities must be renewed at once.
  - (c) Planned social programs for all the family must be instituted at once.
- (7) Active voting membership should be made available for the unmarried women over twenty-one years of age. There is nothing in our statutes to prohibit this. We should encourage more women to become members as part of our community program; so as to give young women a decent place for their associations with other people.
- (8) We must prepare now for our 1948 National Tournament which will be the celebration of our hundredth birthday. Should registration tickets be made available for sale as soon as possible to our members throughout the United States? The money so obtained from the sale of registrations for our National Tournament should be impounded in a trust fund. Such monies will make possible the planning and payment of our expense of our one hundredth Anniversary Celebration.
- (9) Our annual gymnastics volley ball and bowling tournaments should be continued.
  - (a) A series of district meets should be held in volley ball and gymnastics and the winners in district competition shall compete for our national championships at a place to be arranged.

- (b) A national bowling committee will be appointed who will have charge of the next tournament. The place and date of the tournament shall be in the hands of the societies no later than November 1.
- (10) Where conditions are possible for the building of a new Turn hall (a) should the National Executive Committee be enabled to loan such sums as may seem fit to it to advance for such a program or (b) shall the Jahn Fund be asked to help in a building program or (c) should contributions be asked for a National Building Fund?
- (11) Should the American Turners acquire a piece of lake property to be owned entirely by the National Body for the establishment of its Leaders' Course; and should the property be made available for the erection of over-night cottages for such Turners as may visit with the title of this property remaining in the hands of the society; and to provide that no building be erected until funds are available?
- (12) I would recommend that the Jahn Educational Fund offer a prize for the best essay on a subject such as:  
 "I believe the paramount objective of Turner Societies in the Post-War Era should be———"  
 or "How can Turner Societies better their standing in their local community and increase their membership?"
- (13) We have been talking about a model Turnverein that can be cheaply constructed, easily maintained and will suit our needs. I am placing on exhibit for your approval sketches which I have had prepared. The National Executive Committee would like your plans or improvements. Let's see what you can do. If the Jahn Fund offers a prize for the best plan, you may win it.

I believe that every Turn Hall, in the future, in addition to providing for the usual gymnasium and volley ball facilities, should provide for bowling alleys as they attract a good class of participants and some physical and recreational outlet for persons who no longer desire to actively participate in the gymnasium. In addition to this, a bowling alley is a constant source of revenue to supplement the other revenue of the societies.

Your National Executive Committee has derived much satisfaction from the fact that our returned veterans are interested more than ever in the principles of Turnerism and are actively engaging in the building up of the various societies. While final figures have not been available, your Committee feels safe in saying that less than five per cent of the Turners were rejected for service in the armed forces as against a national average among the rest of the citizens of a rejection of forty-two per cent. But this does not tell the whole story of the benefits that Turnerism has given to our youth. Of those in service, fully seventy-five per cent were commissioned or non-commissioned officers. This proves that we

do teach leadership and that our Turner boys and girls have benefitted directly from the Turner teaching.

In October, 1937, when the Lake Erie District was given the custody of the National Executive Committee, we had a few hundred dollars in cash and liabilities of approximately twenty thousand dollars. Today, after having paid for the cost of our Leaders' Course, there remains cash on hand in the amount of approximately thirty thousand dollars. In view of the fact that five of these years have been war years, we are proud to report the healthy condition of our national treasury.

In 1937 our records showed 20,845 members; by 1943 our records showed 15,560 dues paying members. One of the reasons for the decline was the World War II, but the chief reason was the institutions of National membership cards as directed by the Moline Convention of 1942. When societies turned in their own reports they were inclined to inflate their figures, as a matter of pride, but memberships dwindled with the new system of collecting per capita tax. Today our membership, including service members, 50 year honorary and regular members, numbers 24,065, the highest in years. All of these members hold our National Membership card. We are definitely on the upgrade now that we have a plan of operation and certain definite aims and purposes for the future of Turnerism.

#### TURNER TOPICS:

It is regrettable that more of our members do not see fit to pay fifty cents per year for our national publication American Turner Topics. You would become better versed in our aims and principles if you became a subscriber. I wish each of you would personally secure additional subscriptions to Turner Topics.

I want to thank each and every member of the National Executive Committee, our regional members and all district and local officers for their splendid cooperation during the trying years just past. I want to thank our individual Turners for standing by and helping. Also, I appreciate the valuable and conscientious work done by our office secretary, Miss Elizabeth Unti. Our great opportunity to spread Turnerism in America is at hand now. Today is the time to build.

With Turner Greetings,

CARL M. WEIDEMAN,

National President

The President's Report and his amplifying remarks were received with enthusiastic applause.

President Weideman then asked whether the report of the Credentials Committee had been completed during the submission of his report and Edward L. Hohensein, Secretary of the Credentials Committee, responded in the affirmative and submitted the report of his committee as follows:

## REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

To the 41st Convention of the American Turners:  
Greetings:

We hereby submit our report including data covering the Federal Votes, attendance and names of delegates and alternates of the several Districts.

The total number of districts in the American Turners is 18.

The total number of Federal Votes in the American Turners is 239.

The total number of Districts represented is 14.

The total number of Federal Votes represented at the convention is 230.

The number of delegates present as indicated in the Credentials is 170 representing 230 Federal Votes. The total number of alternates present at the convention is 3.

In accordance with the above, the number of votes to which the Districts are entitled at this Convention, and the delegates and alternates listed on the credentials received and present at the Convention are as follows:

DISTRICT	VOTES	DELEGATES	ALTERNATES
Central States . . . . .	26	25	
Illinois . . . . .	14	10	
Kansas-Missouri . . . . .	1	1	
Lake Erie . . . . .	32	27	
Middle Atlantic . . . . .	11	3	
Middle Pacific . . . . .	1	1	
Minnesota . . . . .	1	1	
New England . . . . .	18	5	
New Jersey . . . . .	5	0	
New York . . . . .	9	4	
North Pacific . . . . .	1	0	
Pittsburgh . . . . .	44	38	
St. Louis . . . . .	9	9	3
South Central . . . . .	2	0	
Southern California . . . . .	1	0	
Upper Mississippi . . . . .	43	32	
Western New York . . . . .	16	10	
Wisconsin . . . . .	5	4	
Totals . . . . .	239	170	3

The names of the delegates and alternates present from the Districts are as follows:

#### CENTRAL STATES:

Hiram D. Keehn	Dr. C. B. Spath, Sr.	Erwin F. Richter
Louis S. Hensley	Joseph Weissmueller	Edward T. Holtman
Fred O. Martin	Edward Groth	George Wahnsiedler
Charles E. Hess	Carl A. Nuetzel	Fred Olt
John L. Lennox	Fred W. Weigel	Chas. Cammerer
Clare F. Falkner	Curt Toll	Harry C. Roberts
Carl E. Most	Frank Scholl	Clifford Kinsey
Garfield Seibert	James F. Allanson	Richard F. Hug
	Harry S. Grabner	

#### ILLINOIS:

L. O. Greiner	Wm. Modrow	Emil O. Wirth
Rudy Koenig	Wm. A. Binz	Allen G. Kollman
Theo A. Gross	Christ Bleidistel	Walter T. Meisner
	Jos. A. Strohmeyer	

#### KANSAS-MISSOURI:

A. F. Goetz

#### LAKE ERIE:

Fred G. Folberth	Herman A. Bertelsbeck	Geo. M. Heeschen
Alvin R. Steinke	Bruno Uhl	Thomas Fogarty
John Kovats	Richard C. Byrne	Helmuth C. Hohman
Jack F. Nickels	Frank G. Lapinskas	Harry W. Warnken
Carl F. Hein	Fred C. Fauss	Elton L. Nold
Henry G. Ihnen	Edmund Koepfner	Marshall F. Troester
Herman Eisele	Frank Eiler	Randall Davidson
J. J. Zimmerman	Al Krause	Herman Vollman
George Foerster	Herman Kauffmann	Therese Pletz

#### MIDDLE ATLANTIC:

Fred E. Foertsch	August C. Andre	Stephen H. Reskovitz
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#### MIDDLE PACIFIC:

Wm. J. Diefenbach

#### MINNESOTA:

Albert Steinhauser

#### NEW ENGLAND:

Julius A. Laffert	Herman Bochmann	John Miller
Helmut H. Kopp	Walter J. Miller	

#### NEW JERSEY:

None

#### NEW YORK:

Martin Nolde	Henry W. Schroeder	Alfred F. Kierschner
	Bob Stahl	

## NORTH PACIFIC:

None

## PITTSBURGH:

Joseph Voelker	A. Herman Niehaus	Daniel Mathes
Albert P. Goetz	William J. Kramer	Herbert A. Floss
Ira Rhodes	Clifford Anderson	Robert Pritchard
Richard Turnt	George S. Reichenbach	Wm. C. Zell
Henry Hild	George H. Nenstiel	Carl Steinkopf
Wm. Rosengarth	James Repine	Wm. T. Keyer
John Rotzsch	Wm. Voelker	Charles A. Geber
Eugene Horn	V. Ward Fyke	Herman Schubert
Oscar N. Simmen	Harry Shook	Edward C. Foster
J. Webster Seigh	Paul E. Phillips	Walter Thompson
Henry Miksch	Richard Lucht	Andrew Kohary
Wm. F. Bechtel	John Munch	Joseph Hank
George Seibel	Paul Brauer	

## ST. LOUIS:

Otto C. Nerl	Eugene C. Stifel	Arthur B. Gude
Elmer R. Crook	John A. Westermeyer	Mike Sendlein
Hallock C. Reisel	Ed Endicott	Edw. L. Hohenstein

### *Alternates:*

Otto Eckl, Sr.	Otto Eckl, Jr.	Herman Kreinbohn
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## SOUTH CENTRAL:

None

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA:

None

## UPPER MISSISSIPPI:

L. N. Swanson	Lester H. Dau	Theo R. Stenger
Ray Huth	Dave Henschen	Fritz Degen
George Hamilton	Edward C. Bresler	Harry J. Best
Vern Thorngren	Forest James	Frank E. Benton
Al Lehne	Henry Schiget	Edwin Licht
Bernard Wahe	Frank W. Boyler	T. E. Koehler
Arthur Kneberg	Harry Erickson	Fred Largent
Siewert Struck	Frank Jenkins	Otto A. Jessen
John Mohr	George Anderson	Emil Burzlaff
Fred J. Bifano	Ray DePorter	J. P. Ernst
	Joe Becker	
	William Klier	

## WESTERN NEW YORK:

John M. Stocker	Wilfred McCarthy	Edward Gangloff
George Jacqun	Fritz Nicke	Miss Emma Gerstner
Andrew Lascari	Robert V. Hall	Mrs. John M. Stocker
	Ollie Pasch	

## WISCONSIN:

Fred L. Bartels      Werner W. Schaerff      Anthony King  
   Wm. H. Beutel

In addition to the above delegates and alternates, the following members of the National Executive Committee are present:

Carl M. Weideman      Emil L. Pletz      Charles L. Miller  
Joseph A. Eckel      William M. Ludwig      Karl E. Schaltenbrand  
   Archie H. Wilson

### *Regional Directors present:*

Julius A. Laffert      John M. Stocker      Lester H. Dau  
Bob Stahl      Louis O. Greiner      William J. Kramer  
Edward Groth      E. L. Hohenstein

Respectfully submitted with Turner Greetings,

Herman Eisele, Chairman  
Edw. L. Hohenstein, Secretary  
L. O. Greiner  
Edw. Groth  
John M. Stocker  
Wm. J. Kramer  
Lester H. Dau

A motion was made and seconded that the report of the Credentials Committee, as revised, be adopted. This motion was carried and the listed delegates were declared by President Weideman to be duly authorized delegates entitled to seat, voice and vote at this 41st National Convention.

Turner Edward L. Hohenstein of the St. Louis District presented the following resolution:

Whereas, due to the uncertainty of the duration of the war, travel and hotel conditions, and the unwillingness of any Turner Society to assume the great responsibility on a short notice; and whereas the Athenaeum Turners of Indianapolis, Indiana did agree to be hosts to this Forty-first Convention of the American Turners for the period from August 30, 1946 to September 2, 1946; be it hereby resolved that this convention assembled in the City of Indianapolis, Indiana on August 30, 1946, be designated as the Official 41st Convention of the American Turners, with authority to act on such matters as come before it for attention and to recommend such resolutions or adopt such laws and statutes as it may deem proper in the interest of the furtherance of the Turner Movement and in the interest of the American Turners.

Turner Hohenstein moved the adoption of this resolution. The motion was seconded and the motion to adopt the resolution was unanimously carried by voice vote of the convention.

President Weideman hereupon directed that the next order of business of the Convention would be the election of a Chairman of the Convention, whereupon Turner Carl B. Spath, President of the Athen-

aem Turners of the Central States District, was nominated by President J. J. Zimmerman of the Lake Erie District. This nomination was seconded by spokesmen for several other Districts. Turner William Voelker of the Pittsburgh District was then nominated; but Turner Voelker gratefully declined. There being no further nominations, a motion was made that the nominations be closed which was unanimously carried, and Turner Sputh was elected Chairman of the Convention by acclamation.

Turner Sputh thanked the Convention cordially for the courtesy extended and stated that he would conduct the proceedings as expeditiously as possible.

Chairman Sputh then directed that the next order of business would be the election of a Vice-Chairman of the Convention, in response to which Turner Walter T. Meisner of the Illinois District was nominated. This nomination was promptly seconded and, there being no further nominations, a motion was made to close the nominations, whereupon Turner Meisner was unanimously elected Vice-Chairman of the Convention.

The Chairman then asked for nominations for Secretary of the Convention, in response to which Herman Eisele of the Lake Erie District was nominated, and, there being no further nominations, was declared elected Secretary of the Convention.

The Chairman then called for nominations for Assistant Secretary of the Convention, whereupon Turner Fred Olt of the Central States District was nominated and promptly and unanimously elected.

At this point, Chairman Sputh made several important announcements relating to the entertainment features provided for the delegates of the convention.

The Chairman then appointed Dave Henschen, Theo. A. Gross and Albert Steinhauser to serve as a committee to extend greetings and wishes for a successful convention to the Fourteenth Biennial Convention of the Women's Auxiliary of the American Turners, which Convention was meeting simultaneously at the Athenaeum Turners.

A suggestion was then made from the floor that Honorary Chairmen be elected. Chairman Sputh accepted this suggestion and asked for nominations for Honorary Chairmen for the Convention, whereupon the following Turners were nominated in succession: George Seibel, Past President of the American Turners, a delegate from the Pittsburgh District; Franklin Vonnegut, representing the Central States District; William Diefenbach of the Middle Pacific District and Eugene C. Stifel of the St. Louis District.

These Turners, except Turner Vonnegut, were escorted to the speakers table and were enthusiastically applauded. Turner Vonnegut was expected to be present later in the session.

The Chairman then recognized Edward L. Hohenstein who presented the report prepared by the Credentials Committee on assignments of delegates to Committees:

## REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

To the 41st Convention of the American Turners,  
Greetings:

This Committee has prepared a list of assignments of the Delegates to the various Committees of the Convention, compiled from the preferences indicated on the credentials submitted by the District Officers, these assignments being as follows:

### COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL AFFAIRS:

Emil O. Wirth	George Wahnsiedler	Thomas Fogarty
Louis S. Hensley	Dr. C. B. Spath, Sr.	J. J. Zimmerman
Fred Olt	Walter T. Meisner	Marshall F. Troester
Edw. Groth	Wm. J. Diefenbach	John Mohr
L. O. Greiner	Albert Steinhauser	Frank E. Benton
Theo. A. Gross	A. Herman Niehaus	Ed Licht
Christ Bleidistel	Clifford Anderson	T. E. Koehler
Fred G. Folberth	James F. Allanson	George Jacquin
A. F. Goetz	Stephen H. Reskovitz	John M. Stocker
August C. Andre	Jos. P. Ernest	Ollie Pasch
Wm. J. Kramer	Jos. Voelker	Fred L. Bartels
Richard Turnt	Otto C. Nerl	Anthony King
Robert Pritchard	John Miller	Harry Shook
Wm. C. Zell	H. Kreibohn	Herman Schubert
Wm. Voelker	Julius A. Laffert	George Seibel
Paul E. Phillips	Frank E. Eiler	L. N. Swanson
Andrew Kohary	Helmut H. Kopp	Frank Jenkins
Joseph Hank	Martin Nolde	Edward C. Bresler
Ray Huth	John A. Westermeyer	Harry J. Best
George Hamilton	Arthur B. Gude	Rudy Koenig
Richard F. Hug	Alvin R. Steinke	Allen E. Kollman
Al Lehne	Jack F. Nickels	
Carl M. Weideman and William Ludwig, Ex Officio.		

### COMMITTEE ON PHYSICAL EDUCATION:

Fred O. Martin	Jos. Weissmueller	Herman Kauffman
Frank Scholl	John L. Lennox	Geo. M. Heeschen
Clark Toll	Walter Thompson	Richard C. Byrne
Clifford Kinsey	Otto Eckl, Sr.	Harry W. Warnken
Wm. Modrow	Otto Eckl, Jr.	Helmuth C. Hohman
Wm. A. Binz	Harry S. Grabner	Fred J. Bifano
Fred E. Foertsch	Harry C. Roberts	Forest James
Elton L. Nold	Ray Huth	George S. Reichenbach
Dave Henschen	Fritz Nicke	Henry Schiget
Otto A. Jessen	Herbert A. Floss	Oscar N. Simmen
Albert B. Goetz	Bob Stahl	J. Webster Seigh
Richard Lucht	Henry W. Schroeder	George Anderson
Chas. A. Geber	Elmer R. Crook	Wm. Klier

COMMITTEE ON PHYSICAL EDUCATION, cont.

Ray DePorter	Mike Sendlein	Andrew Lascari
Siewert Struck	Hallock C. Reisel	Emil L. Pletz, Ex Officio
Therese Pletz	Carl F. Hein	

COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PUBLICATION  
AND PUBLICITY

Chas. E. Hess	Al Krause	Edmund Koepfner
Irwin F. Richter	Jos. A. Strohmeyer	Eugene Horn
Fred W. Weigel	James Repine	Herman Bochmann
Henry Miksch	John Rotzsch	
Karl Schaltenbrand, Ex Officio		

COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL EDUCATION:

Hiram D. Keehn	Alfred F. Kierschner	Fritz Degen
Chas. Cammerer	Herman A. Bertelsbeck	Frank W. Boyler
Paul Brauer	Frank G. Lapinskas	George Foerster
Daniel Mathes	Edward Gangloff	Herman Vollman
Fred C. Fauss	Joe Becker	
Joseph A. Eckel, Ex Officio		

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Garfield Seibert	Edw. T. Holtman	Harry Erickson
Clare F. Falkner	Edw. L. Hohenstein	Henry G. Ihsen
Wm. Rosengarth	Arthur Kneberg	Eugene C. Stifel
Carl Steinkopf	V. Ward Fyke	Henry Hild
Theo. R. Stenger	Edward C. Foster	Wm. H. Beutel
	Wm. F. Bechtel	
Archie H. Wilson, Ex Officio		

COMMITTEE ON PLATFORM, STATUTES  
AND GRIEVANCES:

Carl E. Most	Werner W. Schaerff	Walter J. Miller
Bruno Uhl	Ira Rhodes	Randall Davidson
Jos. Voelker	Wilfred McCarthy	Robert V. Hall
John Munch	Ed Endicott	Edw. L. Hohenstein
Geo. H. Nenstiel	Bernard Wahe	Carl A. Nuetzel
Wm. T. Keyer	Lester H. Dau	Vern Thorngren
John Kovats	Fred Largent	Emil Burzlaff
Charles L. Miller, Ex Officio		

Respectfully submitted with Turner Greetings,

Herman Eisele, Chairman  
Edw. L. Hohenstein, Secretary  
Louis O. Greiner  
Edward Groth  
John M. Stocker  
Wm. Kramer  
Lester H. Dau

Upon motion made, seconded and carried, this report, as revised, was adopted by the convention, and the delegates listed on the different committees were declared to be the official members of the respective committees.

A Committee from the Women's Auxiliary of the American Turners was welcomed by Turner Sputh. This Committee consisting of Mrs. Laura Olt, Mrs. Robert Fenske and Mrs. Dave Henschen extended cordial greetings to the convention and expressed their willingness to cooperate in any manner possible for the advancement of the Turner cause.

Turner Weidemen stated that the National Executive Committee would submit a resolution to the Committee on National Affairs relating to the financing of the Leaders Course, in which the cooperation of the Women's Auxiliary is intended to be solicited and he suggested that a special committee be appointed to submit this matter to the Convention of the Women's Auxiliary for its consideration. In harmony with this suggestion, Chairman Sputh appointed the following delegates to serve on this Committee: Fred G. Folberth, of the Lake Erie District; Otto Jessen, of the Upper Mississippi District; John M. Stocker, of the Western New York District, and Carl M. Weideman, Ex-Officio.

The National Secretary, Emil L. Pletz, submitted his 95th and 96th Annual Report in printed form in the "95th and 96th Annual Report of the National Executive Committee" covering the period from Jan. 1, 1944 to Jan. 1, 1946.

The National Treasurer, Archie H. Wilson, then submitted, to the Convention, his report for the year ending Dec. 31, 1945, certified by F. J. and W. A. Wolf, Public Accountants, which report was directed to be received and referred to the Finance Committee of the Convention by vote of the Convention.

A resolution relating to the regulation of debate at this Convention was then submitted as follows:

Delegates will be permitted to speak for not more than three minutes at any one time, and no delegate will be permitted to speak more than twice on the same subject, except by permission of the Convention. These regulations shall not apply to delegates submitting reports, who may speak as often as occasion requires to answer questions and may also have the floor after debate is closed.

A motion was made for the adoption of this resolution which was seconded. An amendment was made to this resolution, changing the time allowed each speaker from three minutes to ten minutes. This amendment was seconded. After some debate, this amendment was defeated and the original resolution was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

The Chairmen then suggested that Roberts Rules of Order would govern the deliberations of the convention for contingencies for which the statutes did not provide. There being no objection, the Chairman so ordered.

A motion was then made that, when we adjourn, we adjourn to re-convene at the call of the Chairman.

The Special Committee consisting of Turners Folberth, Jessen, Stocker and Weideman reported that they had submitted to the Convention of the Women's Auxiliary, the proposal relating to the financing of activities in connection with the Leaders' Course.

A motion was then made, seconded that the Convention adjourn. This motion was carried and Chairman Sputh declared the first session of this Convention adjourned at 4:55 P.M.

## **INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS OF THE NORMAL COLLEGE OF THE AMERICAN GYMNAS TIC UNION OF INDIANA UNIVERSITY BY**

DR. W. W. PATTY

Dean of School of Health, Physical Education and  
Recreation of Indiana University and

MRS. CLARA HESTER

Assistant Professor of Physical Education  
Indiana University

Immediately following the adjournment of the first session of the Convention, the delegates to the 14th Biennial Convention of the Women's Auxiliary joined the delegates of the 41st National Convention of the American Turners.

This assembly was presided over by Turner Carl B. Sputh and was privileged to hear addresses by Dr. W. W. Patty, Dean of the School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation of Indiana University and Mrs. Clara Hester, Assistant Professor of Physical Education of Indiana University.

Dean Patty briefly recited the history of physical educational work at Indiana University prior to the time when cooperation with the Normal College was effected in 1933. He reviewed the eight years of pleasant relations between Indiana University and the Normal College of the American Gymnastic Union from 1933 to 1941 during which these two institutions cooperated in a working agreement. He referred to the events leading to the completion of the affiliation between Indiana University and the Normal College in 1941 and discussed the developments from that time to the present and advised the assembly that the Normal College now constituted one of the seven schools of the University. Dr. Patty pointed out that, while this was not the largest school of this type in the country, it was certainly one of the best.

He stated that changes and improvements in the curriculum had been effected particularly in the sciences of physical education, physiology and hygiene. He reviewed the list of various departments and briefly described the character of the work done in each.

He enumerated the list and type of instructors of the Normal College and pointed out their specialized ability, each in his particular department.

He told of the pleasant relationship with the Normal College students and enthusiastically referred to the many students who had entered the Normal College from the various Turner societies.

At the conclusion of Dean Patty's very interesting and enlightening address, Dr. Sputh introduced Mrs. Clara Hester.

Mrs. Hester pointed out the advantages which had accrued to the Normal College from its affiliation with Indiana University. Among the advantages mentioned were the fact that the graduates were receiving a much better and broader academic education than had been possible under the separate existence and the fact that Indiana University graduates are able to meet strict teacher license requirements in most states in the union.

Mrs. Hester further pointed out that this affiliation brought greater security to the teachers and instructors of the college. She stated that the Normal College graduates are now receiving greater recognition in the State of Indiana. She further pointed out that Indiana University was in no way restricting the subject matter taught to the students.

Mrs. Hester further stressed the fact that the Normal College is still preparing and producing instructors particularly well qualified and specially instructed for taking charge of classes in Turner Societies. She stated that Turner societies are not sending as many students as they should and she urged that they send good students if they want good teachers. She also urged increases in salaries for Turner instructors comparable to public school salaries, and security, as inducements to get graduates into Turner Societies. She said that another element which sometimes discouraged graduates teaching in Turner Societies was the insistence on the part of the Societies to adherence to traditional types of Turner Activities. Instructors do not have the freedom to teach up-to-date activities in accordance with up-to-date methods. She stated that one of the factors upon which the future of the Normal College would depend was the support of Turner Societies and she asked that all Turners continue to give their wholehearted support to the Normal College.

After the conclusion of Mrs. Hester's interesting address, Dean Patty made the point that special students from Turner Societies would be accepted by Indiana University for special training in any particular subjects and that these special students might combine broad educational subjects with intensive special training in Normal College subjects.

Dr. Sputh thanked the speakers and introduced President Carl M. Weideman of the American Turners.

Turner Weideman stated that he had full confidence in the ability and sincere intentions of Indiana University to carry on physical education in the Normal College in accordance with the best traditions and ideals of the Turners. He promised on behalf of the American Turners continued cooperation and support for the Normal College and promised to do everything possible to encourage the sending of more students from Turner Societies. He expressed great pleasure at the fact that the graduates are trained for and accepted by schools all over the country as well as being trained for Turner Societies.

He closed by stating: "We shall make progress with the help of Indiana University. We shall help you and you will help us."

## SECOND SESSION

### Saturday Afternoon, August 31, 1946

The second session was called to order by Chairman Carl B. Sputh in the Ballroom of the Athenaeum Turners at 3:10 P.M.

The Minutes of the First Session of the Convention were read and approved as read.

The Chairman then recognized Turner George Seibel of the Pittsburgh District who described a charter for a group of ten Turners which Turner Rudy Koenig of the Illinois District had promoted and organized, this group being known as a Jahn Club.

Turner Seibel submitted the Charter of this Jahn Club which defined the aims, objects and purposes of this Club as follows:

#### CHARTER OF THE JAHN CLUB

The Jahn Club is formed for the advancement and perpetuation of those principles and ideals advocated by the founding fathers of the American Turners. Those principles and ideals are Liberty, Justice, and Enlightenment. Our program is to think and to act in the spirit of the "Fundamental Principles" of the American Turners. We pledge our support to the Jahn Educational Fund, to make its activities better known to Turners and Turner Societies, to augment the Fund and increase its usefulness, to promote the unity of friendship among our group, so that we will think and act for the greatest good of the greatest number. That is Turnerism in the spirit of its founder, Father Jahn.

The undersigned ten charter members of the first Jahn Club invite similar groups of ten to organize in Districts or Societies and to join with us in realizing our aims and objects as Turners.

Robert Fenske  
Wm. Modrow  
Robt. Briskorn  
Ed. Raith  
Chas. Weber

Rudy Koenig  
Louis O. Greiner  
Frank Holoubek  
Bernard Brockmann  
Wm. Binz

Turner Seibel urged other similar groups to organize under similar charters to the end that the ideals of Turnerism might be attained.

The Chair then recognized Turner Richard Turnt of the Pittsburgh District and a trustee of the Jahn Fund, who called attention to the fact that printed folders had been distributed which set forth the provisions of the Declaration of Trust and the list of subscribers to the Jahn Fund and urged those who had not subscribed to contribute.

The Secretary of the Convention then read the following messages:

Telegram from McKeesport, Pa.:

"Best wishes for a successful and an enjoyable Convention, Turner Greetings." C. J. Kemper, Secretary McKeesport Turners.

Letter from Honolulu:

"Please present to the National Convention of the American Turners very best wishes for a successful Convention. With kindest regards to all old friends. With Turner Greetings," William A. Stecher.

Telegram from Kansas City, Mo.:

"Greetings and best wishes for success to the 41st Convention of the American Turners." Kansas City Turners, C. V. Bremer, President.

Letter from The Denver Turnverein:

"Please accept our greetings and good wishes for a successful Convention to promote further the interests of our National Turner Movement, together with the assurance that we stand wholeheartedly behind the American Turners. Please extend our invitation to the National President to be our guest of honor on the occasion of our 80th Anniversary to be held this October—the definite date of this affair to be announced shortly. Convey also an invitation to all Turner Societies to attend the celebration of our 80th Anniversary.

Turner Greetings,

W. W. Godel, Secretary  
Denver Turnverein."

Chairman Sputh then announced that the Convention was ready to receive reports of the different Committees of the Convention and called for the report of the Finance Committee. This report was presented to the Convention by the Chairman of this Committee, Clare F. Falkner, as follows:

### **REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

To the 41st Convention of the American Turners  
Greetings:

The Finance Committee met with the following members present: Chairman, Clare F. Falkner; Secretary, William F. Bechtel, Garfield Seibert, Edward T. Holtman, Edward L. Hohenstein, Wm. Rosengarth, Carl Steinkopf, V. Ward Fyke, Edward C. Foster, Harry Erickson, Henry G. Ihsen, Eugene C. Stifel, Henry Hild, Wm. H. Beutel, Theo R. Stenger, Art Kneberg and Archie H. Wilson, Ex Officio, Treasurer of the National Executive Committee.

1. We recommend that this Convention accept the Treasurer's report as submitted by F. J. and W. A. Wolf, certified Public Accountants of Detroit, Michigan, as of Jan. 10, 1946, for the period to Dec. 31st, 1945, showing a cash balance of \$18,125.99 on deposit in bank, plus \$5,380.00 in U. S. Defense Bonds, making a total of \$23,-

505.99 plus additional assets as shown in the report, less liabilities as shown therein, leaving a net balance of \$37,550.31. This report we find to be correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

2. We find the records in excellent condition and we therefore recommend that this Convention commend the National Treasurer for diligence and continued effort in this regard.

3. We recommend that due to a misinterpretation, by some Societies, of the recommendation of the National Executive Committee that six months dues of discharged World War II Veterans be waived, attention be called to the fact that nevertheless the per capita tax must be paid to the National Office in accordance with Paragraph 61 of the Statutes of the American Turners.

4. We recommend that the National Executive Committee be authorized to prepare a model uniform system of accounting which it can recommend to those Societies who desire to simplify and modernize their system of bookkeeping.

Respectfully submitted,

Clare F. Falkner, Chairman

William F. Bechtel, Secretary

The above report was discussed and adopted by paragraphs by the Convention and was then subsequently adopted as a whole.

*Convention Secretary's Note:* The Treasurer's report as submitted by F. J. and W. A. Wolf referred to in Paragraph 1 of the report of the Finance Committee is as follows:

To the National Executive Committee  
American Turners:

We have examined the books and records of the American Turners and accounting procedures to the extent we deemed appropriate, without making a detailed audit of the transactions.

In our opinion, the accompanying balance sheet and related statement of income and surplus, fairly present the position of the American Turners at December 31, 1945 and the results of its operation for the year then ended.

Yours truly,

F. J. and W. A. Wolf

Detroit, Michigan  
Jan. 10, 1946

**THE AMERICAN TURNERS**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**December 31, 1945**

**ASSETS**

Cash in Savings Accounts . . . . .		\$12,622.48
Cash in Bank . . . . .		5,503.51
Accounts Receivable Supplies . . . . .		35.76
Unpaid Per Capita Taxes of Districts		
Illinois . . . . .	\$ 432.00	
Indiana . . . . .	308.50	
Middle Pacific . . . . .	75.00	
Lake Erie . . . . .	2,204.00	
Middle Atlantic . . . . .	198.00	
Minnesota . . . . .	200.00	
New England . . . . .	1,132.00	
New Jersey . . . . .	206.00	
New York . . . . .	316.00	
Pacific . . . . .	105.50	
Pittsburgh . . . . .	1,075.50	
St. Louis . . . . .	1,390.87	
Upper Mississippi . . . . .	2,674.00	
Western New York . . . . .	447.84	
Wisconsin . . . . .	539.50	
Kansas-Missouri . . . . .	200.00	
South Central . . . . .	150.00	11,654.71
<hr/>		
Notes Receivable . . . . .		578.36
Inventory, Material and Supplies . . . . .		1,811.23
Furniture and Fixtures . . . . .	899.38	
Less: Res. for Deprec. . . . .	179.88	719.50
<hr/>		
United States Defense Bonds . . . . .		5,380.00
<hr/>		
Total Assets . . . . .		\$38,305.55

**LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS**

Employee Tax Funds . . . . .		173.65
Federal Excise Tax . . . . .		248.84
Unpaid Per Capita Taxes (Credit Balances) . . . . .		332.75
<hr/>		
Total Liabilities . . . . .		755.24
Surplus December 31, 1945 . . . . .		37,550.31
<hr/>		
Total Liabilities and Surplus . . . . .		\$38,305.55

**THE AMERICAN TURNERS**  
**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND SURPLUS ACCOUNT**  
**January 1, 1945 — December 31, 1945**

INCOME

Per Capita Tax Billed.....	\$22,268.99	
Interest Received .....	219.11	
Sales Promotional Supp. ....	\$949.50	
Less Cost .....	624.46	325.04
Total Income .....		\$22,813.14

EXPENSES

Depreciation .....	\$ 89.94	
Turner Topics .....	2,392.01	
Postage and Telephone .....	358.19	
Office Rent .....	240.00	
Office Salaries .....	3,285.00	
Printing and Office Supplies .....	934.37	
Traveling .....	1,780.47	
Payroll Taxes .....	27.00	
Miscellaneous .....	834.87	
Technical Committee .....	551.46	
Total Expenses .....		\$10,493.31
Net Income Jan. 1, 1945-Dec. 31, 1945 .....		\$12,319.83
Surplus Balance—Dec. 31, 1944 .....		25,230.48
Surplus Balance—Dec. 31, 1945 .....		\$37,550.31

**THE AMERICAN TURNERS**  
**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS**  
**January 1, 1945 — December 31, 1945**

Cash on hand Jan. 1, 1945 ..... \$13,045.12

RECEIPTS

Employee Tax Funds .....	\$ 173.65	
Per Capita Tax .....	13,978.65	
On Notes Receivable .....	330.64	
Supplies, Emblems, etc. ....	949.50	\$15,432.44
		\$28,477.56

## DISBURSEMENTS

Miscellaneous .....	\$ 834.87	
Purchases Supplies, etc. ....	499.66	
Turner Topics .....	2,392.01	
Salaries .....	3,285.00	
Rent .....	240.00	
Telephone and Postage .....	358.19	
Printing and Office Expense .....	934.37	
Traveling Expense .....	1,780.47	
Payroll Taxes .....	27.00	\$10,351.57
Cash on hand Dec. 31, 1945 .....		\$18,125.99

Chairman Sputh then called for the report of the Committee on Platform, Statutes and Grievances which was submitted to the Convention by Turner Lester H. Dau, Secretary of this Committee, as follows, each paragraph being discussed and acted upon in succession:

### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PLATFORM, STATUTES AND GRIEVANCES

To the 41st Convention of the American Turners,  
Greetings:

The Committee was called to order by temporary Chairman Turner Ed Endicott. Turner Endicott was elected Chairman of the committee and Turner Lester H. Dau, Secretary.

The following proposed changes to the statutes of the American Turners were properly submitted to this committee and favorably acted upon.

1. We recommend that Paragraph 4 be amended by striking out the words "or in the first half of July" and substituting the words "July, August, or the first half of September."

2. We recommend that Paragraph 29 be amended to read as follows: "The National Convention shall choose the District, Societies or Society in which the National Executive Committee shall be located, and the term for which the National Executive Committee shall be located in said District, Societies or Society shall be six years."

3. We recommend the adoption of a new Paragraph 29a to read as follows: "Starting with the Convention of August 30, 1946, the National Headquarters shall remain in the location chosen by the Convention for a period of six years."

4. We recommend that Paragraph 42 be amended by striking out the words "the first day of September after its election," and substituting "immediately following its election" so that the paragraph will read: "The term of office of the National Executive Committee shall begin immediately following its election."

5. We recommend the adoption of a new Paragraph 42a to read as follows: "The National Executive Committee is authorized to adopt

a Retirement Plan for the benefit of its employees and the employees of such of the Societies affiliated with the American Turners as may choose to participate therein."

6. We recommend the adoption of a new Paragraph 42b to read as follows: "The National Executive Committee is hereby directed and ordered to set aside ten (10) percent of its gross income annually for the purpose of creating a fund to insure the perpetuation of the National Turner Organization. It shall set aside this ten (10) percent annually until the Fund shall reach the amount of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00). After that time, one quarter of the profits derived from the investments or loans of the Fund, shall be added to the principal amount each year. Money from this fund may be loaned to individual societies for the purposes of their expansion, rehabilitation, or for the purpose of building new society buildings, if the request is proper, and the National Executive Committee deems the said loan a good risk. Before any monies are put into such a fund, the declaration of Trust for the Fund must be approved by the Convention or by a referendum of a majority vote of the Federal votes of the various societies. Monies from this fund may also be invested in good Municipal, State or Federal securities. One of the purposes of this Fund is to help build proper Turner Societies, and to keep its money working to develop the Turner Movement."

Committee members present were: Ed Endicott, Lester H. Dau, Carl E. Most, Bruno Uhl, Jos. Voelker, Geo. H. Nenstiel, Wm. T. Keyer, Werner W. Schaeff, Wilfred McCarthey, Bernard Wahe, Fred Largent, Randall Davidson, Robert V. Hall, Edw. L. Hohenstein, Carl A. Nuetzel, Vern Thorngren, Emil Burzlaff, John Munch, John Kovats, Ira Rhodes, Walter J. Miller, and Charles L. Miller, Ex. Officio.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Ed Endicott, Chairman  
 Lester H. Dau, Secretary

During the reading of the above report, Dr. Sputh was called to attend an emergency patient in another part of the Athenaeum Building and asked Vice Chairman Meisner to take the chair.

Action on the paragraphs of the above report was as follows: Paragraph 1, after some discussion, was adopted by a unanimous voice vote of the Convention.

Paragraphs 2 and 3 were simultaneously considered and simultaneously voted upon by unanimous consent of the Convention. After some discussion a voice vote of the Convention indicated that an affirmative vote would not be unanimous and a vote by Districts was called for. After the districts had caucused, the vote on Paragraphs 2 and 3 resulted as follows:

DISTRICTS	VOTES	FOR	AGAINST
Central States . . . . .	26	18	8
Illinois . . . . .	14	5	9
Kansas Missouri . . . . .	1	1	..
Lake Erie . . . . .	32	30	2
Middle Atlantic . . . . .	11	11	..

Middle Pacific . . . . .	1	1	..
Minnesota . . . . .	1	1	..
New England . . . . .	18	18	..
New Jersey . . . . .	5	..	..
New York . . . . .	9	..	9
North Pacific . . . . .	1	..	..
Pittsburgh . . . . .	44	37	7
St. Louis . . . . .	9	9	..
South Central . . . . .	2	..	..
Southern California . . . . .	1	..	..
Upper Mississippi . . . . .	43	43	..
Western New York . . . . .	16	16	..
Wisconsin . . . . .	5	5	..
	239	195	35
Totals . . . . .	239	195	35

There being more than a two-thirds vote in favor of the amendments set forth in Paragraphs 2 and 3, the Chairman declared these amendments adopted.

Paragraph 4 was considered and after brief discussion was unanimously adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Paragraph 5 was briefly discussed. The principal point around which discussion centered was the question as to whether or not a proposed retirement plan would necessitate the expenditure of any of the funds of the American Turners. Upon the assurance of President Weideman that any plan adopted would not cost the American Turners anything except the amount which the National Executive Committee would have to pay as its share of the premium for the employees of the National Executive Committee, the Convention unanimously approved Paragraph 5 of this report by voice vote.

Paragraph 6 was briefly discussed and was unanimously adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

All of the above amendments to the Statutes having been approved by more than a two-thirds majority, the Chairman declared the amendments set forth in these paragraphs adopted to take effect two months after adjournment of the Convention in accordance with the statutes, providing no referendum is ordered.

Vice Chairman Meisner recognized Turner George M. Heeschen, Chairman of the National Physical Education Committee who submitted a proposed amendment to the Statutes as follows:

To the 41st National Convention of the American Turners  
Greetings:

We recommend that Article 33 Section (a), Paragraph II, be changed to read as follows:

“Of these five members the National Executive Committee shall elect three for a term of four years and two for a term of two years, and thereafter all members shall be elected for a term of four years.”

National Committee on Physical Education  
George M. Heeschen, Chairman  
Charles A. Geber, Secretary

After Turner Heeschen had explained the reason for the above proposed change, the amendment was adopted unanimously by voice vote of the Convention, and the Chairman declared that this amendment having been carried by more than the required two-thirds majority, would take effect two months after adjournment of the Convention, in accordance with the statutes, providing no referendum was ordered.

Vice Chairman Meisner returned the gavel to Dr. Sputh who asked for the report of the Committee on Physical Education which was submitted as follows, by Harry W. Warnken, Secretary:

### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PHYSICAL EDUCATION

To the 41st National Convention of the American Turners  
Greetings:

The following delegates attended the meetings of this Committee: Fred O. Martin, Frank Scholl, Curt Toll, Jos. Weissmueller, Clifford Kinsey, Ray DePorter, Elmer R. Crook, Ray Huth, Mike Sendlein, John L. Lennox, Wm. Modrow, Wm. A. Binz, Fred E. Foertsch, Elton L. Nold, Dave Henschen, Otto A. Jessen, Richard Lucht, Chas. A. Geber, Siewert Struck, Fritz Nicke, Harry S. Grabner, Harry C. Roberts, Robert Stahl, Henry W. Schroeder, Walter Thompson, Hallock C. Reisel, Carl F. Hein, Herman Kauffmann, Geo. M. Heeschen, Helmuth C. Hohman, Richard C. Byrne, Harry W. Warnken, Fred J. Bifano, Forest James, Henry Schiget, George S. Reichenbach, Oscar N. Simmen, J. Webster Seigh, Geo. Anderson, Wm. Klier, Therese Pletz, Herbert A. Floss, Andrew Lascari, Albert P. Goetz, Otto Eckl, Sr., Otto Eckl, Jr., and Emil L. Pletz, Ex-Officio.

The Committee was organized with Wm. Klier as Chairman, and Harry W. Warnken as Secretary and submits the following recommendations:

1. In view of the fact that the Leaders Course of 1946 was a definite success, we recommend that this course again be held.
2. That we again resume the various meets abolished during the war. This program can be conducted only with the cooperation of the Districts and Societies. As members of the American Turners it is our duty to assume responsibilities and accept assignments. The National Physical Education Committee feels it should have the power to name the logical location for the conduct of our tournaments. We therefore recommend tournaments to be held at the following places:

EVENT	PLACE	APPROX. DATE	LEADER
Volleyball Men and Women	Cleveland East Side	Mar. 8-9	Heeschen
Basketball Men	Moline	Mar. 22-23	Klier
Swimming Men and Women	Lincoln, Chicago	April 12-13	Pletz

Apparatus Men and Women	Schenectady	April 29	Simmen
Badminton Men and Women	Buffalo	May 10-11	Stocker
Track and Field Men and Women	St. Louis	June 7	Eckl

3. In volleyball and basketball, in the above events, the entries are open to one society from each district only. Team to be selected by the district.

4. That we again resume the Instructors' Meetings in conjunction with the Normal College Home Coming.

5. That a National Festival be held in 1948 in commemoration of the centennial of the American Turners.

6. That, for future National Festivals, moving pictures of the prescribed exercises be made and a copy be sent to each District requesting it, prior to the Festival, and that the expense be borne by the National Executive Committee.

7. That, in addition to moving pictures, instructors be designated by the National Executive Committee to demonstrate to instructors of all districts, the exact proper form of all prescribed exercises.

8. (Convention Secretary's Note This paragraph was not adopted and is printed here for purposes of record only. See below.) Whereas, we have always encountered great difficulty in obtaining the consent of Societies to conduct our National Festivals, be they Turnfests or Championships, for the reason that they feared the possible financial loss that might be incurred in the conduct of such a Festival; we therefore recommend that it be made possible for the National Executive Committee to finance the *technical operation* of our National Festivals by an additional national per capita tax of one dollar (\$1.00) to be effective and collected *only* in the year of a scheduled National Turnfest. This will insure more competent judging, better facilities, and better equipment, and assure the American Turners the continuance of bigger and better Festivals. Under this procedure, the present guarantee fund and sanction fees shall be eliminated; all contestants' entry fees shall be eliminated; and any profits derived by the local Society through local effort shall revert to its own Treasury. Any monies not used for these Festivals shall remain in the National Treasury to further the cause of the American Turners through Cultural Educational Operations, Leaders Courses, etc.

(Pursuant to an announcement that an alternate resolution for collecting the above proposed funds would be presented to the Convention by the National Executive Committee, a motion was made and seconded that action on this paragraph be postponed until such time as this alternate proposed resolution would be presented to the Convention. This motion was carried.)

9. (Convention Secretary's Note: This Paragraph was not adopted. See below.) We recommend that the National Executive

Committee be vested with the authority to designate the location of the next National Festival.

(Paragraph 9 after brief discussion was adopted by motion made, seconded and carried. Thereupon the point was made that Paragraph 9 was in fact intended to be contingent upon the adoption of Paragraph 8. After some parliamentary jockeying, a motion was made and seconded that the action on Paragraph 9 be reconsidered. This motion was carried. A motion was then made and carried that action on Paragraph 9 be postponed until such time as Paragraph 8 would be considered by the Convention.)

Respectfully submitted with Turner Greetings,  
Wm. J. Klier, Chairman  
Harry W. Warnken, Secretary

Action on the report of the Committee on Physical Education was as follows:

Paragraphs 1 to 7 were adopted in succession by voice vote of the Convention.

Paragraphs 8 and 9 were before the Convention for discussion during the fourth session but no action was taken thereon and above paragraphs 8 and 9 were not adopted. In place of these paragraphs, a resolution presented by Paul E. Phillips was adopted during the fourth session.

Paragraphs 1 to 7 inclusive of the report of the Committee on Physical Education were declared adopted as a whole during the fourth session.

A motion was made that the Convention adjourn to reconvene at 9:00 A.M. on Sunday morning, September 1, 1946, and Chairman Sputh declared the Second Session of the Convention adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

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### **THIRD SESSION OF THE CONVENTION** **Sunday Morning, September 1, 1946**

The Third Session of the Convention was called to order at 9:30 A.M. by Chairman Sputh.

The reading of the minutes of the previous session was dispensed with by motion made, seconded and carried.

The Chairman then called for the Report of the Committee on National Publication and Publicity which was submitted by Turner Chas. E. Hess, Chairman of the Committee, as follows:

#### **COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PUBLICATION AND PUBLICITY**

To the 41st National Convention of the American Turners  
Greetings:

The following members of the Committee were present: Charles E. Hess, Irwin F. Richter, Fred W. Weigel, Jos. A. Strohmeyer, Henry Miksch, Herman Bochmann, John Rotzsch, Al Krause, Edmund Kœppner, James Repine, Eugene Horn, and Karl Schaltenbrand, Ex Officio.

1. We recommend that all Societies stress in their publications the purchase of Government Bonds and Stamps.
2. We recommend that all Societies take every opportunity to participate in all local, State or National affairs, as this will give added publicity and prestige to the local Societies.
3. We recommend that in its publicity, every Turner Society and District Organization stress the distinctive advantages of the Turner System for the Physical and Cultural development of the individual, and stress the contributions which the Turners are making toward Physical Education.
4. We recommend that the National Executive Committee further furnish to the Editors of the Society papers, upon request, articles for publication pertaining to Physical Education.
5. We recommend that all Societies be urged to find ways and means to furnish Turner Topics to each of their members.
6. We recommend that the names and addresses of the various Turner Publications be published in American Turner Topics at intervals during the year.
7. We recommend that the National Executive Committee consider increasing the number of pages in American Turner Topics for a period of one year.
8. We recommend that all Societies be urged to use the American Turners' Lantern Slide Presentation for the education of their own members and for the promotion of Turnerism.
9. We recommend that the National Executive Committee and its Publications Committee find ways and means to give a token award each year to the best writers in the different Society publications, including editors.
10. We urge that each local Society appoint a correspondent whose duty it shall be to send to American Turner Topics, such news items concerning his Society as may be of interest to the national membership.
11. We recommend that the National Executive Committee appoint one of its members a National Publicity Chairman whose duty it shall be to assist local publicity chairmen in finding ways and means of publicizing their Societies.
12. We recommend that on request, cuts of pictures appearing in American Turner Topics may be loaned to the various Society publications, the expense incident thereto to be borne by the Society using the service.
13. We recommend that attention be drawn to the publicity given to Turnerism by displaying our official emblem on automobiles and the wearing of our insignia as emblems of identification.
14. We recommend that the Convention express its appreciation for the money appropriated by the Jahn Educational Fund for the purpose of stimulating cultural activities in our Turner Societies through the medium of American Turner Topics, as set forth in the Declaration of Trust of this Fund.

15. We recommend that the National Executive Committee and the Editorial Staff of American Turner Topics be complimented on their efforts during the past two years in publishing Turner Topics under extremely adverse conditions caused by World War II, and further that the magazine be continued under the present editorial staff.

Respectfully submitted,

Chas. E. Hess, Chairman

Karl Schaltenbrand, Secretary

This report was considered and adopted by paragraphs and was then adopted as a whole by voice vote of the Convention.

After a short intermission, the Chairman asked for the report of the Committee of the Convention on Cultural Education which was submitted by Turner Frank G. Lapinskas, Secretary of this Committee, as follows:

### **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL EDUCATION**

To the 41st National Convention of the American Turners  
Greetings:

Committee organized by electing Frank W. Boyler, Chairman, and Frank G. Lapinskas, Secretary.

The following members were also present: H. D. Keehn, Geo. Foerster, Fred C. Fauss, Herman A. Bertelsbeck, Herman Vollman, Edward Gangloff, Joseph Becker, Fritz Degen, Paul Brauer, Alfred F. Kierschner, Chas. Cammerer, Daniel Mathes, and Jos. A. Eckel, Ex Officio.

1. Your committee wishes to stress the point that Cultural Education should be developed on a parallel with Physical Education, in each Society of every District, and that a fully rounded out cultural educational program should be held at least once a month, under the guidance of a permanent chairman who will give favorable publicity to the Society, promote intellectual leadership in the Society, and add prestige in its community as well.

2. Upon prestige and leadership depends the life, strength, and growth of Turner Societies with the Cultural Educational Committees becoming the Training School for future leaders. The National Chairman on Cultural Education should hold each District Chairman on Cultural Education responsible for regular activity report from each Society giving numbers, types and attendance for each program.

3. We recommend that each District Chairman of the Cultural Educational Committee shall visit the District Societies at least once each season to assist in the building of a regular Cultural Educational program, expenses incurred to be borne by the District Treasury.

4. We recommend that Cultural, Educational, Recreational Activities be designed to make an appeal to members of our teen-age groups and to encourage non-members groups of teen agers to join in our activities.

5. We urge the founding of dramatic sections, public speaking, debating, male, ladies and mixed choruses, junior and children's choral groups, needlecraft hobby groups, camera and art photography clubs, and instruction in foreign languages. Efforts should be made to organize annual Cultural Educational days in the respective districts, and secure publicity space in their society bulletins for these cultural activities.

6. We suggest that efforts be made to urge the members returning from the Armed Forces not only to rejoin our gymnasium classes, but to get them interested also in the various cultural activities groups.

7. We recommend that the National Executive Committee make available on a basis, at its discretion, a copy of the set of Lantern Slide Presentation recently created by the National Speakers Bureau, known as the "Cavalcade of Turnerism 1811 to 1946" to be used by the Cultural Committee of each Turner Society for the purpose of fostering accurate information on the history, principles and the varied activities of Turnerism in America, and that the convention program committee make possible the showing of the slides of this Cavalcade of Turnerism at this convention.

8. Be it resolved that the Jahn Educational Fund be requested to institute a National Essay Contest; that essays be submitted on the following themes: (1) "What should be the immediate objectives of the Turner Movement in the Post War Era?" or (2) "How can Turner Societies better their standing in their local communities and increase their memberships?"

9. We recommend that in all meetings and affairs at which a Turner member is addressed or introduced, he shall be referred to as "Turner" and not as "Mr." or any other appellation when addressed as a Turner, and that our organizations be referred to as Societies and not Clubs.

Respectfully submitted with Turner Greetings,

Frank W. Boyler, Chairman

Frank G. Lapinskas, Secretary

Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 were adopted in succession, each after brief discussion.

Paragraph 8 originally contained a limitation that the contest referred to, shall be limited to "Turners who have not held any local, district or national office." This limitation caused considerable discussion first because the delegates did not feel that all Turners who had held office should be excluded and second because the delegates did not wish to necessarily limit this contest to Turners. The above limitation was deleted by motion made, seconded and carried and Paragraph 8 was unanimously adopted as printed above.

Paragraph 9 after a minor change in which the Committee acquiesced, was unanimously adopted by voice vote of the Convention, whereupon the report of the Cultural Education Committee of the Convention was adopted as a whole, by voice vote of the Convention.

The Chairman then called for the report of the Committee on National Affairs which was submitted by George J. Jacquin, Secretary of this Committee:

(Convention Secretary's Note: The report was originally prepared contained three additional paragraphs which were deleted by the Committee prior to its submission to the Convention because the subject of these additional paragraphs was a substantial duplicate of the subject matter contained in other paragraphs. The remaining paragraphs have accordingly been renumbered. Changes were also made in some of the remaining paragraphs by amendment and otherwise and the report below is printed in the form in which the several paragraphs were finally adopted.)

## **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL AFFAIRS**

To the 41st National Convention of the American Turners  
Greetings:

The Committee was called to order by Temporary Chairman, Walter T. Meisner.

The following Turners were elected permanent officers: Louis O. Greiner, Chairman, and George Jacquin, Secretary.

All resolutions submitted to the Committee were read individually and acted upon as such.

This Committee recommends the following resolutions for your consideration:

1. We recommend that the National Executive Committee be authorized to consolidate or revise the districts, circuits, or regions within the American Turners so as to make the organization more workable and convenient for the respective societies.

2. We recommend that the National Executive Committee be authorized to employ legal counsel and/or to inquire into the feasibility of incorporating.

3. We recommend that the sum of not more than \$1,000.00 be given for the relief of European War sufferers, said money to be spent as designated by the National Executive Committee.

4. We recommend that the National Executive Committee be directed to instruct each society concerning its duty to institute a program of physical education classes for all age groups and persons and that, as good Turners, they are expected to participate in each district joint gymnasium class, Turnfest, cultural and other district competition.

5. We recommend that each district hold a round table discussion in the last quarter of each year, for the purpose of planning a Physical, Cultural and Social program and for discussion and searching out ideas that will promote the growth and welfare of the Turner Movement. We recommend that, among other persons, the president and secretary of each society, the gymnastic instructor and the presidents of each organized group within the society be invited.

6. We recommend that a joint committee of three American Turner Delegates and three Women's Auxiliary Delegates discuss the feasibility of the Women's Auxiliary adopting as its project the financing of the Turner Leaders' Course or any part of it as they may desire, such as providing funds for all or any of the meals, transportation, etc.

7. We recommend that the National Executive Committee be authorized to receive and collect monies or subscriptions to a National Turner Society Building Fund and to spend such monies in the erection of new society buildings or in the assistance of the local society to further a building program, if in the judgment of the National Executive Committee, the investment of said monies would be a sound one and in the furtherance of the Turner Movement.

8. We recommend that the National Executive Committee be authorized to employ legal counsel to inquire into and/or to start legal proceedings against any society or persons who have accepted or received funds which, in good conscience, are the property of any Turner Society or which should be the property of the National Organization of American Turners. Where, through connivance, fraud or negligence of any kind, the members of the local society have sold or disposed of any property of the local society, the National Executive Committee shall take such action as is necessary to restrain the local society from disposing of any monies received from the same of any Turner building or property, or to recover any monies or real or personal property unlawfully diverted to any person, Turner member or former member.

9. We recommend that our National Officials be called upon to inaugurate steps to have the Archives, now contained in the Museum of the American Turners, placed in a presentable condition, and arranged for display and observation of the general public, during the celebration of the Centennial of the American Turners. Its compilation should include the past history of its founders, and its social, political and educational activities during the trying times of its early years. It is to display historically, incidents of its achievements, and if so found feasible, photographic views, suitable for distribution.

10. We recommend that the National Executive Committee appoint a committee whose duty it shall be to compile a history of the Turner Movement, setting forth its aspirations, achievements and objectives, so as to be ready for display and distribution during the celebration of the One Hundredth Foundation of the American Turners. Such a history will be of more than a general interest, showing the work of the Turners in the field of Physical Education in behalf of the youths of our country, and will constitute a tribute to the memory of the Founders of the Turner Movement in this, the land of their adoption.

11. Whereas the Fundamental Principle of the American Turners have always opposed peacetime Military Conscription as "a dangerous device of tyranny," and have advocated a democratic system of physical education, be it resolved:

That we again record our unalterable opposition to every form of so-called Universal Compulsory Military Training in time of peace,

and call upon Congress to defeat any and all such schemes that may be hatched in the future; and be it further resolved;

That the American Turners call upon Congress to adopt a policy to promote international peace and world-wide disarmament on the broadest democratic principles, with a world court and a world police to enforce the laws of the United Nations.

12. Whereas the evil of pressure groups against the public interest has been growing to scandalous dimensions in Washington, and, Whereas the private citizen and the ultimate consumer have no organized lobbies and must depend for their protection upon the Representatives and Senators they elect; therefore, be it resolved that Congress should enact a law requiring all lobbyists to be registered, with a record of the salaries they receive and itemized expenditures, the names of their employers and what interests they represent; and be it further resolved, that Congress shall publish such information in an annual Directory of Lobbies and Lobbyists operating to influence legislation or solicit administrative favors. Legislation recently passed in the direction of regulating lobbies is a good beginning but should be expanded, made more effective and provided with teeth.

13. We recommend that the National Officials and those responsible for the editing of Turner Topics, refuse to publish any article containing reflections of a personal, political or religious nature, by any author or authors, requesting such authors to eliminate such words, sentences or paragraphs of an offensive nature, or refuse the publication of such articles.

14. We recommend that the American Turners endorse the Bill to establish a United States Commission for the promotion of Physical Fitness (HR 2044, 79th Congress) introduced by Turner Samuel A. Weiss and now sponsored by Turner Frank Buchanan, and call upon Congress to enact this Bill speedily into law.

15. We recommend that a National Bowling Tournament Committee be set up by the National Executive Committee to handle the National Bowling Tournament.

16. Whereas, if another war should be permitted to afflict humanity, there would be grave danger that the atomic bomb would destroy civilization, and whereas, atomic energy, if used for peaceful purposes and if not permitted to be monopolized for the benefit of a few, can decrease the toil and increase the standard of living and the well being of everybody: therefore, be it resolved that we urge the United Nations to agree upon universal disarmament and the peaceful solution of all international problems, in order that there may not be any more war; and be it further resolved, that we favor the collective ownership and application of atomic energy to peaceful pursuits, in order that the benefits flowing from it may accrue to all the people.

17. That all dues paying members of any society shall pay a per capita tax to the American Turners and to their respective Districts.

18. We recommend that this National Convention of the American Turners respectfully urges the passage of H.R. 5206 for the aid to the physically handicapped, other than service men or veterans. Your

Labor Committee reports show five times as many were injured and physically handicapped on the home front as on the battlefield, and it is desired that they be given similar consideration as that given to service men and women.

19. We recommend that the Headquarters of the National Executive Committee of the American Turners be seated in the American Turners-Detroit, for the next six years and that we express our sincere appreciation for the services they have rendered.

20. We recommend that the host for the next National Convention be decided by the delegates upon a motion from the floor of the assembled delegation, or in the absence of a motion, that the selection of the seat of the next National Convention be left to the National Executive Committee.

21. We recommend that the National Executive Committee complete the organization of the National Youth Movement Committee and request all Districts to recommend for appointment such member or members of their respective Districts as would be willing to serve on such a National Youth Committee.

Respectfully submitted with Turner Greetings,  
Louis O. Greiner, Chairman  
George J. Jacquin, Secretary

Paragraphs 1 and 2 were adopted by voice vote of the Convention in succession.

Paragraph 3 originally recommended the sum of "at least \$200.00." An amendment was made from the floor to change this to "at least \$1,000.00" and this amendment was again amended to read "not more than \$1,000.00" and this amendment was carried leaving the resolution in the form in which it is printed above and in which it was unanimously adopted by the Convention.

Paragraphs 4 and 5 were adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Paragraph 6 is the resolution to which President Weideman referred in the first session and in accordance with which reference a special committee was appointed to confer with the Women's Auxiliary. During the discussion on this paragraph, a note was handed to the Secretary of the Convention from the Women's Auxiliary of the American Turners indicating that the Auxiliary had officially decided to cooperate with the suggestion contained in Paragraph 6 and that they would adopt this Leaders' Course as a special project and would sponsor some activity of the Leaders' Course including at least a portion of the financing and that they would attempt to enlist the interest of all local Auxiliaries in this project. This announcement was greeted with applause and Paragraph 6 was unanimously carried by voice vote of the Convention.

Paragraphs 7, 8, 9 and 10 were adopted in succession by voice vote of the Convention with little discussion.

Paragraph 11 as originally submitted was discussed at considerable length by numerous delegates and it appeared that no generally satisfactory conclusion could be reached with the paragraph as originally sub-

mitted. A motion was then made that the Original Paragraph 11 be referred to and revised by a special committee appointed by the Chairman and that this committee report to the Convention. This motion was carried, and Chairman Sputh appointed George Seibel, Theo. A. Gross, Richard C. Byrne, Ed. Endicott and Alfred Kierschner. This committee submitted its redraft of Paragraph 11 during the fourth session, which redraft was unanimously adopted as submitted and as printed in the above report.

Paragraphs 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 were adopted in succession with little discussion. Paragraph 15 originally included the following clause at the end: "such a committee to be similar to the committee on Physical Education and Committee on Cultural Education." This clause was deleted by unanimous consent.

Paragraph 19 as submitted included the clause "for the next two years." This was changed by the Convention to "for the next six years" when it was pointed out that this paragraph did not comply with the changes in the statutes adopted at this Convention. The paragraph as printed above was then carried unanimously with a rising vote of thanks and a Turner applause, as an expression of appreciation of the splendid services rendered by the National Executive Committee.

Paragraphs 20 and 21 were then adopted in succession, without comment.

The following resolution was submitted to the Convention by Turner Rudy Koenig of the Illinois District (this being a resolution sponsored by the National Executive Committee, referred to during consideration of the Report of the Committee on Physical Education).

Be it resolved that the National Executive Committee is hereby authorized to sell advance registration cards for our 100th year anniversary; and that it place the money in a separate fund for use in any manner in connection with the events of our 100th year celebration; and further provided that any funds, if any remain after the completion of our anniversary affairs, be placed in the Treasury of the National Executive Committee for the use and benefit of the Turner Movement.

A motion was made and seconded that this resolution be adopted.

The Chairman then suggested that paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Report of the Committee on Physical Education be formally placed before the Convention as they had been postponed with the intent that they be considered simultaneously with the above resolution, and further suggested that discussion on the above motion might be directed to the subject matter either of the above resolution or of paragraphs 8 and 9 just referred to. There being no objection, the Chairman ordered that debate would proceed along the lines suggested.

These proposals were discussed at great length by Turners Heeschen, Geber, Hein and Eckl of the National Technical Committee and by many other delegates when a motion to close the list of speakers was made and carried.

At this point Turner Sputh announced that luncheon was ready and waiting and suggested that as soon as the speakers list was exhausted, the Convention adjourn for luncheon.

As soon as the last of the listed speakers had completed his remarks a motion was made that the Convention adjourn to reconvene at 2:00 P.M. This motion was seconded and carried and Vice Chairman Meisner declared the Third Session of the Convention adjourned at 12:45 P.M.

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## FOURTH SESSION OF THE CONVENTION Sunday Afternoon, September 1, 1946

The fourth session of the Convention was called to order at 2:00 P.M. by Vice Chairman Meisner.

The chair explained that the status of the deliberations before the Convention was as follows:

There was actually only one motion before the Convention and this was the motion to adopt the resolution submitted by Turner Koenig in the third session of the Convention. Extensive debate had been permitted relative to this motion and debate thereon had been closed by vote of the Convention. The chair stated that, accordingly, the Convention was ready for vote on the motion to adopt the Koenig resolution and asked for the further pleasure of the Convention. Hereupon the question on the motion was called for and, upon being put to a vote, the motion to adopt the Koenig resolution was defeated by voice vote of the Convention.

A motion was then made and seconded that Paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Report of the Committee on Physical Education (action on which had been postponed during the Second Session) be placed before the Convention. This motion was carried; but no further action was taken on the Paragraphs 8 and 9 referred to.

A proposed amendment to the statutes, intended to accomplish the same result as the above Paragraphs 8 and 9, was submitted by Turner George M. Heeschen of the National Physical Education Committee as follows:

"We recommend that the first sentence of Article 61 of the Statutes be changed to read as follows:

Each Society shall pay an annual per capita tax of \$1.25 for each member, 25 cents of which shall be set aside by the National Executive Committee for the use of the Committee on Physical Education and the Committee on Cultural Education for the conduct of National Festivals, be they Turnfests or Championships."

Signed: Geo. M. Heeschen  
Charles A. Geber  
O. N. Simmen  
Carl Hein  
Wm. Klier

A motion was made and seconded that this proposed amendment to the Statutes be adopted.

During the discussion of this amendment proposed by Turner Heeschen, Turner Paul E. Phillips proposed a substitute for the Heeschen amendment, which he submitted as follows:

“8. Whereas, we have always encountered great difficulty in obtaining the consent of Societies to conduct our National Festivals, be they Turnfests or Championships, for the reason that they feared the possible financial loss that might be incurred in the conduct of such a Festival; we therefore recommend that it be made possible for the National Executive Committee to finance the *technical operation* of our National Festivals by an additional national per capita tax of twenty-five cents (25c) to be collected for a period of two years. This will insure more complete judging, better facilities, and better equipment, and assure the American Turners the continuance of bigger and better Festivals. Under this procedure the present guarantee fund and sanction fees shall be eliminated; all contestants entry fees shall be eliminated; and any profits derived by the local Society through local effort shall revert to their own Treasury.

Any monies collected shall be spent by the National Executive Committee on recommendation of the Technical Committee to further the cause of physical education and tournaments.

9. We recommend that the National Executive Committee be vested with the authority to designate the location of National Festivals.”

Signed: Bernard Wahe

Paul E. Phillips

A motion was made and seconded that the resolution submitted by Turner Phillips be substituted for the proposed Heeschen amendment. This motion was carried after some discussion.

Vice Chairman Meisner ruled that that portion of the Phillips resolution which provided for the collection of additional per capita tax and for its segregation into a special fund and for the method of disbursing this fund, in fact, constitutes an amendment to the Statutes of the American Turners and accordingly the motion would require a two-thirds vote.

After some discussion on this motion and after President Weideman declared that the provisions of the above resolution and the two year limitation were entirely satisfactory to the National Executive Committee, the motion was unanimously carried by a voice vote of the Convention. Thereupon the chair declared that the resolution as a whole, including that portion which constitutes an amendment to the statutes, had been adopted, and with the approval of the Convention, he directed the Secretary of the Convention to separate and edit that portion of the resolution which comprises the amendment to the Statutes.

Secretary's Note: The amendment to the statutes is accordingly recorded as follows:

Each Society shall also pay to the American Turners through its District, an additional annual per capita tax of 25 cents for each member for the years 1947 and 1948. This additional tax shall be set aside for financing the technical operation of National Festivals and shall be spent by the National Executive Committee on recommendation of the National Physical Education Committee to further the cause of physical education and tournaments.

(These two sentences are to be inserted after the first sentence of Paragraph 61 of the Statutes.)

Vice Chairman Meisner called attention to the fact that action had been taken on the subject matter of all of the Paragraphs of the Report of the Committee on Physical Education by the Convention and, there being no objection, he declared Paragraphs 1 to 7 of this report adopted as a whole.

Vice Chairman Meisner turned the Chair over to Turner Sputh. Chairman Sputh then asked for the report of the special committee appointed to redraft paragraph 11 of the Report of the Committee on National Affairs.

The redraft of Paragraph 11 prepared by this Committee was submitted by Turner Seibel as follows:

Whereas the Fundamental Principles of the American Turners have always opposed peacetime Military Conscription as "a dangerous device of tyranny," and have advocated a democratic system of physical education,

Be it resolved that we again record our unalterable opposition to every form of so-called "Universal Compulsory Military Training" in time of peace, and call upon Congress to defeat any and all such schemes that may be hatched in the future; and be it further resolved,

That the American Turners call upon Congress to adopt a policy to promote international peace and world-wide disarmament on the broadest democratic principles, with a world court and a world police to enforce the laws of the United Nations.

A motion was made and seconded that this substitute revised resolution be adopted in place of the original Paragraph 11; this motion was carried unanimously by voice vote of the Convention. (Convention Secretary's Note: The above paragraph is also printed with the remainder of the Report of the Committee on National Affairs for the sake of convenient reference. See Third Session.)

Action on all of the paragraphs of the Report of the Committee on National Affairs having been complete, a motion was made and seconded that the report of this Committee as amended be adopted as a whole. This motion was carried.

Chairman Sputh asked the delegates to rise in respectful silence in memory of those Turners, including the many Turners in the Armed Services, who passed to the great beyond in the past two years.

Turner Richard Turnt expressed sincere pleasure at seeing so many younger men present at this Convention and urged them to carry forward the Turner Movement.

Turner Sputh recommended that the Districts include younger men in their delegations, as attendance to National Conventions is an education in Turnerism which cannot be obtained in any other way.

Turner Zimmermann then submitted the following resolution: "We recommend that the National Executive Committee solicit the submission of sketches, drawings, plans or layouts which would be considered the ideal and recommended type of building for the Turner Halls of the future, and that the Trustees of the Jahn Fund be requested to provide a suitable award for such plans as are accepted and recommended by the National Executive Committee as the most proper type of building for a Turner Hall. We recommend that awards be made for three types of buildings: an award for buildings housing up to 500 members; an award for buildings housing up to 1,000 members; and an award for buildings housing 1,500 and more members. We recommend that, if possible, this plan be put into effect immediately and that the Trustees of the Jahn Fund be contacted at once."

Secretary's Note: This resolution, as submitted, specified cash prizes of stipulated amounts for each size of project, which cash prizes were changed by unanimous consent, to "awards" of a "nature to be determined by the Trustees," after Turner Seibel stated that the stipulated amounts of cash might not be available in the Jahn Fund when required.

This resolution as printed above was unanimously adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

President Weideman asked all delegates to send photographs, snapshots or other pictures of their Turn Halls, Gymnasias and Social Rooms for use in the Cavalcade of Turnerism.

President Weideman also asked that each society send a copy of its constitution for study and for use in preparing a model Society Constitution.

Turner Gross reminded the delegates that this Convention had initiated a large number of worthy projects and urged the delegates to carry the message of these projects to their societies and urge their societies to cooperate and wholeheartedly support these projects.

Turner Anthony King of the Milwaukee District urged all Turners to use their influence to oppose all sectarian legislation in order to avoid the serious consequences which will unavoidably result from such unwise legislation.

Turner Ed Endicott of the St. Louis District expressed his sincere appreciation of the many courtesies shown to him as a delegate and moved a sincere vote of thanks to the Athenaeum Turners who made available to the Convention their unparalleled facilities and to the Officers and members of the numerous committees of the Athenaeum Turners who so assiduously provided for the needs and convenience of

the delegates and to the officers of the Convention for their efficient conduct of the Convention. This motion was seconded and put to vote by President Weideman and enthusiastically carried with Turner applause.

Turner Kierschner of the New York District and President of the New York Turnverein announced that the New York Turnverein would invite the National Convention in 1950 when this Society will celebrate its 100th anniversary.

Turner Robert Stahl of the New York Turnverein called attention to a small folder which the New York delegation had distributed, listing the societies, officers and activities in the New York District which folder he recommended as a splendid advertising medium for copying by other districts.

There being no further business, Chairman Sputh thanked the delegates for their splendid cooperation with the officers of the Convention and stated that he was ready to entertain a motion to adjourn.

A motion to adjourn was quickly made, seconded and carried and Turner Sputh declared the 41st Convention of the American Turners adjourned at 3:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, with Turner Greetings,

Dr. Carl B. Sputh, Sr., Chairman  
George Seibel, Honorary Chairman  
Franklin Vonnegut, Honorary Chairman  
William Diefenbach, Honorary Chairman  
Eugene C. Stifel, Honorary Chairman  
W. T. Meisner, Vice Chairman  
Herman Eisele, Secretary  
Fred Olt, Assistant Secretary

