

OFFICIAL MINUTES
of the
30th CONVENTION
of the
American Turnerbund



Held at
CAMP BROSIUS, ELKHART LAKE, WIS.
June 26 to 28, 1925

Official Minutes

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First Day, June 26, 1925.

The Thirtieth Convention of the American Turnerbund was opened on Friday, June 26, at 10 a. m., in Jahn Hall, at Camp Brosius, by National President George Seibel. After singing the "Star Spangled Banner" and the Turner song, "Ein Ruf ist erklungen," the delegates were heartily welcomed by District President Fred Schwerd on behalf of the Wisconsin District, while Turner Henry Steichmann extended to them the hospitality of the Camp Management.

President George Seibel submitted his annual report in the following address:

Two years ago the Convention at St. Louis honored the Pittsburgh District by entrusting to it the formation of the Bundesvorort or National Executive Committee. It will be the duty of this Convention at Elkhart Lake to pass upon our labors and to decide whether we have proved worthy of that trust.

Our task has been rendered pleasant by the loyal co-operation of Turners everywhere, and also by visible signs of progress in the organization that for seventy-five years has steered steadfastly toward its goal—"a sound mind in a sound body." This progress is evident not merely in a renewed growth of membership, there having been an increase of 1174 during these two years, but especially in the knitting together of our forces, the infusion of new hope, and the determination to press onward to fresh victories. The blight of war, the paralysis of prohibition, the friction engendered by transition from a membership predominantly German to a new generation only

relatively German, have caused some societies to lapse and some members to lose heart. The time of these tribulations and shrinkages is past; a new era of progress and promise has dawned. The American Turnerbund is a living force and a growing influence.

Last year our gain in membership was 433, and would have been much greater but for the fact that many societies have cleared away dead timber, and a few districts also have dropped societies that were inactive or comatose. During the coming year we confidently look forward to a greater increase and the organization of many new societies, plans for which are already under way. The total membership on April 1, 1925, was 31,932.

We can also report an increase in the value of the property owned by our societies, which now amounts to \$7,604,990, being \$475,036 more than last year. New Turner Halls are being built in various cities—from Pittsburgh to Los Angeles. Turner parks and summer camps are being acquired everywhere. We are beginning to learn that the Turnverein is an extension of the home and an annex to the school; that money invested in the Turner Hall is an asset, not an extravagance.

Then there is the Jahn Educational Fund, which has grown steadily until it has risen to over \$16,000. To be exact, the subscriptions at the time of going to press amounted to \$16,031.60, while the cash in bank bearing interest was \$9,070.60. The first sum expended out of the Fund was used to buy books for the Girls' Dormitory of the Normal College at Indianapolis—books that will lead those young girls to think and to understand the Turner philosophy of life. The next appropriation is for a literary prize; the sum of \$50 and a medal to be given annually for three years for the best poem in German, either written by a Turner and published anywhere, or written by

one who is not a member and first published in the *Turnzeitung*. The judges are Prof. J. F. L. Raschen, of the Executive Committee, Prof. Camillo von Klenze, and Miss Margarete Muensterberg. We hope to do many things with the Jahn Fund as it grows, to make the Turner cause more widely known and attract to it the best minds in America. I am glad to report that the Fund is a reality, that it is growing, that it has stirred many Turners to generous response and new aspiration in the spirit of Friedrich Ludwig Jahn.

Best of all, we can report an increase in the mental activities fostered by the societies. Our organization will be a great power only if it produces men and women who will think—men and women who will not be afraid to tread new paths, seek new truths, set up new landmarks. Standing upon the firm rock of liberty, let us lift our eyes to the eternal stars of justice. With an intellectual ferment stirring throughout the *Turnerbund*—in the little town of Sheboygan, for example, over 400 attended one meeting for mental culture—we may be sure that our other goal also is not being lost to sight—“Liberty, Enlightenment and Prosperity for all.”

Still there is much to be done. What we are doing justifies encouragement; what we are leaving undone does not permit us to loll at ease or preen ourselves in pride. Some of us may be tired, and some of us may be lazy; whatever the cause, the consequence is deplorable. When a letter of inquiry is sent out, with an envelope for reply enclosed, and one-half of our societies return no answer to very simple questions, it is a sign of apathy and laxness. As a militant organization, we should cultivate stricter discipline. This means every individual member, no matter how humble his place or function in the society. We should follow our leaders, march in line, do our share. This alone spells success!

It is true, however, that in the past there has been too little touch between the *Bundesvorort* and the Districts and Societies. Many Societies, unfortunately, have hardly known that they were integral parts of a great national organization. This state of affairs we will seek to remedy. If in the future any Society does not know there is a *Bundesvorort*, it shall not be our fault.

Societies and Districts are going to hear more from us during the coming year, unless you regard this as a threat and save your skins by selecting another *Vorort*.

The great work of the Turners must not be permitted to languish or decay. We have a service we must render to democracy and humanity. Our societies everywhere should aim to build up the bodies of men, to enlighten their minds, and to stand as beacons to their civic conscience. We shall not only remind you of this your duty—we shall endeavor to the best of our ability to advise and aid you in its performance. If we know where we are going, and march forward, we'll get there. Let us make this a year of progress and victory.

During the coming year two matters will engage our attention. One is the National Tournament that will probably be held in the city of Louisville, Kentucky. We shall have as our honored guests, to demonstrate their prowess as disciples of *Turnvater Jahn*, a group of the best Turners from Germany. They will be accompanied by Dr. Oscar Berger, President of the *Deutsche Turnerschaft*, and other representatives of that great organization with over two million members. As an assurance of the solidarity of spirit animating the Turners of two continents, as a revelation of the fine achievements of our Teuton rivals, and as a renewal of those amicable ties which have bound us to the German people, this pilgrimage of German Turners to our *Turnfest* will be an occasion for rejoicing and congratulation. Let us prepare a rousing reception for our German brethren, and let us also gird our loins for the fray, that they may not carry off all the laurels at Louisville.

The other matter that should engage much of our attention will be the battle against certain manifestations of medievalism which are cropping out in our land. Prohibition is the most rampant of these menaces. Blue laws, censorship, interference with academic freedom, and a widespread disposition to nullify the first amendment to the Constitution, are causing deep concern to all friends of our established institutions and revered ideals. Are we to be tied to the apron strings of a maternalistic government? Can a democracy endure in which one-half the people are criminals and the other half spies? The great Goethe said: “Let every one sweep before his own door, and the police keep from meddling with joy.” (*Jeder kehre vor seiner eigenen Tuer und die Polizei stoere die Freude nicht.*) But our new-baked Puritans think that pleasure is sin, that God is an undertaker, that truth is dynamite, that Sunday was made for sor-

row, and that liberty is the highway to Hell. Mr. Volstead declares we must drink only what he drinks, and Mr. Bryan declares we must think only what he thinks. We intend to stand firmly against all encroachments of malignant fanaticism.

According to these bigots, God created man in His image, but made him an eternal infant, and has to employ Volstead and Bryan as nursemaids to take care of us. That is why they hate Darwin, because he taught that man had risen from lower to higher planes. They're afraid men will grow up. But as a result of their persecution, thousands are today studying Evolution, and Darwin will be revered as a Columbus who discovered a new world of thought, when Bryan, the Brontosaurus of the Everglades, will be raging up and down the Celestial Chautauqua Circuit, demanding the deportation of Zeppelin, because the angels might fly too far.

We, as Turners, have no fear of the heights. Our ambition is to be abreast of the age, in the van of Freedom's far-flung host.

In line with this determination is the revision of our Fundamental Principles submitted by the National Executive Committee in accordance with the mandate of the last Convention. At that Convention a new draft was presented by the Illinois District, with many excellent suggestions. The present declaration of principles has been collated with that new draft, rearranged to reveal the whole as a logical deduction from the fundamental human right of liberty, augmented by the inclusion of some other necessary corollaries, rewritten to make it all so clear as to be self-evident—and the result is now presented for your approval, then to be submitted to the societies for final adoption. With this new Declaration of Principles, submitted with this Annual Report, our American Turnerbund would stand in the forefront of all the organizations that are striving for a better world and a nobler race, for fundamental democracy and equal justice. It is a document we have striven to make as progressive as a plow and as conservative as a farm.

I have little more to say. Certain specific recommendations concerning various of our activities and interests are embodied in separate resolutions, to be presented to this Convention in due order. Wisdom and courage will be required in your discussions and decisions. My widening acquaintance and deepening intimacy with the societies and membership

of the Turnerbund lead me to believe that your wisdom and courage will be found equal to every task before you. Let us begin our labors with our old battle-cry—"Gut Heil!"

GEORGE SEIBEL,
National President.

This message was received with prolonged applause, all the delegates rising from their seats for a threefold "Gut Heil!"

Henry Pfeiffer, of Detroit, was unanimously elected as temporary secretary.

The chairman appointed Turners Otto Kallmeyer, of the St. Louis District, Conrad Krueck of Lake Erie, and Fred Schwerd of Wisconsin, as a committee on credentials. After a lapse of fifteen minutes this committee reported that the following delegates were entitled to sit and vote in the convention:

New York: Berthold Muecke — 18 votes.

Indiana: Herman Korte, Henry Meyer, John E. Zutt, Arthur Paetz, Ed. Groth, Leo J. Sandmann, Ed. Schoening, jr., Carl B. Sputh, H. Steichmann, Franklin Vonnegut, Carl H. Lieber, Peter Scherer, Emil Rath—15 votes.

St. Louis: Fred. R. Goerisch, Frank Hands, Harry C. Jacobs, Alfred Aigler, Albert Rist, sr., Otto Kallmeyer, A. E. Kindervater, Hermann Sexauer, Chas. Witt, Otto Eckl, Emil Wildermuth, A. H. Drie-meier, E. C. Stifel, A. Luecke, Otto Rost, Edw. Hohenstein, John A. Mueck, J. J. Gummersheimer, Geo. P. Uhl, L. R. Osterhaus, E. H. Buchmann, Harry Siefried, Gust. Schlaefli, Fred. Cordes, Theodore Schmidt—36 votes.

New England: Christian Neubauer—22 votes.

Wisconsin: Fred. Schwerd, William Hahn, Edward Pfleger, William

- Rittberger, Louis Zabel, Edward Funke, George Schroeder, Herman Martens, Rudolf Babnick, Chas. E. Paul, Karl Gebhardt, John W. Eizenszopf, Herman Waizenegger — 13 votes.
- Illinois:** Ernst Klafs, Leopold Saltiel, Henry Kraft, Chas. Eichin, Dr. Henry Hartung, Adolf Danneberg, Emil Rothe, Henry Schoellkopf, Albert Teuscher, Louis Greiner, Moritz Schmidt, Edward Strobel, Jacob Gerhardt, Geo. A. Schmidt, Alfred Diete, Albert Hoeft, LeRoy Peterson, Henry Hose, Leopold Grand, Henry von Meeteren, A. V. Lathomus, Otto Siebenbrod, Louis Monninger, Fritz Bethig, Albert Fuchs, Adolf Schachenmann, Chas. Weber, Henry Eggert, Alfred Loeser—29 votes.
- Philadelphia:** Richard Pertuch, G. H. Heinemann, Wm. A. Stecher—27 votes.
- New Jersey:** August Uehling, sr.—21 votes.
- Pittsburgh:** Emil Schmid, William Kramer, Philip Miller, Henry Etling, Max Winterlich, John Rotzsch, Henry Koenig, Hans Oechsle, Fritz Zaugg, Ludwig Schmidt, Albert Maley, Jacob Munich, Julius Wolf, George Claus—38 votes.
- Kansas—Missouri:** Otto Pueschel, C. Wolff, M. Poeltl—3 votes.
- Minnesota:** Albert Steinhäuser, William Mueller, William Kuehn, Herman Hein—4 votes.
- Upper Mississippi:** Carl Schweickhardt, Reinhard Wagner, J. H. Jebens, J. A. Welzenbach, Robert Zabel, Wm. Kock, Fred. Weede, Otto Winckler, Adolph Petersen, Dave Henschen, Louis Schreiner, Ludwig N. H. Berg, F. B. Ohm, Ed. Lischer, Harry Warnken, Leonard Grein, Ed. Eckhardt, Wm. Reuter, Joseph Proske, Joe Martin, Howard Gessner, H. C. Hansen, Leo Doering—25 votes.
- Rocky Mountain:** F. H. Bergmann. August Rossweiler—5 votes.
- New Orleans:** Ed. Deuss—1 vote.
- Pacific:** Hans Goetz—5 votes.
- Connecticut:** Paul Schubach—6 votes.
- Lake Erie:** Henry Pfeiffer, Louis Jaenichen, Ernst Mildner, Urban Hartung, Conrad Krueck, Carl Volk, Max Doeschner—18 votes.
- Western New York:** Paul Krimmel, Richard Heinrich, Andrew Lascari—16 votes.
- Ohio:** George F. Roth, Fred. Olt, Dr. A. A. Knoch, W. K. Streit, Wm. Beyer, Russell H. Schott, Alban Wolff—7 votes.
- South Central:** (not represented) — 1 vote.
- North Pacific:** (not represented) — 5 votes.
- South California:** Carl Entenmann, Carl J. Mettler, Cornelius Trieb—7 votes.

The National Executive Committee was represented by President George Seibel, Vice - President Hermann Groth, Secretary Ernest Herklotz, Corresponding Secretary William Voelker, Treasurer Henry J. Thier, Richard Turnt, Theodore Ahrens, Adam Doehla, George J. F. Falkenstein and Prof. J. F. L. Raschen.

Upon recommendation of the National Executive Committee the right of participating in the convention as delegate was conferred upon Turner Ernst Weier of the Ohio District.

The chairman appointed the following Turners as a committee on permanent organization: A. E. Kindervater, Adolph Danneberg, Ludwig N. H. Berg, Cornelius Trieb, Emil Schmid, Fred Olt, P. Mueller, Berthold Muecke and Carl B. Spath.

Letters of greeting were read from former National President Henry Braun, of Oklahoma, and from Andreas Kohary, of McKeesport. The convention was then adjourned until 2:30 p. m.

At the opening of the afternoon session the chairman introduced Richard Turnt, of the National Executive Committee, as special advocate of the Jahn Educational Fund, of which he explained the purpose. Turner Turnt in a brief address then exhorted the delegates to give their unstinted financial support to the fund. Treasurer Thier reminded the delegates of the subscriptions many of them had made at Louisville to the Million Dollar Fund there proposed, and urged them to transfer these pledges to the Jahn Fund in order to assure its rapid growth.

The Committee on Permanent Organization rendered the following report:

Honorary Chairman, Carl Entenmann. He was elected by acclamation.

Chairman, Leopold Saltiel and Dr. Carl B. Sputh. The election according to districts showed 160½ votes for Saltiel and 155½ for Sputh. Turner Saltiel took the chair and expressed his appreciation of the honor in a brief address.

Vice Chairman, Berthold Muecke. Turner Muecke withdrew his name in favor of Doctor Sputh, who was elected as vice chairman by acclamation.

First Secretary (German), William Rittberger. Elected by acclamation.

Second Secretary (German), Max Winterlich. Elected by acclamation.

First Secretary (English), Fred Olt. Elected by acclamation.

Second Secretary (English), Alfred Loeser. Elected by acclamation.

The recommendations for standing committees were then adopted with a few slight changes, as follows:

National and District Affairs: Berthold Muecke, New York; Herman Korte, Indiana; H. Steichmann, Indiana; Alfred Aigler, E. C. Stifel, St. Louis; Fred Schwed, Wisconsin; Dr. Henry Hartung, Leopold Grand,

Illinois; Richard Pertuch, Philadelphia; August Uehling, New Jersey; Emil Schmid, Henry Etling, Pittsburgh; Otto Pueschel, Kansas-Missouri; Albert Steinhauser, Minnesota; J. H. Jebens, Adolf Petersen, Upper Mississippi; Fred. Bergmann, Rocky Mountain; Paul Schubach, Connecticut; Henry Pfeiffer, Carl Volk, Lake Erie; Richard Heinrich, West New York; Ernst Weier, Ohio; Carl Entenmann, South California; George Seibel and Ernest Herklotz, National Executive Committee.

Platform and Statutes: Peter Scherer, Leo. J. Sandmann, Indiana; S. A. Osterhaus, A. H. Driemeier, St. Louis; Wm. Hahn, Wisconsin; Louis Monninger, Henry von Meeteren, Illinois; Henry Koenig, George Claus, Pittsburgh; C. Wolff, Kansas-Missouri; William Miller, Minnesota; J. A. Welzenbach, H. C. Hansen, Upper Mississippi; Louis Jaenichen, Lake Erie; Geo. F. Roth, Ohio; Cornelius Trieb, South California; George Seibel and William Voelker, National Executive Committee.

Normal College: Harry C. Jacobs, Alvin Kindervater, St. Louis; Franklin Vonnegut, Carl Lieber, Emil Rath, Indiana; Herman Waizenegger, Wisconsin; Louis Kramer, Chas. Eichin, Illinois; Fritz Zaugg, Jacob Munich, Pittsburgh; Hermann Hein, Minnesota; Reinhard Wagner, Wm. Reuter, Upper Mississippi; Conrad Krueck, Lake Erie; Dr. A. A. Knoch, Ohio; Hans Goetz, Pacific; Dr. Hermann Groth, National Executive Committee.

Mental Training: John E. Zutt, Ed. Schoening, jr., Indiana; J. J. Gummersheimer, Albert Rist, St. Louis; Chas. E. Paul, Wisconsin; George A. Schmidt, Moritz Schmidt, Illinois; Julius Wolf, John Rotzsch, Pittsburgh; Carl Schweickhardt, Ed. Lischer, Upper Mississippi; Urban Hartung, Lake Erie; Alban Wolff, Ohio; Edward Deuss, New Orleans;

Prof. J. F. L. Raschen, National Executive Committee.

National Organ: Otto Kallmeyer, St. Louis; Hermann Martens, Wisconsin; Adolf Schachenmann, Henry Hose, Illinois; Philip Miller, Pittsburgh; Otto Winkler, Upper Mississippi; Max Doeschner, Lake Erie; August Rossweiler, Rocky Mountain; Theo. Ahrens and Geo. J. F. Falkenstein, National Executive Committee.

Rules: John A. Mueck, St. Louis; Edward Groth, Indiana; Albert Fuchs, Illinois.

Finance: Edward Pfleger, Wisconsin; Emil Wildermuth, St. Louis; Henry J. Thier, National Executive Committee.

Rubrication: A. Luecke, St. Louis; Ludwig Schmidt, Pittsburgh; Jacob Gebhardt, Illinois.

Technical Committee: Henry Meyer, Arthur Paetz, Indiana; Hermann Sexauer, Otto Rost, St. Louis; Christ Neubauer, New England; Louis Zabel, Rudolf Babnick, Edward Funke, Wisconsin; Ernst Klafs, Emil Rothe, Alb. Teuscher, Edward Strobel, Alfred Diete, Henry Kraft, Illinois; G. H. Heinemann, Philadelphia; Hans Oechsle, Wm. Kramer, Albert Maley, Pittsburgh; N. Poeltl, Kansas-Missouri; Wm. Kuehn, Minnesota; F. B. Ohm, Dave Henschen, Louis Schreiner, Harry Warnken, Leo Doering, Jos. Proske, Edw. Eckhardt, Upper Mississippi; Ernst Mildner, Max Doeschner, Lake Erie; Paul Krimmel, Andrew Lascari, West New York; Russell Schott, Ohio; Carl J. Mettler, South California; William Beyer, Ohio; and all other physical instructors in attendance: Wm. A. Stecher, Otto Eckl, Wm. K. Streit, Dr. Carl Sputh; Adam Doehla, National Executive Committee.

Secretary Olt requested all delegates to submit their resolutions and recommendations to the various com-

mittees separately in typewritten triplicate, as decided by the last convention at St. Louis.

Several members of the Technical Committee brought up the matter of the National Turnfest to be held at Louisville next year, in order to harmonize the wishes of the Louisville Turngemeinde with those of the various societies. The question whether the exercises should be in two or in three grades was discussed fully, and after an address by Turner Sandmann, explaining Louisville's plans for the financial support of the Turnfest, the Convention voted unanimously to have the exercises in three grades.

Turner Charles E. Paul, of the Milwaukee Turnverein, a delegate and a member of the "Frankfurter Riege," presented to the Bund, on behalf of the Milwaukee Turnverein, a bust of the pioneer Turner George Brosius, the work of sculptor Carl Marr, for which an appropriate place should be found in Camp Brosius. He also announced that the entire Brosius Collection of Medals, Diplomas, etc., would be on exhibition in the Camp during the Convention. The gift of the Milwaukee Turnverein was accepted with a threefold "Gut Heil!"

After the roll call of the delegates Turner George J. F. Falkenstein announced that the McKeesport Turnverein had decided to contribute the sum of \$1,000 to the Jahn Fund. The Convention received this announcement with thunderous applause. The Convention was then adjourned until Saturday morning at 10 o'clock.

Second Day, June 27, 1925.

Chairman Leopold Saltiel opened the session at 11 a. m. The minutes of the previous day's sessions were read and approved with one slight change.

The following telegram was then read:

Barrington, Ill.

To the success of the thirtieth convention a threefold Gut Heil from the Illinois Turner Camp.

Alfred Wild,
Fred Wittenmeyer.

Reports of committees were then received.

Committee on Rules.

The committee was organized by the election of John A. Mueck as chairman and Edward Groth as secretary. The following recommendations were submitted:

1. That the meetings be conducted according to Cushing's Parliamentary Rules.

2. That no delegate should be permitted to speak more than twice on the same subject. The chairman may, however, in his discretion, deviate from this rule.

3. Speakers shall be limited to five minutes, except with consent of the Convention.

4. All proceedings shall be recorded both in German and English.

5. The privilege of addressing the Convention shall not be granted to any other organization except upon resolution of the Convention.

All recommendations were unanimously adopted.

Committee on Finances.

The Committee on Finances organized by electing Turner Edward Pfleger as chairman and Emil D. Wildermuth as secretary, and submitted the following report:

1. We have audited the books of the National Treasurer from April 1, 1923, to the present day, and found them correct, with the balance as shown in the printed report.

2. The Treasurer informs us that all obligations toward the Normal College and the Turnzeitung have been

met, and in addition thereto interest-bearing school bonds of the borough of Springdale, Pa., have been acquired amounting to \$10,000, while the balance in bank at the present day is \$6,712.07.

3. The unpaid capita tax for the year ending March 31, 1925, amounts to \$1,390.83.

4. Of the Special Tax levied by the Chicago Convention in 1921, there still remains unpaid the sum of \$10,102. This is equivalent to about 34% of the total, but about 1% must be regarded as uncollectible. An effort should be made to collect the remainder from delinquent societies.

All recommendations were unanimously adopted, and the Treasurer was instructed to collect the unpaid balance from the delinquent societies, in justice to those that have paid.

Committee on National Organ.

The committee organized with Otto Kallmeyer as chairman and A. Rossweiler as secretary, and submitted the following report:

1. That the National Executive Committee of the Turnerbund be authorized to purchase the "Turnzeitung" and "Freidenker" from the owners.

2. That the committee be authorized to publish a German monthly to succeed these publications.

3. That the committee be authorized to publish a weekly organ in the English language as soon as the financial success of such an organ is assured.

Turner Urban Hartung presented a minority report recommending that the National Executive Committee continue the "Turnzeitung" for two years longer as the national organ, because of its valuable services rendered in the interests of Turnerism and the modern scientific philosophy of life.

After a spirited debate the vote on this question resulted in the rejection of the minority report and the adoption of the committee's three recommendations without change.

Committee on Platform and Statutes.

This committee elected J. A. Welzenbach as chairman and Leo J. Sandmann as secretary, and submitted the following recommendations:

1. That Sections 51 and 52 of the Statutes be amended so as to give individual societies more direct representation.

2. That all sections of the Statutes which have been repealed by previous Conventions be omitted in printing future editions, and the other sections renumbered accordingly.

3. That paragraph g on page 22 and the last sentence in paragraph i of the Statutes be repealed.

4. That the revision of the "Fundamental Principles" recommended by the National Executive Committee be approved and adopted, and that the societies be given four weeks' time during which to submit any editorial suggestions, which the Committee is empowered to adopt or reject according to its judgment.

All these recommendations were adopted unanimously, with the addition of the proviso in the first that the National Executive Committee shall formulate the same for resubmission to the next Convention.

The Technical Committee.

This committee was organized by the election of Henry Meyer as chairman and Leo Doering as secretary. Its recommendations were read paragraph by paragraph, altering or augmenting the Tournament Rules before the Convention in printed form. The Illinois District presented a minority report, which was rejected. This minority report advocated in so-

ciety contests for Actives, tactics, free exercises, and pentathlon; for Ladies, tactics and free exercises, dance exercises and heptathlon. All others to be classified as special single events.

The recommendations of the committee were as follows:

1. That the plan worked out by Turner Stecher, entitled "An Ideal Turner," be approved and adopted. Carried.

2. That in the next Turnfest the men's competition be held in three grades—first, second and third, or lower, middle and upper grade. This changes Part III, Article 3, Section 2a. Carried.

3. That the wording of Part I, Article 7 and Section 5, under Parade, be changed to read as follows: "Women shall march in the parade in the following costume: white half-sleeve middy blouses, white skirts, white shoes and stockings, and black sailor tie. They shall not be permitted to appear in their gymnastic costumes at any time outside of the tournament grounds." Carried.

4. That the wording of Part VII, Article 4, Section 2c, under Individual Competition, shall read as follows: "The obligatory exercises shall be of one grade of difficulty. These exercises, one prescribed exercise for each piece of apparatus, shall be published six months before a festival." Carried.

5. That Section 3a of the same Article be changed to "Running, not more than 50 yards." Carried.

6. That Section 3c of same Article be changed to "Shot Put, 8 lbs." Carried.

7. That Section 1b, Article 5, Part VI, be eliminated from the special events.

8. That the following be added to Part I, Article 8, Section 8: The National Technical Committee shall be

instructed to appoint three capable assistants to the chairman, who shall thereby be given greater opportunity to direct the work as a whole." Carried.

9. That to Part III, Article 1, another number be added, as follows: (g) Model Work. To count Excellent 20, Very Good 16, Good 12, Satisfactory 8, Poor 4." Carried.

10. That Part III, Article 4, Section 2, be changed as follows: "Competitors may enter both the decathlon and the pentathlon. The pentathlon is to be composed of the following events: High Jump, 220-yard dash, Climbing for speed, Javelin throw, Three standing broad jump. Any event used in the pentathlon shall not be used in the special events." Carried.

11. That Sections 2 and 3 of Part III, Article 8, be stricken out and the following substituted: "Decathlon. Each competitor to add points to his society score must make the following scale of points:

Upper grade, less than 60% scores nothing. 60% is equal to 7 points. 100% equals 15 points. The addition of 1% to the total per cent over 60 is equal to .2 of a point.

Middle grade, less than 70% equals nothing; 70% equals 4 points; 100% equals 10 points; 1% equals two-tenths of a point (.2).

Lower grade, less than 80% equals nothing; 80% equals 1 point; 100% equals 5 points; 1% equals two-tenths of a point (.2). Carried.

12. That the percentages and points shall be changed to the following: "The highest individual score shall count as 10 points. 75% shall equal zero (0). 100% shall count as 10 points. 1% equals four-tenths of a point (.4)." Carried.

13. That Part IV, Article 2, Section

1, be changed to read as follows: "Contestants achieving at least (75%) seventy-five per cent in the upper grade, (80%) eighty per cent in the middle grade, and (85%) eighty-five per cent in the lower grade of the attainable number of points in the apparatus work of the decathlon, shall be awarded a prize." Remainder of paragraph to read the same. Carried.

14. That in Part III, Article 3, Section 2c, the phrase "one prescribed for each piece of apparatus" be inserted instead of the phrase "two for each piece of apparatus." Carried.

15. That Ladies' model work will be included in Women's competition, and added to Part VII, Article 2, as Section 6. Carried.

16. That the next National Turnfest be held at Louisville. Carried.

17. That the rules governing National Festivals of the American Turnbund be accepted by the Committee on Physical Education in this Convention as the rules governing the next Turnfest. Carried.

18. That the National Technical Committee be instructed to form a separate distinct group, called the Honor Group, to include all invited guests, all men of the upper grade who have won 1st in a District Turnfest, 1st, 2nd or 3rd in a Circuit Turnfest held since the last Bundesfest, and the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th prize winners of the last Bundes-Turnfest, and all others who in the judgment of the National Technical Committee belong in this Honor Group. This group is to compete with the same exercises as the upper grade, but is to be awarded separate prizes. Carried.

19. That a teacher with a class in competition shall be excused from serving as judge if his substitute is approved and the Committee notified 60 days before Turnfest. Carried.

Normal College.

This committee, organized with A. E. Kindervater as chairman, and Hans Goetz as secretary, submitted two recommendations, which were adopted by the Convention with great enthusiasm. The report was as follows:

A letter from a member of the Louisville Turngemeinde was read, recommending that the Trustees of the College should strive to make the College self-sustaining and that the \$6,000.00 appropriation should in future be given to the "Jahn Fund."

A letter from Turner Hans Ballin, of St. Louis, was also read, lauding the Normal College, and expressing the sincere hope and wish that the Normal College be sustained and its scope enlarged.

After the Trustees of the Normal College had shown the committee that 16 members of the Turnerbund received free tuition, and that 35 members received a reduction of 40% in tuition fees, and that through those reductions the income on tuition fees was reduced by \$5,304.00, and since the committee is convinced that the continuation of the Normal College is of vital interest and benefit to the American Turnerbund, the committee again recommends:

(1) That the sum of \$6,000.00 a year be appropriated for the Normal College.

After thorough investigation of the work at the Normal College and at Camp Brosius, we are convinced that the possession and maintenance of said institutions is a matter of great pride and satisfaction to the members of the Turnerbund, and we recommend:

(2) That the Convention express its appreciation and thanks to the trustees of the College, as well as the deans of the various departments, for

the conscientious and intelligent management of both College and Camp.

We also wish to bring to the notice of the Convention that former students of the College contributed \$2,000.00 toward Camp Brosius, and that Stecher Hall, with its equipment, the furnishings of the Girls' Rest Room, canoes and rowboats, etc., were gifts of former students who wished to express thereby their loyalty to the Normal College and the American Turnerbund.

At this point the delegates received an agreeable surprise by a visit from the male chorus "Harmonie" of Chicago, which rendered several numbers most acceptably. The chairman thanked the singers and the delegates evinced their approval by a threefold "Gut Heil!"

At 6 p. m. the Convention was adjourned until Sunday morning at ten.

Third Day, June 28, 1925.

At 10 a. m. the vice chairman, Carl Sputh, opened the session. The roll was called, and the minutes of the first two days were read and approved with slight changes.

National and District Affairs.

This committee, organized by the election of Berthold Muecke as chairman and J. H. Jebens as secretary, submitted 20 recommendations, which were approved and adopted separately and as a whole, as follows:

1. That the capita tax to the Bund remain as before, 50 cents. Carried.

2. That the next National Tournament be held at Louisville, Ky., under the direction of the Louisville Turngemeinde. Carried.

3. That the National Headquarters remain for the next two years in Pittsburgh, because of the fact that during the past two years the National Executive Committee has done

so excellent work that it deserves the heartiest thanks of the Convention, which cannot be better expressed than by bestowing on it the honor of re-electing that body of Turners again to direct the affairs of the Turnerbund for two more years. (Carried, the delegates rising from their seats to render their approval more emphatic.)

4. Whereas, the American Turnerbund is bound by duty and honor to watch the work of our public schools; and, whereas it is a fact that the text books of history in our public schools ignore the pioneer work of German immigrants in most cases, and either suppress the names and achievements of prominent citizens of German extraction, or purposely minimize their patriotic service; and, whereas the causes and incidents of the world war, as also the Treaty of Versailles, which our Senate refused to ratify, are still misrepresented in said text books, notwithstanding the documentary evidence brought to light exposing these historical falsehoods;

Therefore, be it resolved to request the societies of the Turnerbund to demand from the various school boards the correction of such historical falsehoods in history text books, that coming generations be not prejudiced against the German people. Carried.

B. Whereas the question of war guilt is treated by the greater part of the daily press with a conspiracy of silence; and whereas but few statesmen in Congress have had the courage to raise their voices in revealing the truth as to the real responsibility for the world war; and, whereas the perpetuation of this infamous lie tends to bring our fellow-citizens of German origin into contempt as during the war; therefore,

Be it resolved, that we use every

means at our disposal to bring out the truth in this important matter. Carried.

C. Whereas during recent years the active propaganda of church organizations in various states has induced public school authorities, as well as legislatures, to introduce Bible reading into our public schools, thereby undermining the secular character of the same; and, whereas our public school system is the basis of our educational program for training future citizens of our republic; and, whereas our Constitution demands the separation of church and state as a vital element of democracy; therefore,

Be it resolved, that the societies of the American Turnerbund are instructed at all times to protest with firmness against this flagrant violation of the American Constitution. Carried.

D. Whereas by court proceedings in the State of Tennessee there has been precipitated a new controversy between adherents of the biblical story of creation and the scientific theory of evolution; and, whereas, the timid efforts at compromise made by teachers of science in our higher institutions of learning are ineffectual against the fierce dogmatism of orthodox church factions; and, whereas the Turners advocate "a sound mind in a sound body;" therefore,

Be it resolved, that this Convention declare its complete and unreserved adherence to the doctrine of Evolution. Carried.

5. That as Turners it is our duty to oppose Prohibition, Blue Laws, Censorship and all encroachments on Educational Liberty, and that the National Executive Committee be instructed to take the necessary steps in such cases. Carried.

6. A recommendation of the Philadelphia District to change the name of

the "American Turnerbund" to "The American Turners" was rejected. The rejection was approved.

7. We recommend that the Articles of Incorporation of the member societies of the Turnerbund be so revised as to provide for transferring the property of the society to the Turnerbund in case of dissolution of such society. Carried.

8. A recommendation of the New Jersey District to support the Steuben Society of America in its fight against obnoxious and puritanical laws was tabled, as the Turnerbund does not affiliate with other organizations in activities along political lines. The committee's action was approved.

9. We recommend that a uniform identification card be used by all Turner Societies, and that the National Executive Committee be instructed to prepare such cards. Carried.

10. A communication from the American Peace Award Association for sanction of the Harding-Hughes-Coolidge Peace Court, was tabled. Action of the Committee was approved.

11. We recommend that the Convention approve the founding of the Jahn Educational Fund, and that we continue the agitation for collecting funds and that we request the Societies of the Turnerbund to do their utmost to attain this goal. Carried.

12. Applications for the next National Convention of the Turnerbund were made by the Philadelphia, Cleveland, Davenport, and San Francisco Societies. The committee recommends that the next National Convention be held in 1927 at Philadelphia, for the reason that no National Convention has been held in the East since 1906, and to give the Turners of that section an opportunity to observe the work of a Na-

tional Turner Convention. The balloting upon this paragraph resulted in the selection of Cleveland by 171 votes, 103 being cast for Philadelphia, 33 for Davenport, 8 Camp Brosius.

13. Whereas, Congress has augmented its own powers by proposing the so-called Eighteenth Amendment for ratification to the State Legislatures, instead of the Conventions of the people, as provided for in Article V of the Constitution;

We, the members of the American Turnerbund, in convention assembled, voice our conviction that this action of the Congress and of the State Legislatures is an usurpation of power and incompatible with the letter and spirit of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the American theory of government.

We declare that this insertion of a drastic statute into the great charter of American liberties is neither in essence nor in truth a constitutional amendment but a gross infringement upon the rights of the people. The mode of ratification of this so-called Amendment stamps it as absolutely unconstitutional. This vicious law operates directly against the liberties of American citizens, over which the State Legislatures have not, have never had, and never can have any competent power.

We, the members of the American Turnerbund still uphold the belief that the Supreme Court of the United States was designed to be and is the bulwark of the American people in the protection of their liberties.

We therefore call upon the Supreme Court for a definite decision as to the constitutionality of Section 3 of the Prohibition Amendment, in connection with the invasion of the constitutional rights of the people as ordained in Sections 1 and 2 of that Amendment.

And if for any reason such a defi-

nite decision of the Supreme Court cannot be obtained in reasonable time, we call upon all liberal-minded representatives of the people in Congress, who have the courage of conviction and conscience, to rally to the support of common sense and reason, by assembling conventions of the people to review and to annul the act known as the Eighteenth Amendment.

Further, Be It Resolved, That the National Executive Committee take the necessary steps to bring this protest to the attention of the respective bodies. Carried.

14. A communication from the Minnesota delegation was referred to the National Executive Committee for formulation and submission to the next Convention.

15. Whereas, by the death of Senator Robert M. LaFollette our country has lost one of its greatest statesmen and humanitarians, the world one of its noblest citizens, the workingmen one of their best champions, and we Turners one of our truest friends, who by his words, example, and deeds bodied forth many of the ideals set forth in our Turner Declaration of Principles; and

Whereas, when during the war liberty of speech was greatly abridged, freedom of the press abrogated, and a great number of citizens deprived of their constitutional rights and privileges, Senator LaFollette almost single-handed rose fearlessly in defense of these fundamental rights; and

Whereas, when after the war a great number of men and women were immured in dungeons because of their political opinions, Senator LaFollette freely devoted his great abilities and influence to the task of liberating these political prisoners; and

Whereas, Senator LaFollette during his entire life waged relentless war on behalf of genuine popular government, against the illegally arrogated privileges of the trusts, certain courts, and great capitalistic combinations, and always stood for the political emancipation of women, as well as for just legislation in defense of millions of toilers on farms, railroads, ships, and in our industries; and

Whereas, during twenty-five long years Senator LaFollette, as representative of his state, has been one of our most courageous, best-beloved, and indefatigable statesmen, incorruptible and unblemished, a model citizen of the American Republic; therefore

Be it Resolved, That the Convention of the American Turnerbund hereby gives expression to the high esteem and veneration which it entertains for the memory of this fearless warrior for human rights and liberties, and that these resolutions be entered upon the minutes of the Convention and a copy of the same transmitted to Senator LaFollette's family.

The resolution was adopted, and its adoption made more impressive by a rising vote.

16. The National Executive Committee should be authorized to collect books and documents relating to the history of the Turners, as also those relating to the general history of the Germans in America. Carried.

17. The National Executive Committee should be authorized to collect historical relics of all kinds relating to the Turners, as the foundation of a Turner Museum. Carried.

18. The National Executive Committee should be authorized to divert into the Jahn Educational Fund any moneys not required for any other purposes. Carried.

19. The National Executive Committee should be instructed to take into consideration the advisability of later employing a field secretary. Carried.

20. In honor of the memory of Turners who have died during the past two years, the Convention should rise in reverent tribute. It was done.

Mental Training.

This committee, through John E. Zutt as chairman and Urban Hartung as secretary, submitted the following report and recommendations:

1. That a course be introduced in the curriculum of the Normal College, in connection with the Jahn Fund, with a view to developing speakers and leaders for our Mental Training work.

2. That the original edition of the "History of the Turner-Bund," by Heinrich Metzner, be republished in the German language if possible.

3. It shall be the duty of every society to arrange a series of lectures during the year along scientific and progressive lines, which the Juniors should be invited to attend.

4. We recommend the publication of monthly society magazines wherever possible, and the exchange of said papers among the various societies.

5. We also recommend the organization of Debating Clubs within the societies, and that debates be arranged with other Turner societies or with different organizations.

6. We recommend that the Turnerbund voice its condemnation of the adulteration of American History.

7. For the promotion of mental activities at the National Turnfest, we recommend the adoption of Sections 5 and 6, submitted by the National Committee on Mental Training.

In conclusion, we would call attention to the Jahn Educational Fund, which should receive the support of each Turner and of the societies, and that contributions should be solicited whenever an opportunity is afforded.

We take great pleasure in stating that a decided advance in mental training activities can be observed within the Turnerbund, due to the untiring efforts of the National Executive officers, to whom recognition and thanks are due. The Turner Societies should endeavor to carry out their recommendations, not in any half-hearted way, in order to place Mental Training on the plane that the founders of our Turnerbund had in mind. Only thus can the obstacles and barriers to liberty be surmounted, and our Turnerbund be brought to the zenith of its highest achievements.

This report, with its recommendations, was approved and adopted, and was followed by an address of Richard Turnt's, as follows:

We are striving to build up a Jahn Educational Fund, to perpetuate the Turners' principles and realize our ideals. Let us look at history to see the need of such efforts, for it may hearten and inspire the true Turner in the performance of his duty.

When, during the trying times of the German people, in the early part of the nineteenth century, immediately after the disastrous battle of Jena, (October 11, 1806) their future existence was threatened by the great dictator, Napoleon, Friedrich Ludwig Jahn conceived his mighty dream of a reunited Germany and began the teaching of his system of physical training, by which the youth of Germany might be enabled to revivify its waning powers and build up its mental resources, so that it might free itself from the thralldom of its oppressors. How well he succeeded is a part of history. The efficient manner in which he carried this movement into effect culminated in the formation of a new era and led to the formation of a reunited German nation.

Father Jahn was only one of the many pioneers of new thought. His system of physical training was based upon a thorough knowledge of his subject, one

worthy to be classified with the efforts of the great thinkers of the past, and like these great men he was subjected to persecution, so common in those early days. No amount of persecution has, or ever will have, the power to pervert the truth nor confute scientific deductions. I refer to the persecution of Socrates, who taught things in advance of his times and for his temerity was forced to drink a cup of poison. Galileo was forced to retract his statement that the earth moves around the sun; Copernicus had to flee for his life, for discovering what is now the basis of astronomy; Columbus was termed a visionary and a madman and was driven from the council of Salamanca, for contending that it was possible, by sailing westward, to discover a new continent; Giordano Bruno said once too often that the world moves around the sun, and was burned at the stake; Spinoza, the great philosopher, was denounced and threatened by the government of Holland for new thoughts about the universe; Roger Bacon, England's first scientist, spent fourteen years in jail for inventing spectacles, gunpowder and new thoughts; Eufame Macalyane was burned to death in Scotland, for trying to ease the pains of child-birth, and the first doctors to try anesthetics had to use caution and subterfuge in administering chloroform to their patients, at great risk of life and liberty.

We read of these ancient persecutions as part of the dark ages, like the burning of witches, and are dumbfounded at the thought that anything of this nature could happen in this enlightened day. Yet our self-anointed "Fundamentalist," William Jennings Bryan, who might more aptly be termed the foremost "Infantilist" of this or any other age, has denounced the most eminent scientists and thinkers as "scoundrels," and in his blinded egoism deems it his holy mission to persecute men who have the welfare of humanity at heart, seek no notoriety or remuneration, and are solely guided by reason and truth, but nevertheless are placed in a position which gravely involves their personal liberty and limits their freedom of action. I refer to the trial of Professor Scopes of Tennessee, who has been indicted for teaching the doctrine of evolution, despite the fact that the textbooks containing these tenets had been passed upon favorably by the board of education of that state. These actions should spur the American Turners on to bring to bear all the force and vigor of Jahn's teachings, so as to bring about a new and

saner conception of the value and necessity of liberty, in view of the bearing such actions have upon the future moulding of public opinion and the welfare of generations yet unborn.

What Jahn single-handed succeeded in bringing about, in giving the German people renewed hope for the establishment of their nation, to their undeniable place in the councils of the great nations of the present time, we Turners, blessed with the possession of his priceless heritage, should with holy zeal inculcate as an integral part in the complex of the American people. Surely it would be rank cowardice to admit our impotency to bring about this highly desirable result. Some thirty-two thousand liberal-minded men should have courage and force enough to bring into being these salutary measures, which mean so much for the cultivation and safe-guarding of personal liberty, tolerance and truth.

With the courage of our founders, with the knowledge that right is superior to might, with the consciousness that the victories of the pen are mightier than those of the sword, let us here reiterate our determination to dedicate our individual and collective efforts to put into force every ounce of our being to show that these doctrines are, and rightfully ever shall be, the mainspring of our common heritage, that we may not be found laggard in appreciating their importance in moulding the future welfare of our country. *Lasst uns nicht vergessen des Turner's Spruch: "In Taten liegt Euer Ruhm."*

Turner Turnt's address was enthusiastically applauded, and ordered to be printed for distribution. The suggestion was also made that the sesqui-centennial of American Independence should be observed by an appropriate celebration, arranged by the National Executive Committee.

Previous to the balloting on the place of the next Convention, Turner Otto Kallmeyer enlivened the proceedings by preferring charges against another Turner, whom he accused of a diabolical plot against the well-being of the Turners who had attended a Kammers the previous day. The chairman decided that a fine of \$200 should be imposed, payable to the Jahn Fund. The Convention unani-

mously ratified this impartial verdict.

Turner Conrad Krueck of Cleveland rose to thank the delegates for having selected Cleveland as the place for the next Convention.

President Seibel next read the Declaration of Trust for the Jahn Educational Fund, which was approved and adopted with one slight change, in order that it might be filed by the Trustees in proper legal form and manner.

President Seibel also brought to the notice of the delegates a communication from the presiding officer of the Deutsche Turnerschaft, which was received with great enthusiasm, and an invitation extended to the German Turners to participate in the coming Bundes-Turnfest, which invitation is also to be extended to the Deutsche Arbeiter-Turnerschaft.

Mrs. Charlotte Riess, President of the Ladies' Auxiliaries of the Turnerbund, assured the convention that the Turner Societies could always count upon the loyal co-operation of the women. The chairman of the convention voiced its appreciation of this spirit, and the delegates rose for a three-fold "Gut Heil!" to the ladies.

Additional recommendations by the Technical Committee were presented, as follows:

1. To raise the Feststeuer or registration fee, Part I, Art. 3, Sec. 4, from two dollars (\$2.00) to three dollars (\$3.00).

2. That the wording of Part II, Art. 3, Sec. 1 be reworded to read as follows: "The judges for all phases of the Turnfest shall be appointed by the committee in charge at the festival city, and the necessary costs incurred to be taken in charge by such city.

3. That the Bundes-Vorort be responsible for the expenses of the Na-

tional Technical Committee and such other special officials as the Vorort and the Technical Committee appoint.

4. That contestants in the National Turnfest must have been members of the organization for which they are to compete at least six months before the date of the Turnfest.

5. That members of a Society's junior class who have reached the age of 18 years may compete, providing, first, that they have been members of the Junior class at least six months before the date of the Turnfest; second, providing they have become members of the Society before the Turnfest.

6. That Societies may furnish, instead of a separate model number of men and separate model number for women, a combined model number of both women and men, and that the points shall count for both women's competition and men's competition.

These recommendations were approved and adopted.

After some remarks by President Seibel upon the value of publicity, by means of which the Societies and Districts might spread the knowledge of the Turners' purposes and ideals among an ever-widening circle, the Convention voiced its appreciation of the value of the German press, and especially of the splendid work done by its representatives from Milwaukee and Chicago.

Turner Fuchs of Chicago made an address in which he urged the Turners to strive for the realization of a national headquarters, in which the Normal College might be housed. This suggestion was submitted to the National Executive Committee for due consideration.

With a three-fold "Gut Heil!" the Thirtieth National Convention was then adjourned.