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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Twenty-Ninth Convention
OF THE
American Turnerbund



HELD AT
ST. LOUIS, MO.

JUNE 23-26, 1923.

1921 Convention was in Chicago, Ill.

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AMERICAN GYMNASTIC UNION
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FIRST DAY, JUNE 23

The delegates to the Twenty-ninth National convention of the American Gymnastic Union met at the hall of the Concordia Gymnastic Society, St. Louis, Mo., on Saturday evening, June 23, and were welcomed to the city by Harry Jacobs, chairman of the St. Louis District. After the playing of several selections by the band of the Concordia and the singing, by the assembly, of "Turner Auf Zum Streite" and "Star-Spangled Banner," Turner Herman Sexauer, president of Concordia, extended the welcome of the society and expressed the hope that the deliberations of the convention would promote the cause of Turnerism; he also announced a program of entertainments arranged to permit of relaxation after the strenuous work of the convention. Mayor Henry W. Kiel sent a communication expressing his regrets for not being able to be present because of illness.

The convention was then officially called to order by Theo. Stempfel, president of the American Gymnastic Union, who read the following address:

Turners and delegates to the Twenty-ninth convention;
Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is my privilege this year in the old Turner City of St. Louis to greet you, the representatives of the American Turnerbund, a federation of Turnvereine, that has successfully survived for 73 years all the storm and stress of time, all attacks of enemies from without and disturbers from within. Despite some pessimistic voices, peevishly predicting every year dire disaster for the future of our organization, despite the loss of a few hundred members during the past year, I still believe the Turnerbund will endure, because it draws its inner strength from the high endeavor to be helpful in the development of a strong citizenship, sound in body and mind. I believe in the Turnerbund, because it always has been, and I have faith it always will be, a stronghold of liberalism. Freedom in the broadest sense in matters of religion and conscience, freedom of thought, freedom of speech, the spirit of true democracy are the underlying principles upon which the Forty-Eighters, the political refugees of the German Revolution of 1848, founded the American Turnerbund in the year 1850.

I believe in the future of the Turnerbund, because it always has been, and I do not doubt, it always will be, an independent body, following its own chosen course, free from outside political or semi-political entanglements, free from the influence of political schemers and self-made demi-gods in its own ranks.

I believe in the Turnerbund, because I believe in liberty, because all progress of mankind, all advancement in the economic life, all improvements of political conditions have been wrested from the ruling classes by the spirit of liberty. To preserve that spirit within our organization means to give it life and strength and purpose.

But an organization like ours, in order to carry on its work, must have sufficient material subsistence. It should not be continuously hampered by threatening deficits. I regret to state that the creation of a national fund, decided upon two years ago at the Chicago convention, has not found the ready response on the part of our member societies that was expected. The report of the Treasurer will give you detailed information. It is the old, sad song! This convention must find means to strengthen the National Treasury.

The membership campaign proposed during the past year by your Executive Committee, has found only the sporadic attention of a limited number of member societies. It seem that during this period of transition from abnormal war excitement to retional, normal conditions of peace, the Turners, like other organizations, are suffering from the lack of concentration of interest, from a restlessness of mind prevailing in all phases of our political, economic and social life.

Our Normal College is in flourishing condition, thanks to the excellent and untiring work of the deans, Emil Rath, Professor Richardson and Dr. Hugo Pantzer and their staff of devoted teachers. We are again assured of a large number of students for the course beginning in fall. It is especially gratifying that among the applicants, the percentage of young men is greater than in former years. The College has had a rocky road to travel to bring it to its present state of efficiency and we may safely say, without boasting, that it can favorably stand comparison with all other schools of physical education, of which it was the pioneer.

It has been a great pleasure and satisfaction to the Trustee of the College at the Commencement exercises on the first of this month to confer the honorary degree of "Master of Physical Education" on the two veterans among our teachers, Henry Suder of Chicago, and William Stecher of Philadelphia. Both are so well known in the Turnerbund for their professional achievements and their fine personality that I need not dwell at length upon the specific qualifications that entitle them to this public expression of appreciation.

The Trustees of the College have recently closed a lease contract for the term of five years for a modern apartment house, located in the best part of the City of Indianapolis to be used as the new dormitory for girl students. The fact that this lease involves a financial responsibility for a rental in the sum of \$5,400 per year

may disclose to you the degree of confidence in the future of the college entertained by those who are in charge of its business affairs.

But, the Trustees of the College have undertaken another venture. Since the Chicago convention they have acquired by purchase for the benefit of the College and the Turnerbund, the beautiful property situated at Elkhart Lake, Wis., years ago the property of our highly esteemed friend, our own Willibald Fleck. It is to be regretted that years ago vision was lacking—and I confess to be one of the culprits—to appreciate the soundness of Fleck's suggestion of securing that beauty spot of nature for the summer school and for a place of recreation for the members of the Turnerbund. It was the deep, interest Willibald Fleck had in a successful career of our organization, and in no sense personal interest that prompted him to advocate the acquisition of the property.

The purchase of the property, that we have given the name of "Camp Brosius," was made possible by the guaranty of the members of the Board of Trustees who held themselves personally responsible for the first payment of \$5000, relying upon the generosity and good will of members of the Turnerbund. The result of the campaign for voluntary contributions has been somewhat disappointing, as thus far only approximately \$9,000 have been subscribed. The college owns the property and the Trustee will have to find means of financing it.

I would like to submit to the delegates of this convention the proposal to hold the next convention at Elkhart Lake, Wis., at the time of the closing exercises of the regular college course, followed immediately by the summer course for teachers. The hotel accommodations at the lake are ample. This would afford the representatives of the Turnerbund opportunity to judge for themselves the merits of Camp Brosius. It would be a most delightful change and appreciated by every attendant.

Forty-three years ago, at the ninth convention, held in Indianapolis, the late Dr. Sharkloff in his opening address said: "How would it be if we would work with all our might to introduce physical training in the public schools of this country. We could not conceive of a more beautiful gift than this to bestow upon the American people." Ever since that time the Turnerbund has striven to work to that end. It has trained teachers in its college for that purpose. It has succeeded, besides keeping alive its societies, in introducing physical education in a large number of cities, and has accomplished more than many of us realize. At every opportunity we have with just pride called attention to this achievement. In the face of all this does it not sound like a voice from the backwoods, when we hear today the demand of an Eastern district that henceforth the yearly transfer of funds from the Treasury of the Bund for the maintenance of our Normal College should be suspended because no benefit for the Turnvereine is derived from the training of teachers for the public schools. Whoever is responsible for that appeal has no conception of the purpose and mission of the Turnerbund. It is exceedingly deplorable. It is so

easy to destroy and so difficult to build up again, as we all have experienced at home during the war.

Far be it from me to blame the whole district for the adoption of that short-sighted resolution. Most likely it emanated from an individual who is merely expressing his spite.

From the same quarter there was published just recently in a Philadelphia paper a cowardly attack upon the present Executive Committee and the Turnerbund in general. That article is full of slanderous accusations and base insinuations, betraying the calibre of the writer, who, of course, carefully conceals his name. There are some braggarts who build for themselves a straw man and delight in throwing mud at it. They are not Americans, but colonists from abroad, no matter how many years they may have lived on this side of the Atlantic. They never come in contact with American life outside of their own narrow circle. Much less do they understand the spirit of the Middle West. When the German poet, Gustav Frenssen, visited this country last year, he expressed surprise at the old-fashioned philistine (*spießbürgerliche*), opinions on German political conditions, he had heard loudly proclaimed in certain circles of the East.

Some of their irresponsible spokesmen have crawled out of their cyclone cellars where they kept in hiding during the stormy days of the war and have become quite noisy. They find much to criticize in the attitude of your Executive Committee during the war.

We, of Indianapolis, felt, and I hope every true member of the Turnerbund felt, that after our country has entered the World War, it was our duty as Americans and as Turners, to offer our assistance to the Government in the training of the young men, called to arms, in the training of our own sons and brothers, so that they would be physically better prepared to undergo the hardships of that dreadful war. To have done otherwise would have been treason to our country, treason to the traditions of the Turnerbund, treason to our own flesh and blood. In doing our duties as citizens our hearts may have ached, but there was no other honorable alternative.

We, of Indianapolis, felt, and I hope every true member of the Turnerbund felt, that our conduct in this terrible calamity should be such that every one of us could look his neighbor straight in the eye.

I am glad to state that the membership of our organization has stood the acid test of true citizenship manfully and unflinchingly. For those of German ancestry it required perhaps a greater degree of moral courage and devotion to duty than for descendants of other nationalities.

Death has again called from our ranks a number of our most faithful members. They were men who had devoted a life time to the cause of the Turners. Foremost among them is Albin Stecher of Cincinnati, who died in 1922 in his 89th year. As a young man he had taken part in the German Revolution. Shortly afterwards he came to America and moved to Cincinnati in 1852. When the Civil War broke out, he joined the Ninth Ohio Regiment and

served his period of three years. He was cited in orders for valor while in service. Albin Stecher was a Turner in the best sense of the word. For more than 20 years he was physical director of the Cincinnati Turngemeinde. The men who came to America after participating in the German Revolution were of a distinct type, liberty loving, enthusiastic, high minded men, well educated and true to the core. We shall not look upon their like again.

Of the other of our departed friends let me mention three who for many years have been regular attendants at our conventions and who have always rendered the most efficient service: Gustav Donald of Davenport, Wm. Krauthoefer and Emil Wallber of Milwaukee.

Let us arise in honor of the memory of those of our members who since our last meeting have gone to the Great Beyond.

The American is a free man and as such he must resent interference by the Government with his personal liberty. Prohibition is governmental paternalism of the worst form. It is usurpation. Some 180 years ago Jean Jacques Rousseau whose book, entitled "Social Contract," gave the text to the French Revolution and the inspiration to the wording of the Declaration of Independence, said: "Usurpers always bring about or select troublesome times for passing under cover of public agitation, destructive laws which the people would never adopt when sober-minded." Rousseau's definition fits the case exactly. The prohibition law was railroaded through Congress when the American people were not sober minded, at a time when they were infected by the hysteria of war. Our boys across the Atlantic had no voice in the framing of this oppressive law, there were fighting "to make the world safe for democracy" and democracy is the opponent of usurpation. I fully agree with the editorial comment published some months ago in the Chicago Tribune. "It is natural," the editorial concludes, "that prohibition advocates should stand on their privilege to invade an American's home without due process of law and subject him and his premises to a lawless inquisition. To point out that these are grave dangers to a democracy has no force with persons convinced that the moral value of their cause makes any method of enforcement lawful and just. If the courts do not maintain respect for law against these offenders as against others, the ancient foundations of individual liberty will be destroyed in a land which called itself free. The American is ceasing to be a citizen and is becoming a subject."

Your Executive Committee deemed it incumbent to transmit to the President and the Department of State on behalf of the Turnerbund a protest against the brutal invasion of the Ruhr district by the French armies. History going back to ancient times, has never recorded a more shameful betrayal of confidence, a more inhuman treatment of a conquered nation than the demands exacted from Germany by the terms of the monstrous Treaty of Versailles. It almost seems as if the nations of Europe, having Germany by the throat, were afraid to loosen their grip for fear their victim may still show signs of life. As long as short-sighted and ambitious politicians direct over the destiny of Europe, ignoring the ju'g-

ment of expert economists, so long are we powerless under the present constellation of financial and industrial interests. All that we can do is to mitigate the misery of the German people by sending them food, clothing and money.

For the information of some careless critics I wish to mention that it was at our twenty-fourth convention, held in this city in 1910, that by unanimous vote the name American Gymnastic Union was adopted as the proper translation for Amerikanischer Turnerbund. At that convention we also discovered Turner Steichmann who was reporting the proceedings for the Westliche Post. We lured him to Indianapolis where he has rendered all these years excellent service as first Secretary of the Turnerbund.

We, of Indianapolis, have repeatedly declared at previous conventions that we wish to be relieved of the Executive duties. We have never been ambitious to remain in office. If we accepted re-election in the past, we did so at your request, under the belief that we could be of service to the Turnerbund—I feel that at this point I should appease the disturbed mind of a particular Turner who may have silent aspirations, in assuring him that we shall not accept an eleventh re-election—due notice was given last November that we must decline the honor.

You delegates of the Twenty-ninth convention, therefore, will have to choose new headquarters for the Turnerbund. You may find better qualified and more efficient men, and I don't doubt you will, but you cannot find (and I may say this being only one of fifteen), more unselfish men.

I have stood before you in various capacities quite often during the past 25 years and I bid you now officially farewell. I thank you for myself, as well as in the name of my associates for the confidence and forbearance that have been shown us in the past. Let me assure you of our willingness to assist and co-operate with our successors whenever we may be called upon. We have with you, the one aim, the one sincere desire, that the traditional spirit of our Turnerbund may be maintained, that our organization may flourish and grow for our benefit and remain a factor in the educational development and expansion of our Republic.

Gut Heil!

Theodore Stempfe

The convention organized by electing Emil Schmid, Pittsburgh, secretary pro tem.

Upon motion, the President appointed the following committee on credentials: Otto Kallmeyer, St. Louis; Fred Olt, Ohio; Oscar E. Ruther, Kansas-Missouri. After a recess of 15 minutes, the committee reported as follows: Twenty-one districts are represented by the following 121 delegates:

Districts	Votes	Delegates
New York -----	17	B. Muecke.
Indiana -----	17	Herman Rieke, Ed. H. Schoening, Jr., Ed. Groth, Ernst Loeffler, Emil Rath, Henry Meyer, Max Schlegel, Hugo Karn, Julius Doerter, Charles Woidich, Albert Magerkurth.
St. Louis -----	31	F. F. Fischer, F. R. Goerisch, Harry O. Jacobs, Gus Belter, Henry Kuechle, Alfred Aigler, Otto Kallmeyer, A. E. Kindervater, Martin Hacker, Dr. Otto Koenig, August Driemeyer, Herman Sexauer, Charles Witt, Louis Kittlaus, Otto Eckl J. H. Mueck, W. Alten- bernd, Herman Schmid, George Roden- heiser, Joseph Sperrer, F. Sargent, L. H. Schultz, J. Gummersheimer, L. R. Osterhaus, F. G. Rapp, J. H. Dick- brader, John Toensfeld, Edward Ho- henstein, H. Laeuffert.
New England -----	19	Christian Eberhardt.
Wisconsin -----	13	William Rittberger, Edward Pfleger, Henry Loeprich.
Illinois -----	26	Max Wolff, Adolf Danneberg, Bernard DeVry, Charles Eichin, H. A. Engelken, L. O. Greiner, Theodore Gross, Carl Hoesch, Arthur Iser, Ernst Klafs, Otto Loewe, John Manzer, August Rass- weiler, Fred Roepenack, Emil Rothe, Leopold Saltiel, Adolph Schachen- mann, George A. Schmidt, Otto Sieb- enbrodt, Dr. C. A. Weil, Alfred Wild, Jacob Willig, Charles Beckmann, M. F. Strauch.
Philadelphia -----	30	Dr. Franklin A. Weigand, Richard Per- tuch, Henry J. Quandt, W. A. Stecher.
New Jersey -----	21	Adolf Matthiessen.
Pittsburgh -----	40	Dr. Herman Groth, Emil Schmid, Henry G. L. Schaefer, George J. F. Falken- stein, Henry Koenig, Carl Erdlen, Richard Turnt, Wm. Voelker, Eugen Junker, Jacob Moenich, Wm. Pfirman, Ernest Herklotz.
Kansas-Missouri ----	5	Otto Pueschel, C. Trieb, Oscar Ruther, Herman Broker, M. H. Fenzl.

Districts	Votes	Delegates
Minnesota -----	5	Albert Steinhäuser, J. W. Dreger, Thomas Pfaender, Wm. Muller.
Upper Mississippi ----	23	John H. Jebens, C. O. Schweickhardt, Wm. Reuter, Otto Sindt, Adolph Op- penheimer, Harry Warnken, Edward Lischer, T. F. Hanna.
Rocky Mountain ----	4	Wm. Kley.
New Orleans -----	1	Heinrich Braun.
Pacific -----	4	F. H. Bergmann.
Connecticut -----	6	Fritz Weber.
Lake Erie -----	11	Henry Pfeiffer, Wm. A. Roediger, Leon Schulze, Louis Janichen, Urban Har- tung.
West New York----	15	Richard W. Heinrich.
Ohio -----	7	Fred Olt, Wm. K. Streit, George F. Roth, Alban Wolff, Leslie F. Roth, Fred Roehm.
South Central -----	1	A. H. Schmissranter.
North-Pacific -----	5	Request, Otto Dreisel,, St. Louis, to represent the district, if present.
Southern California--	6	Carl Entenmann.

The National Executive Committee was represented by the following: Theo. Stempfel, President; H. Steichmann, Corresponding Secretary; Richard A. Kurtz, Recording Secretary; Carl H. Lieber, Dr. C. B. Spath, Franklin Vonnegut and Jos. Weissmueller.

The report of the committee on credentials was adopted.

Upon motion, the President appointed the following committee to propose candidates for officers, and members of standing committees: Christ. Eberhard, New England; Adolph Matthiessen, New Jersey; Richard Turnt, Pittsburgh; John H. Jebens, Upper Mississippi; Carl Entenmann, South California; Wm. Kley, Rocky Mountain; A. E. Kindervater, St. Louis; Henry Pfeiffer, Lake Erie; Bernard DeVry, Illinois.

The convention then adjourned until the following day, at 9 o'clock a. m.

SECOND DAY, JUNE 24

President Stempfel called the convention to order. The minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

The committee on permanent organization made the following nominations:

Honorary Chairman—John Toensfeld, St. Louis.

Chairman—Otto Kallmeyer, St. Louis, and Geo. J. F. Falkenstein, Pittsburgh.

Vice Chairman—Leopold Saltiel, Illinois, and Ed. Lischer, Upper Mississippi.

Secretaries (German)—Wm. Rittberger, Wisconsin, and H. A. Engelken, Illinois.

Secretaries (English)—Fred Olt, Ohio, and Wm. K. Streit, Ohio.

Turner Toensfeld was unanimously chosen as honorary chairman and acknowledged with a brief address the honor conferred upon him.

Turner Falkenstein withdrew his name, as did Turner Lischer. Turners Kallmeyer and Saltiel were then unanimously elected as chairman and vice chairman, respectively, the secretaries were also elected unanimously as proposed. After the officers had assumed their chairs, the committee on permanent organization also nominated the following committees:

Physical Education—Theodore Gross, Illinois; Otto Eckl, St. Louis; A. Oppenheimer, Upper Mississippi; R. Pertuch, Philadelphia; Thom. Pfaender, Minnesota; O. Ruther, Kansas-Missouri; R. Heinrich, West New York; H. Meyer, Indiana; E. Schmid, Pittsburgh; Dr. Sputh, W. A. Stecher and all other physical directors present.

National Affairs—Harry C. Jacobs, St. Louis; Bern. DeVry, Illinois; C. Entenmann, Southern California; W. Kley, Rocky Mountain; B. Muecke, New York; Richard Turnt, Pittsburgh; J. Jebens, Upper Mississippi; Heinrich, Braun, New Orleans; Ed. Pfleger, Wisconsin; W. Mueller, Minnesota; A. Schmissranter, South-Central; Fritz Weber, Connecticut; F. H. Bergmann, Pacific; O. Pueschel, Kansas-Missouri; H. Pfeiffer, Lake Erie; G. F. Roth, Ohio; H. Rieke, Indiana; Henry J. Quandt, Philadelphia, and Theodore Stempfel.

Platform and Statutes—Leon Schulze, Lake Erie; Joseph Sperrer, St. Louis; A. Schachenmann, Illinois; H. Karn, Indiana; J. Willig, Illinois; O. Sindt, Upper Mississippi; Ernst Herklotz, Pittsburgh; Henry J. Nottberg, Kansas-Missouri.

Official Organ—J. Gummersheimer, St. Louis; W. Rittberger, Wisconsin; W. Voelker, Pittsburgh; Wm. A. Roediger, Lake Erie, and H. Steichmann.

Rules—L. Osterhaus, St. Louis; Eug. Junker, Pittsburgh; Charles Woidich, Indiana.

Finance—Ed. Pfleger, Wisconsin; H. Schmid, St. Louis; H. Koenig, Pittsburgh; F. T. Hanna, Upper Mississippi, and Carl Lieber.

Motions—August Driemeyer, St. Louis; M. H. Fenzel, Kansas-Missouri; W. Pfirman, Pittsburgh.

Normal College—A. E. Kindervater, St. Louis; C. Eberhard, New England; A. Matthiessen, New Jersey; Wm. Reuter, Upper Mississippi; Dr. Groth, Pittsburgh; Charles Eichin, Illinois; C. Trieb, Kansas-Missouri; Leslie F. Roth, Ohio; E. Groth, Indiana; Carl Lieber; Emil Rath.

Mental Training—G. A. Schmidt, Illinois; Henry Loeprich, Wisconsin; H. Broker, Kansas-Missouri; H. Sexauer, St. Louis; Carl Erdlen, Pittsburgh; U. Hartung, Lake Erie; A. Wolff, Ohio; C. A. Schweickhardt, Upper Mississippi; E. Schoening, Jr., Indiana; Dr. F. A. Weigand, Philadelphia.

The recommendations of the committee were approved as read.

The convention then adjourned until the following day, at 9 o'clock a. m.

THIRD DAY, JUNE 25

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Otto Kallmeyer at 11:00 a. m.

Before proceeding with the order of business, a committee of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the American Gymnastic Union was introduced by the chairman. Mrs. Linda Schulte of Newport, Ky., greeted the delegates and presented a basket of flowers with best wishes from the ladies and the assurance that they would, as heretofore, co-operate to promote the cause of Turnerism.

The minutes of the meeting of the previous day were approved as read.

A congratulatory telegram from Turner John Friesel, Richmond, Va. (for many years secretary of the St. Louis district), was read.

Inasmuch as Turner Otto Dreisel could not be reached, the convention appointed Turner Mazzini Kruer to represent the North Pacific District.

Report of the Committee on Rules

The Committee on Rules organized as follows:

Eugene Junker, chairman; Charles Woidich, secretary.

The following recommendations were made:

1. To conduct the meeting according to Cushing's parliamentary rules.
2. No delegate shall speak more than twice on any one subject. The chairman may, at his discretion, deviate from this rule

3. Remarks shall be limited to five minutes, except with consent of the convention.

4. That all proceedings be recorded in both languages.

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

The report of this committee was unanimously adopted.

Report of Committee on Official Organ

The committee organized with J. J. Gummersheimer as chairman and F. Wm. M. Roediger as secretary, and made the following recommendations:

"This committee recommends that the official organ of the American Gymnastic Union be made compulsory and be edited in such form as will meet present day conditions; that it be mailed to every member of a member society, and that the convention find ways and means to finance it."

After a lengthy debate the following substitute was proposed by Turner Saltiel, Illinois:

"Be it resolved that the National Executive Committee be instructed to issue an official organ to be edited in both languages, German and English, to mail it to every member of a member society and to cover the cost by a per capita tax of 25 cents and the proceeds of sale of advertising space."

An amendment to call a referendum vote on this measure was defeated by a vote of 233 to 74.

Vote on the Amendment

District	For	Against
1. New York -----	17	--
2. Indiana -----	1	16
3. St. Louis -----	--	31
4. New England -----	--	19
5. Wisconsin -----	--	13
6. Illinois -----	--	26
7. Philadelphia -----	--	30
8. New Jersey -----	21	--
9. Pittsburgh -----	--	40
10. Kansas-Missouri -----	--	5
11. Minnesota -----	--	5
12. Upper Mississippi -----	--	23
13. Rocky Mountain -----	4	--
14. New Orleans -----	--	1
15. Pacific -----	4	--
16. Connecticut -----	6	--
17. Lake Erie -----	--	11
18. West New York -----	15	--
19. Ohio -----	--	7

20. South Central -----	--	1
21. North Pacific -----	--	5
22. Southern California -----	6	--
	<hr/> 74	<hr/> 233

The original motion of Turner Saltiel was then adopted by the following vote:

Vote on Resolution Concerning Official Organ

District	For	Against
1. New York -----	--	17
2. Indiana -----	8½	8½
3. St. Louis -----	31	--
4. New England -----	--	19
5. Wisconsin -----	13	--
6. Illinois -----	26	--
7. Philadelphia -----	--	30
8. New Jersey -----	--	21
9. Pittsburgh -----	40	--
10. Kansas-Missouri -----	5	--
11. Minnesota -----	5	--
12. Upper Mississippi -----	23	--
13. Rocky Mountain -----	--	4
14. New Orleans -----	1	--
15. Pacific -----	--	4
16. Connecticut -----	6	--
17. Lake Erie -----	11	--
18. West New York -----	--	7
19. Ohio -----	7	--
20. South Central -----	1	--
21. North Pacific -----	5	--
22. Southern California -----	--	6
	<hr/> 182½	<hr/> 124½

Report of the Committee on Finances

This committee organized by electing H. Schmidt as chairman, and Edw. Pfleger as secretary. The committee recommends that all member societies which have not yet fulfilled their obligation regarding the payment of a special tax of \$1 per member, as resolved by the previous convention, be requested to pay this tax as soon as possible, either in full or in several payments.

We have examined the books of the Treasurer, from April 1 to June 22, 1923, and find that the cash on hand, \$2,795.45, corresponds with the amount deposited in the Fletcher American National Bank at Indianapolis, according to their letter of June 22, 1923. We also have before us a report of the Indianapolis Auditing Company regarding the financial transactions from April 1, 1921, to

April 1, 1923. Comparing this report with the Treasurer's books, we find an error of \$178.00 on the part of the auditing company; however, the balance arrived at, is the same as in the books. We also find that the Auditing company has omitted to mention receipts for special tax amounting to \$1,300; this amount was transferred to the Normal College and was therefore, not entered as a receipt by the Auditing company; it is, however, correctly entered as such in the Treasurer's books.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Report of the Committee on National Affairs

The committee organized by electing Carl Entenmann as chairman, and J. J. Jebens as secretary, and make the following recommendations:

1. To telegraph the congratulations of the convention to the Circuit Tournament in Brooklyn and the District Tournament in Wisconsin. Not adopted because both tournaments were over at the time the report was made.

2. To telegraph the greetings and sympathy of the convention to the old and worthy Turner, Willibald Fleck, who had the misfortune of having his legs amputated. Adopted.

3. To increase the per capita tax to 50 cents. Laid over.

4. That a national tournament be held in the city of Philadelphia in 1926. Adopted.

5. The proposal of the New York district to print the statutes and yearly reports in English and German, can only refer to the statistical reports, since all other reports are printed in both languages. The committee considers the printing of the statistical report in German as superfluous, as it consists mostly of figures and recommends the extra printing only when sufficient funds are available for the purpose. Adopted.

6. We recommend that the next convention be held at Camp Brosius, Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin, in 1925.

7. Inasmuch as the request of the Lake Erie Turnbezir specified that the next convention be held in Cleveland in October, 1925, this request was accepted, but is not recommended for adoption because the time is not suitable.

8. We recommend that the name of the organization be changed to American Turnerbund. Unanimously adopted.

9. We recommend that in the future all correspondence from the various societies or districts to the National Convention be type-written, or otherwise legibly written. Unanimously adopted.

10. In reference to the recommendation of the Pacific District that the Executive Committee communicate with the national authorities in Washington, requesting tax exemption for entertainments of member societies, the committee is of the opinion that this matter can better be taken up by the individual societies, as the conditions in the districts vary. Adopted.

11. As Turners it is our plain duty to combat the un-American and un-democratic prohibition amendment, to support all movements directed at the repeal of this amendment, to work for the repeal of the Volstead Act, and to request the member societies, to urge their members to join the Association Against the Prohibition Amendment. Unanimously adopted.

12. Inasmuch as the occupation of the Ruhr district, itself an act in conflict with international law, becomes more and more terrible, this convention protests against the continued silence of the American Government and decides to send such protest from American citizens to the Secretary of State. This resolution was adopted and Turners DeVry, Sexauer, Falkenstein and Stempfel were instructed to compose the protest in proper form. The following set of resolutions was submitted and unanimously adopted:

Whereas, the invasion and occupation of the Ruhr Valley is contrary to laws of nations and humanity, and

Whereas, conditions are becoming more atrocious and barbaric, in themselves, a new danger to civilization,

Therefore, be it Resolved by the American Turnerbund, in regular biennial convention assembled, that we reiterate our former protest and express our indignation and surprise at the continued silence and apparent indifference of our government in this most appalling situation, and be it further

Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be submitted to the department of State.

13. Inasmuch as the Indiana District positively declines to again accept the National Executive Committee, and inasmuch as three districts: Pittsburgh, St. Louis and Illinois, are willing to accept the Executive Committee, your committee is unable to make a recommendation and must leave the selection of the district to the convention.

Before this part of the report was discussed, Turner Heinrich Braun presented to the convention, Mr. Charles Nagel, former Secretary of Commerce and Labor. In a stirring address Mr. Nagel praised the principles of the Turnerbund and urged the delegates to uphold and defend them. He also paid high compliments to Turner Stempfel for the courageous stand taken during the war.

The motion was made and unanimously adopted that in voting on the selection of the district for the Executive Committee, only an absolute majority shall decide and that the district receiving the smallest number of votes in the first ballot, shall be eliminated for the second balloting in case there should be no absolute majority in the first ballot.

The balloting then taking place resulted as follows: St. Louis, 68 votes; Pittsburgh, 92 votes; Illinois, 147 votes.

First Ballot on Selection of District for Executive Committee

District	St. Louis	Pittsburgh	Chicago
1. New York -----	--	--	17
2. Indiana -----	1	6	10
3. St. Louis -----	31	--	--
4. New England -----	--	--	19
5. Wisconsin -----	--	--	13
6. Illinois -----	--	--	26
7. Philadelphia -----	--	30	--
8. New Jersey -----	--	--	21
9. Pittsburgh -----	--	40	--
10. Kansas-Missouri -----	5	--	--
11. Minnesota -----	1	--	4
12. Upper Mississippi -----	23	--	--
13. Rocky Mountain -----	--	--	4
14. New Orleans -----	1	--	--
15. Pacific -----	--	--	4
16. Connecticut -----	--	--	6
17. Lake Erie -----	--	--	11
18. Western New York -----	--	15	--
19. Ohio -----	5	1	1
20. South Central -----	1	--	--
21. North Pacific -----	--	--	5
22. Southern California -----	--	--	6
	68	92	147

Second Ballot on Selection of District for Executive Committee

District	Pittsburgh	Chicago
1. New York -----	--	17
2. Indiana -----	8½	8½
3. St. Louis -----	31	--
4. New * England -----	--	19
5. Wisconsin -----	13	--
6. Illinois -----	--	26
7. Philadelphia -----	30	--
8. New Jersey -----	--	21
9. Pittsburgh -----	40	--
10. Kansas-Missouri -----	1	4
11. Minnesota -----	2½	2½
12. Upper Mississippi -----	14	9
13. Rocky Mountain -----	--	4
14. New Orleans -----	1	--
15. Pacific -----	--	4
16. Connecticut -----	--	6
17. Lake Erie -----	--	11
18. Western New York -----	15	--
19. Ohio -----	7	--

20. South Central -----	--	1
21. North Pacific -----	--	5
22. Southern California -----	--	6
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163		144

Upon motion of Turner DeVry, the election of Pittsburgh for the Executive Committee was then made unanimous. Turner Falkenstein expressed the thanks of the Pittsburgh delegation for the confidence placed upon them. Turner Stempfel congratulated the Pittsburgh district and assured the delegates that the retiring Executive Committee would assist the new committee in every way possible. Turner Heinrich Braun expressed the thanks of the convention to the retiring officers amid applause of the delegates.

A congratulatory telegram to the convention from Dr. Henry Hartung (on his way to California) was received and read.

The convention then adjourned until the following day, at 9 o'clock a. m.

FOURTH DAY, JUNE 26

The convention was called to order by Vice Chairman Saltiel at 9 o'clock a. m. The minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

Report of the Committee on Mental Training

After mature reflection as to how intellectual training might be encouraged, the committee concluded to offer the following recommendations in order to inspire the younger Turners with love for intellectual activities and to arouse a spirit of fair-mindedness, reason and tolerance.

1. The Turnerbund should publish an A. B. C. book of Turner principles for the use of children.

2. Each society should select the natural leaders among its boys and girls and through them endeavor to influence their comrades.

3. By means of the Boy Scout idea, the Turner principles should be conveyed to the children.

4. Class leaders should instruct the juniors and actives in Turner ideals, at every opportunity. Picnics, excursions and social gatherings of all sorts furnish such opportunities.

5. The organization of debating clubs within every society is also recommended; likewise conducting debates with other Turner societies and non-Turner organizations. Appropriate prizes should be awarded the successful debaters.

6. It should be the duty of each society to hold public lectures several times each year, upon scientific and progressive topics.

7. It is further recommended that a monthly paper be published by societies, if such may be undertaken successfully.

8. It is recommended that the Turnerbund combat the falsifying of American history.

The report was adopted.

Report of the Committee on Platform and Statutes

Your committee organized with L. F. Schulze as chairman and Jacob Willig secretary.

The following proposals were discussed:

1. A new draft, "General principles of the American Gymnastic Union," proposed by the Illinois District.
2. A communication from the New York District with a proposal recommending that the wording of paragraph 5, page 5, of the general principles adopted at the national convention held in Chicago in 1908—which was amended by the National Executive Committee in 1917 and approved by a referendum vote, be restored to its original form.
3. A communication from the Southern California District, signed by District Secretary Hugo Hoefer, making the same proposal.
4. A resolution adopted by the convention of the Illinois District, held in November, 1922, submitted on behalf of the Sozialer Turnverein, Chicago, by Turner Jacob Willig for the purpose of recognizing the German Republic.

Inasmuch as it was impossible for the committee to thoroughly consider the General Principles as proposed under section 1, and inasmuch as sections 2 and 3 also refer to changes of the General Principles, the committee recommends referring this matter to the new Executive Committee. After discussion, the convention decided to refer the matter to the new Executive Committee with instructions to consider and revise the above proposals and to present them to the next national convention in the original as well as the revised form.

The committee also recommended resolutions to retain the name American Gymnastic Union, and to protest against the invasion of the Ruhr district. Both questions were acted on during the previous session.

The resolution mentioned in section 4 of the report, was adopted as follows:

"Be it resolved that we greet this historic event (the formation of the German Republic) with satisfaction and express the hope that the United States and the German Republic may forever maintain a peaceful and friendly relationship."

Report of the Committee on Normal College

This committee organized by electing A. E. Kindervater as chairman and Dr. Herm. Groth as secretary, and submits the following recommendations:

1. Inasmuch as the support of the Normal College by special assessment has not been accomplished, we find it necessary again to recommend that \$6,000 per year be paid to the Normal College.
2. We recommend to the Board of Trustees of the Normal College, seriously to consider the raising of the tuition fee.
3. A recommendation of the Ohio District, to introduce book-keeping as part of the instruction in the college, was not considered

further after the director of the college explained that such course is already given.

4. We recommend that instruction in music and singing be extended, if possible.

5. We further recommend that the members of the Turnerbund support as much as possible the timely undertaking of the Board of Trustees of the Normal College, Camp Brosius, at Elkhart Lake, Wis., through financial aid as well as visits during the summer.

6. The committee recommends that the convention express its thanks to the Trustees of the college as well as the Deans of the various departments, for the conscientious and intelligent management of the Normal College.

These recommendations were unanimously adopted.

Committee on Physical Education

This committee organized by electing Richard Pertuch as chairman and Ernest Klafs as secretary.

The following are the recommendations of this committee:

Recommend that society competition be maintained. Societies shall be divided into four groups based upon membership.

Society competition shall be composed of the following parts:

1. Demonstration of mass exercises by each team of actives.
2. Decathlon.
3. Pentathlon
4. Special events.
5. Team games.
6. Relay races.

1. Tactics and free exercises shall be demonstrated by each team. All competitors in any form of competition shall be compelled to take part in these exercises. The awards shall be as follows: Tactics to be awarded up to six points. Free exercises to be awarded up to 24 points. The tactics and free exercises shall be prescribed and sent out to the societies in January preceding the tournament.

Recommendation that the judging of tactics and free exercises be as follows:

Tactics—

- (a) Faultless, uninterrupted marching or running.
- (b) Position: Correct form.

Exercises—

- (a) Uniform execution.
- (b) Correct form of the individual.
- (c) Faultless execution.

2. Decathlon of the actives shall consist of six apparatus exercises one grade. Two on each of the following apparatus: Horizontal bar, parallel bars and one each on the side horse and long horse, and four field events: (Running 100 yards, runningb road-jump.

shot put (16), running hop-step-jump). See scale of awards for the society competition.

55 per cent,	1 point.
56-60 per cent,	2 points.
61-65 per cent,	3 points.
66-70 per cent,	4 points.
71-75 per cent,	5 points.
76-80 per cent,	6 points.
81-85 per cent,	7 points.
86-90 per cent,	8 points.
91-95 per cent,	9 points.
96-100 per cent,	10 points.

3. The pentathlon of the actives shall consist of five athletic events, four of which are in the decathlon. The fifth event is to be running high jump, and bar shall be 4 feet and 6-10 inches for the start.

Note—The participants of the decathlon are not permitted to participate in this event. (Pentathlon).

Scale of awards for the society competition:

55 per cent,	$\frac{1}{2}$ point.
56-60 per cent,	1 point.
61-65 per cent,	$1\frac{1}{2}$ points.
66-70 per cent,	2 points.
71-75 per cent,	$2\frac{1}{2}$ points.
76-80 per cent,	3 points.
81-85 per cent,	$3\frac{1}{2}$ points.
86-90 per cent,	4 points.
91-95 per cent,	$4\frac{1}{2}$ points.
96-100 per cent,	5 points.

4. Special events shall consist of the following events:

1. Pole vaulting (to start at 7 feet.)
2. Climbing for speed. (Hand climbing).
3. 220-Yard dash.
4. 120-Yard high hurdle. (Uniform hurdle to be used.)
5. Hurl ball with loop.
6. Foil fencing.
7. Sabre fencing.
8. 50-Yard breast stroke.
9. 100-Yard free style.
10. One prescribed and two elective dives.

1921 rules shall govern the above events and also the awards for society competition.

5. Team games shall be included in the society competition as follows: The team winning the contest shall gain five points for their society in society competition; a team winning second place shall gain three points for their society, and a team winning third place shall gain one point. Elimination games are to be played in each group, if possible, on the afternoon of the day preceding the competition.

6. The relay race is included in the society competition. The rules as specified in 1921 shall govern this event with the following change: The team winning this contest shall gain five points for their team in society competition; a team winning second place shall gain three points for their society, and a team winning third place shall gain one point. The rules as specified in 1921 shall govern participation.

Note—In all special events a participant absenting himself to take part in another event must be satisfied to continue at the given height or distance at his return. If he fails to qualify he shall receive credit for his last accomplishment.

Model exercises are not included in the society competition. Any form of physical training is permissible and the minimum number of participants is to be sixteen. A society shall be allowed to enter one team only. In case the model exercises consist of apparatus work or pyramids, the minimum shall be eight. Classes receiving excellent as their rating may be required by the Festival Committee to repeat their number for exhibition purposes. The awards shall be as follows: Excellent. Very good. Good.

Contests for women shall be arranged similarly to those of the men. In case a society sends a women's team it will be classified in the same group in which that society's men's team is participating. All participants must be at least 16 years of age. Society competition for women shall consist of:

1. Demonstration of the tactics and free exercises (dancing), as may be prescribed for the mass drill.
2. Septathlon.
3. Special events.
4. Game.
5. Relay race.

1. Tactics and free exercises. Each contestant must take part. Awards to be the same as for men.

2. Septathlon, consisting of four apparatus exercises and three athletic events. Two apparatus shall be used, one to be a support, the other a hang apparatus, if possible. One obligatory and one elective exercise to be shown on each apparatus. The obligatory exercise to be selected from one grade. The three athletic events shall be: Dash (not more than 75 yards), running broad jump and basket ball far throw, free style. The results shall be figured toward the society competition as given above for men.

3. Special Events. (a) Running high jump, beginning at 3.6 feet. (b) Shot put, 8 pounds. (c) Swimming, 50 yards, breast stroke. (d) Swimming, 100 yards, free style. (e) Diving, one prescribed and two elective dives, counting the same as for men.

4. Games: Captain ball recommended. Teams to be divided into four groups. Rules same as for men.

5. Relay race. Teams to be divided into four groups. Each participant to run 50 yards. Counting the same as for men.

Senior men. All contestants must be at least 35 years old. The competition shall consist of tactics and free exercises, to be judged on same basis as men's, and one game, in four groups if possible, modern exercises, either alone or in connection with another class of the same society, and the mass drill.

The committee further recommends that the entrance fee for participants be raised from \$1.00 to \$2.00.

Recommendation that physical instructors and coaches may compete, their points to count only for society competition.

Recommendation that the diploma for the national meet shall be so simplified that all awards of one society or one individual competitor may be entered upon the same diploma.

Recommendation that the expenses incurred by a society instructor attending a national meet shall be defrayed by the society.

Recommendation that the time allotted to a national meet be five instead of four days.

Recommendation to ask the next Committee on Physical Education to work out a plan by means of which members of the Turnerbund may strive for the attainment of high ideals, physically, mentally and socially.

Recommendation that a plan submitted for the change in the method of judging gymnastic exercises be referred for consideration to the new Committee on Physical Education, with the request that they have same published in the American Turnzeitung and ask each district to try it out and report on its merits.

Recommendation that the matter of regulation of costumes for the various classes be referred to the new Committee on Physical Education.

In view of the fact that the One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence is to be held in Philadelphia in 1926, this committee recommends that our next National Tournament be held in Philadelphia, if possible.

The recommendation regarding the participation of instructors and coaches was thoroughly discussed. A motion to adopt the report excepting this recommendation was lost, according to the following ballot by district votes:

District	For	Against
1. New York -----	17	--
2. Indiana -----	16	1
3. St. Louis -----	--	31
4. New England -----	--	19
5. Wisconsin -----	13	--
6. Illinois -----	26	--
7. Philadelphia -----	--	30
8. New Jersey -----	21	--
9. Pittsburgh -----	4	36
10. Kansas-Missouri -----	5	--
11. Minnesota -----	--	5

12. Upper Mississippi -----	--	23
13. Rocky Mountain -----	4	--
14. New Orleans -----	--	1
15. Pacific -----	4	--
16. Connecticut -----	--	6
17. Lake Erie -----	11	--
18. Western New York -----	--	15
19. Ohio -----	--	7
20. South Central -----	--	--
21. North Pacific -----	--	5
22. Southern California -----	6	--
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The entire report of the committee was then unanimously adopted.

Turner Saltiel recommended the organization, in the various districts and societies, of "Eulenhörste" similar to the St. Louis organization by that name, for the furthering of mental endeavors in the Turnerbund. Adopted.

Turner Fred H. Bergmann submitted the following motion:

Inasmuch as the American Turnerbund is an educational organization and inasmuch as systematic study of history has for year been conducted in our country with the aid of the Cecil Rhodes Fund and the Carnegie Fund, and in Europe through continued French propaganda, for the purpose of injuring German interests, therefore be it resolved that the National Executive Committee urge the member societies to teach history of the Germans through lectures, and to demand of the professors of history of American universities and other institutions of learning proof for the assertion that the people of Alsace and German-Lorraine have during the past two thousand years not been Germans, but French. Adopted.

The recommendation of the committee on national affairs, to raise the per capita tax to 50 cents per year, was now before the convention. The recommendation was adopted unanimously.

The Twenty-ninth Convention then adjourned with a three-fold "Gut Heil" and with singing "Frisch, Stark, Treu."

John Toensfeld, Honorary Chairman.

Otto Kallmeyer, Chairman.

Leopold Saltiel, Vice Chairman.

William Rittberger

Fred Olt

H. A. Engelken

Wm. K. Streit

Secretaries.