

**Official Minutes of the Eleventh Convention of the North American Turner Union Held in  
Davenport, Iowa, on June 1, 2, 3 and 4, 1884.**

Milwaukee, Wis.

Printed by the Doerflinger Book & Publishing Co., 1884.

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**FIRST DAY.**

Morning Session.

The delegates from the various districts of the North American Gymnastic Union met as determined on June 1, 1884 at 10 am, in the auditorium of the Davenport gymnastic society.

Davenport's mayor, Turner Ernst Claussen, welcomed the delegates with the following address:

"Esteemed Turners and delegates to the National Union Convention,

The committee of the Davenport gymnastic society was of the opinion that, according to the established tradition, I as mayor of this city ought to have the honor to welcome the dear and excellent guests officially. Therefore, I welcome you in our midst and wish the stay in our city may be most pleasant for you and successful for the noble principles you represent. In addition to my official greeting, as a Turner of many years I would like to send out a heartfelt "Good luck!" in the old Turner custom and, as a representative of the gymnastic union, welcome you on behalf of Davenport's citizens.

Because the gymnastic culture is no exotic plant in Davenport's soil. It makes me quite happy to assure you with all my heart that our German speaking population (and that is half of the entire city population) supports you, while the other, the English speaking half, with the exception of a dwindling minority under the control of the muckers, is at least not against us.

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Our city is not one of the large trade or political centers in the country; rather, it is a relatively small community. However, the fresh and happy spirit of enlightenment and unprejudiced views reign here.

The badge of the representative of the North American Gymnastic Union is honored and respectfully acknowledged, no matter in what part of the city you happen to be. If you value a friendly handshake and a word in support of your patriotic work, you will not be disappointed in the citizens of Davenport.

Of course, what applies to Davenport does not apply to the rest of the state of Iowa. In Davenport, we build an oasis in the “wasteland” of intellectual narrowmindedness and the legal constrictions toward all German people resulting from it. Despite and, in fact, because of that no other gathering on Iowa soil could be more relevant than that of the representatives of America’s Turners because this is a meeting of the group which represents the German national culture and spirit in its purest and most noble form in a most exalted way.

The Turners build the core of the significant German immigration, the immigration one often and rightfully calls the immigration of the second era, of the freedom fighters in 1848 who rescued the ideals of their life from the wreck of the revolution they lost in the land of the princes. They brought those ideals into the land of freedom to make them a reality, even if only in part and at the price of difficult battles, all the while keeping up the hope that even if not we, so then our descendants may enjoy the complete victory of the light of freedom and enlightenment.

From the time it was established, the Gymnastic Union embarked upon the right path. The basic condition it demanded was building physical strength and skill so that its members develop manliness and readiness for defense. History proved soon enough how necessary this was: the battle of the Turners in Hoboken in 1851, then on Chestnut Hill by Philadelphia, and later the significant conflict in America and the numerous fights before the year 1861. The history of all older gymnastic societies can testify about the times when the participants in the gymnastic feasts were attacked by ruffians where the honor and dignity of the German culture and spirit could be saved from mean insults solely by using the only language those characters could understand, namely that of physical violence.

While this created significant praise for gymnastics under those conditions, it would not have reached today’s heights if it had not emphasized the development of intellectual abilities right next with the physical exercises, if gymnastics had not declared for its goal the development of the full human potential, if the gymnastic society had not declared its mission to educate its members to be people free from prejudices and to fight the battle against legal infringements of any kind.

This credo has been sustained with rare steadfastness. The Turners of North America have to their credit the substantial accomplishment to have established the better element of the German culture and spirit with great power and perseverance without succumbing to narrow minded support of anything German, without hindering their members to “americanize” themselves in the better sense of the word.

It never occurred to them to build a state within the state or to take a special position in the political life of this country. On the contrary – the Gymnastic Union has always encouraged its members to become American citizens and as such to support all reasonable reform movements, to respect and uphold the laws and the Constitution of this country, however, without sacrificing the positive old practices, customs and habits of the fatherland to nativist pretensions. From its early days, the Gymnastic Union has urged its members to acknowledge the good qualities of the Native American, to emulate and embrace his energy and vigor, his healthy realism, his strong manliness, his outstanding charitable spirit, his political tact and admirable grasp of the situation.

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On the other hand, however, the Gymnastic Union has insisted that the German immigrants toss into the scales the rich content of their intellectual life, the treasure troves of ideas they have for the political and general interests of humanity in the large American union knowing too well that the more they hold on to the great and beautiful that Germany has contributed to the world the bigger their impact would be.

It is well known that the state of Iowa in whose jurisdiction we are presently located recently passed laws which, if enacted, will not only destroy the personal freedom but will stomp on all reason, moral and dignity of the human race. These monstrous regulations are supposed to come into effect on July 4 as a mockery to the otherwise so highly praised Declaration of American Independence.

The Turners of America have the eternal credit to have raised their voices publicly and without any reservation against the damnable institution of slavery together with a few abolitionists from New England. In the big fight to keep our national existence, Turners from the East, South and West fought for truth, freedom and justice, bled and, in many instances, gave their lives. In the larger cities, the gymnasiums were the main recruiting stations of the freedom army. The history of the Turners' regiments in New York, Missouri and Illinois documents the most significant events of the fight for freedom.

The smaller societies did not stand back either. Hans J. Nehm, the first soldier from Iowa who gave his life for freedom (at Wilsons Creek, MO., on August 10, 1861) was member of the Davenport gymnastic society. The first officer of a higher rank who fell in the battle for freedom, lieutenant colonel August Wenz who died by Belmont, MO. on November 7, 1861, was also from Iowa and a member of the Davenport gymnastic society.

The fact that now, twenty years after these events, the German population should be regulated, under the false pretense of wanting to foster moderation, is an attack on the rights of others and an insult carried out by the authorities. Even though in another form, this action is no different from that of the slave drivers whose arrogance was successfully destroyed with the energetic help of the Gymnastic Union.

We may not kid ourselves - the so-called prohibition movement originates in the mucker ideas, political ignorance and hate against the Germans, that the question about drinking is not actually the point, that it is not a local measure pertaining to Kansas and Iowa alone and that this issue will soon become a national affair. The big cities Chicago and Milwaukee would not be better off than we are at this moment if they had not been located in Illinois and Wisconsin.

The Eleventh Convention of the North American Gymnastic Union will undoubtedly initiate a successful campaign against these deformities of modern "political science" and lay the grounds for a forceful protest against this violation of our personal freedom. I hope this warning will be more potent given the fact it comes from Iowa, the state where the battle between justice and wrongdoing, between reason and irrationality must be primarily carried out in the near future.

Representatives of the North American Gymnastic Union, I welcome you again and hope your deliberations may be of use and become a blessing for the Union, the German people and our new fatherland”.

After this, Dr. H. M. Starkloff, spokesman of the Union, opened the Eleventh Convention of the North American Gymnastic Union:

“Turners!

It is with great happiness, brought about by the steady positive development of our Union, that I welcome you to the Eleventh Convention!

This is the third time the honor has been bestowed upon me to greet the delegates of our Gymnastic Union gathered for this purpose and to report to them how our troops increase each year, our Union grows stronger roots and our endeavors bear richer fruits.

Only a few years have passed since various people expressed their pessimism regarding the viability of our organization and advised to give up a fight that would only exhaust our power and leave us disappointed and discouraged.

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However, we did not lose the right course of action; we continued to work true to our principles and paved new ways. We discarded old useless stuff, which kept us back and developed our ideas into a system, which not only corresponds, but also is even ahead of the modern demands of our time. Thus, we provided our mission with fresh driving force. Today, we may proudly point out how our Union is acknowledged by all and that physical education according to our principles is included in the schools of the country as part of their curriculum.

It is an established fact that nations, which survived fighting unceasing battles or working hard the poor unyielding soil, demonstrated significantly bigger physical powers and more beautiful physique than those who led a peaceful life and grew weary and indolent because they had the tropical plants in their countries with which to fulfill their needs effortlessly.

The women and men of ancient Greece accomplished the highest perfection of the human form through constant exercise and care of the body. We can hardly ever accomplish the same perfection because we do not have time to devote hours and days to exercises in the fresh air and sunshine. Neither do we have the time to bathe as long as they did and afterwards have our bodies made smooth and supple with salves and crèmes. Despite all that, our work, which utilizes the intellectual abilities to their maximum potential and the large number of machines and instruments, which work for us make it twice more necessary to find the time to develop our dexterity and beauty of our body so that it may try to emulate that of the ancient Greeks.

Every nation that acquired great reaches through luck or its own power and effort and in consequence embraced a life style of opulence and leisure and, instead of hardening the body, sank into indulgencies of all kinds, degenerated physically more and more.

The discovery of the gunpowder made the steel suit of armor, the battle-ax, the heavy lance and crossbow superfluous. In consequence, the value of physical power decreased, even more so with the Christian religion's preaching of castigation and self-denial and declaring even bathing and physical hygiene lavish and sinful.

Today, it would be difficult for us to carry such a suit of armor for even half an hour, to lift the heavy lance, to stretch the crossbow, to swing the ax, not to mention to jump onto the horse with the full armor. In Europe, the sad situation of neglecting the body lasted all through the beginning of our century. At that point, the Swede Ling managed to introduce a therapeutic gymnastic method, which produced a specific exercise for every one of the five hundred muscles in the body. Ling presumed to be able to prevent all illnesses with this method and because, naturally, this did not happen, his exercises lost the popularity they actually deserved.

Around the same time, the father of our gymnastics Friedrich Ludwig Jahn created his system, which merely aimed at strengthening and preparing the slack youth for battle. As long as Germany was in danger and the war with France went on, his efforts were supported by the government. However, as soon as peace was established, the crowned heads began to fear that a people educated with this system would be uncontrollable by church and government and that led to the persecution and oppression of Father Jahn and his Turners.

Could there be a better argument in support of the prowess of physical education than the above view? Despite all ban and persecution, the gymnastic culture in Germany experienced a powerful boom and its fests are welcomed and attended by a vast and enthusiastic number of people just like the Olympic games of the past.

Only in 1853, gymnastics was introduced in all schools in Prussia and the rest of Germany and from that time on Germany was on its way to become a major political power. The armies of Denmark, Austria and France were defeated and there is no doubt that the introduction of gymnastics contributed significantly to Germany's victories.

Today, there are 222,000.00 gymnasts in Germany.

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In the recent past, numerous gymnastic institutions were established in our country, however only few of them follow a regular system, which provides even development for each organ and muscle. Most gymnasts are equipped with plenty of various apparatus and practice in fashionable places where every member's only goal is to exercise his best-developed muscles and show off his art.

Our system, however, strives for the completely harmonious development of the individual parts of the body where none remains neglected and none is favored. The goal of our system of gymnastics is to remove any negative physical development.

It is understood, that such a system requires teachers who are up to the task. We strive to create such teachers and the Gymnastic Union has spared neither hard work nor expenses to accomplish this goal. In addition, we try to introduce our system of gymnastics in all schools in this country so that the education can be started from a very early age because the earlier it begins and the more consistent it is the better the result will be. Und those who become used to following the rules of gymnastics will soon enjoy and keep a well-built, harmoniously developed, and therefore beautiful body.

In my opening address at the last Convention, I talked about how the constant exercise of the muscles stimulates at the same time, in fact mainly, the functions of the central nervous system, the brain and the spinal cord. I want to emphasize this as the most important point. Today, I also want to point out how necessary it is to develop the muscles of the respiratory organs. Since our general health depends so directly on their strength, only their highest development ought to satisfy us. The same is true of the belly muscles, which provide considerable support to not only the respiratory muscles but also the entire abdomen viscera.

If we wish to obtain the highest physical strength, we need great lung capacity, a strong heart and supple arteries.

It is not enough to have well developed muscles because their usefulness depends on their functioning together in harmony.

Many see useless, even dangerous show off in the gymnastic exercises and it is up to us to destroy all prejudices that stand in the way of our efforts.

Others do not think the sports fields are fine and educating enough for their delicate children. They are afraid those will get used to too uninhibited manners and, instead of slick and swell parlor heroes, they might grow into strong, honest, somewhat coarse, free-minded men. The children could injure themselves, and other empty objections. Our response to this is - our gymnastic schools are led by diligent and careful teachers who teach only decent and moral behavior. In addition, we will always prefer an honest, free and manly student, even if he is occasionally exuberant, to the hypocritical, slick and false.

We also believe that the gymnastic field is a much better place for a boy or a girl than the theater or the opera where the current taste dictates the presentation of dramatic works, which ruin the childlike mind of our young generation and create a heated phantasy that turns the boys into premature fops and the girls into overexcited and airy creatures.

It is odd how some parents, who would not allow their little daughter to demonstrate her strength, dexterity and graceful and aesthetic movements at a gymnastic demonstration, would not hesitate, in fact would encourage her to participate in a modern play or a musical and would

feel happy and flattered when the delicate child is able to play the yearning lover convincingly. Such parents should not be surprised when the young girl loses the delicate flower breath of childhood and as a young lady needs the doctor more urgently than the baker or the butcher.

In regards of the interactions of the children among themselves, we admit that we, as true supporters of the republic, do not acknowledge any class differences and treat all children, regardless of whether they are rich or poor, absolutely equally and that only the most diligent and proper students can outdo the others. So much about the gymnastic school.

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In regards of our endeavors – we must strive to acquire as much diverse knowledge as possible.

In many towns, year after year diligent and gifted people came forward who took on the work and responsibility to be instructors in our gymnasiums. Their only award was to know that they did something right and good. Their actions will always find followers. Among the many Germans with science education, there always will be some who will be inclined to share their knowledge with the Turners. They will not think it under their position to teach people of all social standing who strive for progress and further development. Every seed that falls will find a fruitful soil in all gymnasiums and produce rich harvest.

In the political life of this country, we will always and under all circumstances belong to the progressive party. We fight against everything that could impede the individual freedom in any way and that is against the Constitution of the republic. We fight against monopolies, temperance and mucker bigotry, professional hunt for office, blind party and religious hate and land swindle.

We try to summon up peacefully all that is in our power to contribute to the final resolution of the workers issue and to fight with all our power that everybody receives the full compensation for his contribution to this world. We will always fulfill all our civic duties. We will

take the appropriate part in all political and social events and do our best to leave good political conditions and a regulated state system to our children.

As long as there are noble goals, the Turner will not become weary of working toward them. As long as humanity is not perfect, the Turner will not rest and be idle.

Our Union should and must contribute to the deeper exploration of the secret of life so that its members can say one day: "We did not live in vain!"

I hope and wish that a good and happy spirit may guide our sessions, that our phantasy may never cease to find ways to foster our endeavors and that any differences of opinion that are expressed here may only serve to find the best and the true.

This is my wish and salutation to you".

A temporary organization of the Convention was accomplished by electing the following officials: Chair: Wm. Pfänder from New Ulm; Meeting Secretary: Emil Höchster from Chicago.

The Chair appointed the following Turners as the Committee for the Examination of the Mandates: H. Huhn, G. Scholer and Wm. Legner.

After a short break, the committee reported the following list of delegates with the right to a vote:

New York Turner District, 25 votes: J. Heintz, L. Trenn, F. Riecken, G. Scholer.

Indiana Turner District, 9 votes: P. Welschbillig, F. Probst, J. Blumenberg, K. Winter, G. Vonnegut, Dr. R. C. Knöfel, Chas. Köhne.

St. Louis Turner District, 64 votes: Francis P. Becker, Henry Braun, Albert Bornmüller, H. Obershelp, Dr. Wm. Drechsler, Selmar Pabst, E. G. Hoffmann, H. Möller, Robert C. Hilgard, John J. Link, Albert Häsel, Chas. J. Dörr, H. Plöhn, H. Troll, F. C. P. Tiedemann, Wm. J. Kocken, A. Braun, L. Düstrow, Wm. Gehrman, L. Kaufmann, A. H. Scheuermann, A. Mügge, F. Wenzel, Chas.

Klotter, Arnold Schultz, H. W. Ocker, John R. Bollinger, Albert Mauch, Max Hempel, Geo. Deeke, Chas. Drees.

New England Turner District, 19 votes: Carl Eberhard.

Wisconsin Turner District, 40 votes: Emil Wallber, C. Hermann Boppe, F. Sebastian, L. C. Mattheus, F. Pecher, Wm. Püppke, Wm. Lüning, Theo. Fritz, H. Dorner, Phil. Rothe.

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Chicago Turner District, 26 votes: A. Zapp, P. J. Ellert, Wm. Legner, F. Markus, Aug. Spies, A. Georg, L. Nettelhorst, Emil Höchster, Theo. Thielepape, Max Stern, Wm. Kücken, H. Suder, H. Mattern, J. C. Müller, Harry Rubens, D. Werthheim, J. Bruel, J. Lederer, J. Geyer, O. Kisselbach, L. Nickel, C. Plum, Chas. Metzger, Wm. Zöllner, John Gloy, C. Breuning.

Southeastern Turner District, 3 votes: G. Eyssen.

Philadelphia Turner District, 23 votes: A. L. Weise.

New Jersey Turner District, 23 votes: F. Richter, Wm. Rode, Wm. Schlatter, C. Stöttner, Geo. Seikel, Geo. Claus, K. Kniep.

Central New York Turner District, 5 votes: Fritz Götz.

Pittsburgh Turner District, 24 votes: Theo. Geiselhart, M. Gescheider, Wm. Linz, F. Frank.

Missouri Valley Turner District, 13 votes: H. Stubenrauch, W. Pretzel, A. Meier, A. Riedel, A. Hahn, P. Witte, S. Forter, John Wallruss.

Minnesota Turner District, 12 votes: J. C. Fleischer, Wm. Pfänder, H. Hauschild, Wm. Grotian.

Upper Mississippi Turner District, 13 votes: B. Schmidt, C. Geyer, H. Prenzler, Wm. Reinhard, A. Böckel, L. Fritz, C. Müller, Theo. Blunck, E. Claussen, Gust. Donald, E. Lischer, Wm. Reuter, John Schwerdtfeger.

Rocky Mountain Turner District, 6 votes: Philipp Keller.

New Orleans Turner District, 1 vote: A. Kriegar.

Central Illinois Turner District, 10 votes: A. Miller, E. C. Peckmann.

Pacific Turner District, 16 votes: Max Magnus.

Connecticut Turner District, 14 votes: D. Ginand.

South Atlantic Turner District, 2 votes: Georg Brosius.

Lake Erie Turner District, 14 votes: C. Zapp.

Long Island Turner District, 9 votes: A. Schöning, R. Schultheis.

West New York Turner District, 4 votes: A. Buchterkirch.

Ohio Turner District, 22 votes: A. Bode, Justus Hetsch, F. Bertsch, F. Haffner, B. Fröhlich.

Upper Missouri Turner District, 3 votes: P. Hamann, A. L. Müller.

Central Michigan Turner District, 8 votes: H. Huhn, D. Schönfeld.

The list above contains the names of 139 delegates representing 26 districts and 408 union votes.

Present from the National Executive Committee: Dr. Hugo M. Starkloff, First Chair; C. G. Rathmann, Meeting Secretary; Hugo Gollmer, Corresponding Secretary; John J. Sutter, Treasurer; John Tönsfeldt, Chair of the Technical Committee; Christ. Stifel and Richard Bösewetter, Assessors.

Upon motion, the Chair appointed the following committees:

1. Committee for the permanent organization: Wm. Kücken, Louis Düstrow, Carl Eberhard, C. Hermann Boppe and J. C. Fleischer.

2. Committee for the election of the standing committees: J. Heintz, R. C. Hilgard, Philipp Keller, B. Fröhlich, Wm. Linz, B. Schönfeld, C. Stöttner, Max Stern and F. Sebastian.

3. Committee for the acceptance, categorization and distribution of the received instructions and requests: Ad. Georg, D. Ginand and Fr. Bertsch.

Motion made to conduct the vote of the nominated officials for the Committee for permanent organization of the Convention by districts. Motion passed.

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Motion made to have the Committee for permanent organization submit at least two names for the vacant officials' positions. Motion passed.

Following this, Dr. H. M. Starkloff read the annual report of the National Executive Committee.

Following his report, the National Union treasurer read the summary of his annual report.

It was refrained from reading the reports of the other Executive Committee officials because printed copies of those reports were made available to the delegates.

All reports of the Executive Committee officials were submitted to the corresponding, to be elected later, committees for review presentation.

Adjournment until 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

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Emil Höchster,

Temporary secretary.

Afternoon Session.

The session was opened by the temporary chair at the appointed time.

After the minutes of the previous session were read, the Committee for Permanent Organization submitted the following list of candidates:

First Chair - Emil Wallber from Milwaukee and Emil Höchster from Chicago.

Second Chair - Friedrich Bertsch from Cincinnati and A. L. Weise from Philadelphia.

First Secretary - John R. Bollinger from St. Louis and H. Stubenrauch from Kansas City.

Second Secretary - John Schwerdtfeger from Davenport and Gustav Scholer from New York.

Next, the vote was conducted. Emil Wallber from Milwaukee was elected for First Chair. When he accepted the position, Turner Wallber thanked for the active participation of all Union districts in the elections when he was elected Mayor of city of Milwaukee. Earnestly and aptly, he described the good position of the Gymnastic Union towards the animosity of those fanatics who try to suppress the personal freedom of humanity and most of all the liberalism of the German values. He promises to fulfil his obligations as a Chair dutifully and asks for the support of the delegates.

Upon a motion by Turner Dr. Starkloff, Turner Ernst Claussen was elected unanimously for honorary president through acclamation.

Turner Weise asked the Convention's permission to be allowed to decline his election for Second Spokesman because, as the only representative of his district, he could not accept the post.

The result of the vote for the other Convention officials was as follows:

Second Chair: Emil Höchster from Chicago.

First Secretary: John R. Bollinger from St. Louis.

Second Secretary: John Schwerdtfeger from Davenport.

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The newly elected officials accepted their respective duties.

Upon motion passed, the agenda from the previous conventions in Boston and Louisville was adopted as guidelines for the current Convention.

The Committee for the Categorization of the Instructions reported it has completed its task and handed in the categorized decisions for submission to the various committees. The report was read and approved.

The Committee for the Election of the Standing Committees submitted the following report:

1. Committee for the Platform and Statutes: Dr. H. M. Starkloff, from the National Executive Committee; Wm. Pfänder from the Minnesota Turner District; Friedrich Bertsch, Ohio; Jacob Heintz, New York; Carl Köhne, Indiana; Carl Eberhard, New England; August Spieß, Chicago.

2. Committee for the Examination of the Account Books and the Financial and Statistical Reports of the National Executive Committee: W. Kücken, from the Chicago Turner District; L. E. Matheus, Wisconsin; Selmar Pabst, St. Louis; Rob. Schultheis, Long Island; David Schönfeld, Central Michigan.

3. Committee for Practical Gymnastics: John Tönsfeldt, from the St. Louis Turner District; Ludw. Trenn, New York; Georg Brosius, South Atlantic Turner District; J. J. Link, St. Louis; F. Frank, Pittsburg; H. Suder, Chicago; B. Fröhlich, Connecticut; Wm. Schlatter, New Jersey; Wm. H. Gehrman, St. Louis; Fritz Probst, Indiana; Wm. Reuter, Oberer Mississippi; Carl Zapp, Lake Erie; A. Schöning, Long Island.

4. Committee for Intellectual Efforts: C. Hermann Boppe, from the Wisconsin Turner District; Theo. Blunck, Upper Mississippi; Gust. Scholer, New York; Aug. Bode, Cincinnati; Theo.

Geiselhardt, Pittsburgh; F. P. Becker, St. Louis; F. Sebastian, Wisconsin; Wm. Legner, Chicago; Max Hempel, St. Louis; D. Ginand, Connecticut; Gust. Donald, Upper Mississippi.

5. Committee for Complaints and Appeals: Max Stern, from the Chicago Turner District; Ad. Kriegar, New Orleans; Alb. Häsel, St. Louis; Ph. Keller, Rocky Mountain; Fritz Götz, Central New York; J. C. Fleischer, Minnesota; Ad. Braun, St. Louis.

6. Committee for Union Affairs: Heinrich Huhn, from the Central Michigan Turner District; R. C. Hilgard, St. Louis; Emil Höchster, Chicago; F. C. P. Tiedemann, St. Louis; F. J. Welschbillig, Indiana; John Gloy, Chicago; A. L. Müller, Oberer Missouri; Louis Düstrow, St. Louis; Max Gescheider, Pittsburgh; John C. Müller, Chicago; A. Buchterkirch, West New York.

7. Committee for the Gymnastic Teachers Seminary: Ad. Georg, from the Chicago Turner District; C. G. Rathmann, from the National Executive Committee; Geo. Seickel, New Jersey; Chas. Metzger, Chicago; Geo. Oeeke, St. Louis; Geo. Vonnegut, Indiana; F. Riecken, New York; Wm. Püppke, Wisconsin.

8. Committee for the Union Publication: Christ Stöttner, from the New Jersey Turner District; R. C. Knöfel, Indiana; H. W. Ocker, St. Louis; Carl Plum, Chicago; G. Eyssen, Südöstlicher; Wm. Lüning, Wisconsin; Wm. Linz, Pittsburgh.

The report of the committee was approved as read.

An invitation from the first spokesman of the Davenport gymnastic society to the delegates of the Convention to honor the fair in the Schützenpark this afternoon with their presence was gratefully accepted.

In order to give the various committees time to get organized and be discuss and prepare their reports, the Convention adjourned until Monday, June 2, 9 am.

John R. Bollinger,

Meeting Secretary.

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**Second Day.**

Morning Session.

Chair Emil Wallber opened the session at the appointed time.

Reading of the list of delegates' names showed that a quorum was present.

The minutes from the previous session were read and approved.

Upon motion passed, Turner Weise from the Philadelphia Turner District was added to the Committee for Platform and Statutes.

An invitation from the president of the Davenport Academy of Natural Sciences, Mr. H. C. Fulton, to the Convention to visit the Academy was gratefully accepted.

The spokesman reported that gymnastic teacher Max Magnus submitted his mandate as a delegate of the Pacific Turner District. He welcomed him and announced his right to seat and vote in our sessions.

The Committee for the Examination of the Account Books and the Financial and Statistical Reports of the National Executive Committee reported as follows:

Your committee reports that the Treasurer's account books as well as the statistical reports of the Secretary are correct. The balance in the hands of the Treasurer is \$8,150.51, as read. The Treasurer has forgotten to bring in the necessary receipts for the following expenses for announcements:

	\$
July 26, 1882	.35
July 26, 1882	.75
Aug. 29, 1882	.50

May 28, 1883	.65
Total:	2.25

Until now, the treasurer has been making the payments directly. Your committee believes it is appropriate to recommend to the National Executive Committee, in future, to give the treasurer a payment slip signed by the president and the secretary for every outstanding payment. The committee recommends a book of payment slips (“stubs”) be acquired for this purpose.

The report was accepted as read.

Upon motion passed, Turner Max Magnus from the Pacific Turner District was added to the Committee for the Gymnastic Teachers Seminary.

The Committee for Union Affairs presented its report, which was accepted in the following form:

1. The National Executive Committee is to remain in St. Louis.
2. The next National Convention will take place in Boston.
3. The next national gymnastic fest will take place in Newark, N. J.
4. The decision against mandatory death insurance within the Gymnastic Union will remain in power. Those Union members who wish to participate in a death insurance should be made aware of the “Turners Life Insurance of the Northwest” and it should be recommended to them to join it. (In regards of this decision, a letter from the Board of Directors of the Turners Life Insurance of the Northwest, signed by Turner F. Sebastian, secretary of the same, was read for more information).
5. In future, the names of all delegates from a district must be listed in the list of mandates.
6. The Gymnastic Teachers Seminary is to remain in Milwaukee.

13. The Executive Committee shall be instructed to inquire of the German Gymnastic Societies whether a fund for the financial support for Jahn's descendants exists. If that is the case, the Executive Committee shall take over its management. At the same time, the Executive Committee is instructed to provide detailed information about the work of the North American Gymnastic Union in support of Jahn's descendants to the leaders of the German Gymnastic Societies.

8. The Executive Committee shall be instructed to remit a yearly payment of \$260.00 to Arnold Siegfried Jahn for the next two years.

9. To urge the individual gymnastic societies to enforce the rule that mandates every Turner obtain the American citizenship as quickly as possible.

Turner John Tönsfeldt talked about the foster child of the North American Gymnastic Union, the grandson of Father Jahn. He reported that the young Jahn is his best student in the final course, that he graduated from the school in his institute and that the regretful circumstance has happened that he must wait one year before he can enter the Gymnastic Teachers Seminary.

Turner C. Hermann Boppe moved to ask the National Executive Committee to take over the further education of the grandson of Father Jahn and to authorize the National Executive Committee to take the necessary funds from the Union treasury. Motion passed.

The Committee for the Union Publication submitted its report, which initiated a thorough discussion. During the conversations, the motion was made and passed to adjourn until 2 pm.

Accordingly, the Chair announced the session adjourned until 2 pm.

John R. Bollinger,

Meeting Secretary.

### Afternoon Session.

After the Chair opened the session at the appointed time, the discussion about the report of the Committee for the Union Publication resumed. At last, the report was accepted in the following form:

1. The current "Freidenker" will remain the National Union publication.
2. The National Executive Committee is authorized to reach an agreement with the publishers of the "Freidenker" so that the main publication and the supplement merge into one uniform newspaper. This must include at least the same reading material as the main and supplement paper provide currently. The main title must be "North American Turner Newspaper", with a subtitle in a smaller font "Gymnastic Publication of the 'Freidenker'".
3. The address calendar of the gymnastic societies, etc. must be published only once a month.
4. The change will come into effect on January 1885 and the Executive Committee is instructed to sign a contract for two years, as well as work out all the details of the contract. The format and the size of the publication, however, must remain as the publishers presented it to the Committee (for the National Publication).
5. The committee recommends the Convention express its acknowledgement to the publishers of the "Freidenker" for their good work.

The committee believes it is its duty to correct the wrong views of some districts that the failure to fulfill the decisions made at the Newark Convention regarding changing the national newspaper is the fault of its publishers. The changes were not made because of a decision of the National Executive Committee.

The various committees for intellectual efforts must take on the distribution of the "Turner Newspaper" within their societies.

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Upon motion passed, a submission from the Birmingham gymnastic society regarding the differences between the Pittsburgh Turner District and the Lake Erie Turner District, or quasi an appeal by the above mentioned society of the Executive Committee's decision to the Convention was handed over to a special committee made up of the Turners Gloy, Becker and Weise for examination and report.

A complaint the Ohio Turner District lodged against the Lake Erie Turner District was submitted to the same committee for examination and report as well.

A letter from gymnastic teacher Weber from the Decatur, IL. Turner District was read for the information of the delegates. He draws attention to a kind of parallel bars, which supposedly have certain advantages. A model of this apparatus can be seen at the Davenport gymnasium.

Two proposals regarding the hire of paid agitators and approval to allot \$500.00 per year from the Union treasury for this purpose was submitted to the Committee for Union Affairs for their report later.

Turner Tönsfeldt told the session that the German – American Teachers Union has elected a delegate to attend the Convention of the North American Gymnastic Union. When asked further about it, Turner Tönsfeldt admitted that he is that delegate, however he is present without a mandate. Nevertheless, the Chair welcomed Turner Tönsfeldt as a representative of the German – American Teachers Union.

Due to the approaching German – American Teachers Day in Cleveland, a motion was passed to nominate and elect Turners Carl Zapp and J. Tönsfeldt as delegates.

Turner Heinrich Huhn proposed the following:

“Decided to organize a reunion of the pioneers of gymnastics in America on the occasion of the next National Union Gymnastic Fest in Newark, N. J.; decided to invite all Germans who were active in any gymnastic society in the years 1850 through 1861 to attend the reunion; to ask the Executive Committee to send out the appropriate call at a suitable time; that the Chair of

the Convention appoints a committee of seven Turners which will make the necessary arrangements together with the society hosting the gymnastic fest.”

The proposal was declared a decision and Turners Huhn, Gollmer, Bertsch, Pfänder, Köhne, Pecher and Buchterkirch were appointed on that committee.

H. W. Ocker moved to instruct the Executive Committee, in future not to schedule the Convention for the first of a month because many Turners are discouraged to be absent from their jobs at the end of the month. Motion passed.

The Committee for the Gymnastic Teachers Seminary submitted its report, which was discussed thoroughly and then approved in the following form:

1. A new course should be conducted only every other year and last at least ten months.

2. In order to insure regular and dependable income sources for the scholarship fund of the Gymnastic Teachers Seminary, the Committee recommends \$1,000.00 from the Union treasury be allotted to that fund every year.

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3. In addition, we recommend that the amount of \$1,600.00 be approved to cover the regular management costs for each course.

4. The library owned by the Seminary and consisting of circa 80 volumes is by no means extensive enough and should be expanded with good gymnastic works from the newer gymnastic literature. To accomplish this and to acquire the necessary gymnastic apparatus, your committee recommends the amount of \$300.00 be allotted.

5. The following statement must be added to the third paragraph of the Seminary's rules:

“If a Seminary student drops out of the school before the end of the course without having been expelled by the Board of Trustees due to sufficient reasons, he is obligated to pay the scholarship he was awarded back to the National Executive Committee”.

6. Because the Gymnastic Union took upon itself to introduce gymnastics classes in the public schools in our country and because, for that reason, it is desirable that every gymnastic teacher demonstrate a complete command of the English language, your committee recommends the Board of Trustees of the Seminary emphasize that every gymnastic teacher educated in the Seminary is able to teach gymnastics in the English language.

The Committee for Complaints and Appeals submitted the following report:

Your committee for grievances finds the decision of the National Executive Committee in the affair of Adolph Kälberer versus the Bloomingdale Gymnastic Union for just and recommends Adolph Kälberer’s appeal be rejected.

Your committee also supports the decision of the National Executive Committee against Bernhard Schmidt who was expelled from the Social Gymnastic Union in Paterson, N. J. for amoral behavior and appealed this decision to the National Executive Committee.

The following congratulatory letters were received during the course of the day and were presented to the Convention:

From the gymnastic fest committee of the New York Gymnastic Society:

New York, June 2, 1884.

To Mr. Jacob Heintz in the Turner Daily Newspaper – greetings to all delegates of the Convention! Beautiful weather in New York, we count on being successful and wish you the same. Beware of nonsense!

The Fest Committee.

From Max Zebe, Spokesman of the New York gymnastic society:

New York, June 2, 1884.

To Jacob Heintz, Convention of the North American Turners!

Give our best wishes to the delegates of the Convention for their discussions.

From Christ. Riebsame, Bloomington, Ill.:

To Dr. Starkloff, President of the North American Turner Union!

Warm "Good luck!" wishes to the National Executive Committee and the members of the Eleventh Convention,

Yours,

Christ. Riebsame.

From the Gymnastic Society "Germania" in Los Angeles, Cal.:

Los Angeles, Cal., June 2, 1884.

To the gymnastic society in Davenport, Iowa, c/o Christian Müller!

"Good luck!"

Gymnastic Society "Germania".

At this point, adjournment until tomorrow, June 3, 9am.

John R. Bollinger,

Meeting Secretary.

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**Third Day.**

Morning Session.

The Chair opened the session at the appointed time.

The reading of the list of names of the delegates showed that a quorum was present.

The minutes of the session from the previous day were read and approved.

Upon the Chair's request, the honorary president Ernst Claussen took on presiding over the session.

The special committee dealing with the complaint of the Lake Erie Turner District against the admission of the Social Gymnastic Society of Sandusky, O. in the Ohio Turner District reported the following:

After examining the submitted documents and hearing out the present representatives of both parties, your committee allows itself to present the following report to the Convention:

We recommend approving the admission of the Social Gymnastic Society in the Ohio Turner District under the existing circumstances because there are no sufficient reasons for rejection, however, on condition that any outstanding dues of the former members of the Active gymnastic society be paid after the fact by the executive committee of the Ohio Gymnastic Society.

The report was approved as read.

The Executive Committee submitted a report from the Arnold Siegfried Jahn Committee signed by Oscar Höfer in his capacity of its secretary and treasurer. This report provided a detailed account of the money accrued through donations from the Turners in St. Louis and other places.

Its summary follows below:

Collected from the St. Louis Turners	\$257.00
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Received from:

A. Krebs, Cincinnati, OH.	5.00
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San Francisco (CA) Turner District	6.00
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Carlstadt (N. J.) Turner District	5.00
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Gymnastic Sisters, San Francisco, CA.	20.00
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Turner District "Vorwärts" ["Forward"], Milwaukee	5.00
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Turner District "Vorwärts", Chicago	10.00
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Gymnastic Society, Chicago	10.00
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Turner District "Aurora", Chicago	10.00
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South Bend (Ind.) Turner District	10.00
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Joliet (Ill.) Turner District	3.20
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Turner District "Vorwärts" Belleville, Ill.	10.00
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Dr. H. Pantzer, Indianapolis, Ind.	5.00
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Total	\$356.20
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These funds were used to cover the following expenses:

Paid out to Arnold Siegfried Jahn	\$240.00
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Running expenses	5.00
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Total	\$245.00
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Remaining cash balance with the treasurer and available to

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The Committee for the Union Platform submitted its report, which initiated a long and earnest discussion and was accepted in the following form:

Platform.

No changes, remains in its existing form.

Tenets.

These will remain as they are, however, the following paragraph must be included at the appropriate place:

“Because the efforts toward social reforms supporting the socialization of land and the means of production are capturing the attention of the nations, the Convention urges all Gymnastic Union societies to organize lectures and discussions about these topics so that the members of the Gymnastic Union may gain the most correct opinions possible about them. In addition, the Convention recommends to the societies the acquisition of relevant literature to add to their libraries collections.”

The statement “The gymnastic societies of the Union must also strive to keep any denominational influences away from the public schools.” was added to the second last paragraph, after “... for German classes in public schools and mandatory gymnastics classes is especially desirable”.

In the last paragraph, the phrase “the National Executive Committee was asked” must be replaced with “the National Executive Committee is instructed”.

After this part of the report was approved, the meeting adjourned until 2 pm.

John R. Bollinger,

Meeting Secretary

Afternoon Session.

The session was called to order by Chair Wallber at the appointed time and the Second Spokesman, Emil Höchster, was asked to preside over it. The last part of the report of the Committee for the Union Platform was approved, as follows:

Statutes.

A. Organization.

Remains in its existing printed format.

B. Government.

§1 must be replaced with the following paragraph: "A National Union Convention meets every two years. It appoints the location for the next convention and the Executive Committee determines the opening day. The Convention must take place mid-May or mid-June between the first and the last week of the month. The opening day must be announced at least two months in advance.

§2 and 3 remain unchanged.

In §4, the phrase "a majority" must be replaced with "more than half of that number".

§5 remains unchanged.

In §6, the phrase must be added: "The previous Executive Committee remains acting until the new Executive Committee is elected".

§7 through 13 remain unchanged.

In §14, the phrase must be added: "However, the National Executive Committee is authorized to pardon capitations, which the societies did not pay into the district treasury".

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In §15, the first part of the paragraph must end with the sentence "However, only the Convention can expel them from the Union".

In the second part of the same paragraph, the words "of the following year" must be crossed off.

In §16, instead of "at least" the word "over" must be used.

In §17, the word "entire" must be removed.

In §18, the word "configured" must be replaced with the German word "signed". In the same paragraph, in the parenthesis, the word "when" must be replaced with the word "or".

§19 remains unchanged.

In §20, the last sentence must be: "No Turner may be a member of two Union societies except for honorary members".

§21, 22 and 23 remain unchanged.

The current §24 must be replaced with the following: "Each National Convention has the authority to appoint the time and place for the next National Gymnastic Fest."

§25 through 28 remain unchanged.

In §29, the words "suspended or" must be inserted before the word "expelled".

§30, 31 and 32 remain unchanged.

## C. Complaints and Appeals.

### 1. The Complaint.

Remains unchanged.

### 2. The Process.

§1 and 2 remain unchanged.

§3 must be supplemented with “provided the same has no personal interest”.

§4, 5 and 6 remain unchanged.

In §7, the word “same” must be crossed off.

In §8, the word “First Spokesman” must be replaced with “Chair”. The phrase “A Turner may not leave the gymnastic society while there a complaint against him is pending” must be added to this paragraph as well.

### 3. The Appeal Process.

Appeal to the Society.

§1 remains unchanged.

In §2, the words “of both parties” must be used instead of “... of the opposite party”.

In §3, the word “closed” must replace “secret”.

§4 remains unchanged.

Appeal to the District Executive Committee.

All paragraphs remain unchanged with the exception of §3, to which the phrase will be added: “The district executive committee has the right to examine the accuracy of the minutes if it is questioned”.

Appeal to the National Executive Committee.

§1 must be supplemented with: “Such appeal must be sent in to the Executive Committee within 14 days after receiving the decision of the district”.

Appeal to the National Union Convention.

In §1, the phrase “after receiving the decision of the National Executive Committee “ must be inserted after the words “within 14 days”.

§2 remains unchanged.

D. Revision of the Statutes.

Remains unchanged.

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The Committee for the Platform and Statutes submitted the following declaration:

The Eleventh Convention of the North American Gymnastic Union renews and confirms most decisively the manifest issued at the last National Convention regarding the protection of personal freedom. However, to prevent any misunderstanding about the position of the Gymnastic Union in this matter, we declare further that we, honoring the noble task of our organization in moral affairs, are against every abuse of personal freedom and therefore emphasize that we can walk hand in hand only with those who recognize and fight with us the abuse of spirits, the trade with them and the vile situation the last causes. We instruct the National Executive Committee to announce this declaration to the people of the United States in a concise statement published in German and English.

The declaration was accepted and, in addition, it was decided to include the manifest mentioned above to the minutes of today's session. The manifest is:

Every attempt to restrict the personal freedom violates the principles, which build the base of the Declaration of Independence of our republic and is in direct contradiction of the principles expressed in the platform of the North American Gymnastic Union. In the fight of the small-minded muckers raging currently everywhere, we see the same as in the attacks of the Schollenritter (pejorative term: false knights) that flared up in the 1850ies against the immigrated citizens of this country. Back then, the Turners took a courageous and determined stand against every attempt to limit the rights of the individual and fought with their lives. Every forcefully created so-called morality leads to demoralization of the people. Therefore, the Tenth Convention of the North American Gymnastic Union declares every attack on the personal freedom amoral, against the tenets of the republic and besmirching any free country. The Convention proclaims it the duty of all members of the Union to oppose the actions of the muckers and temperance supporters with words and actions. The Convention demands all members work against every candidate for a public office, regardless of his party affiliation, whose character does not offer guarantee that he will support unrestricted personal freedom at all time.

The same committee submitted the following decisions and they were approved:

1. We demand: strict supervision of the fabrics, mines, etc. and merciless punishment for the employers for any injuries caused by their negligence or lack of safety measures; in addition, regulation of women's work through laws that take in consideration the issues of health and morality.

2. Decided: The convention expresses its complete support of the part of the Executive Committee's report pertaining to exhibits, masked balls and other similar events for children and recommends the gymnastic societies adopt it.

3. In consideration of the fact that the forests slow down the accumulation of atmospheric precipitation and at the same create a preservation place, from which the springs feed during the hot season; in consideration also of the fact that the forests prolong the drainage of the rain and

melting snow and thus hinder enormous floods and on the other hand prevent the sinking of the springs and all the grave situations this would cause; in addition, in consideration of the fact that the forests are indispensable for maintaining the health of every country and therefore are a natural resource for the good of all, and lastly, in consideration of the fact that, due to the above listed reasons, it may not be left up to the whim of one person or a group of people to interfere in the functions of nature in a damaging way and at the cost of the common good –

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let it be decided:

We, the representatives of the North American Gymnastic Union gathered in a regular meeting, condemn the senseless and damaging ravaging of the forests. In addition, decided to make Congress aware of this dire situation by submitting these deliberations and decisions to and tackling Congress with creating laws, which:

1. Provide the necessary protections for the forests, and
2. Aim to restore the already destroyed forests with the help of rational forestry as much as circumstances allow.

The Committee for Intellectual Efforts submitted the following report:

After precise examination of the decisions made previously, your committee must admit that it is not able to make new suggestions how to increase the intellectual activity in the gymnastic societies.

Even if only half of the existing plans could be fulfilled, all cause for complaints in this area would have disappeared long ago.

The committee can only urge yet again that the existing plans be turned into reality.

The committee recommends the quiz/statistical report submitted by Hugo Gollmer be adopted. The main change consists in bringing the statistics in accord with the report about the intellectual activity.

The Special Committee for resolving the differences between the Lake Erie Turner District and the Pittsburgh Turner District in the matter of the Birmingham gymnastic society's position submitted the following two reports - the majority report signed by Turners Francis P. Becker and A. L. Weise and the minority report signed by Turner John Gloy.

In reference to the last sentence of the majority report, Turner J. H. Sorg from the Birmingham gymnastic society was granted a seat and a vote in this Convention.

The above mentioned reports are, as follows:

Majority Report:

The Special Committee tasked with the report about the request of the Birmingham gymnastic society to join the Lake Erie Turner District allows itself to report the following:

After looking into and examining the matter above, we conclude that the Pittsburgh Turner District is in its full right according to paragraph 1a) of our Union Statutes and that the Birmingham gymnastic society may not join the Lake Erie Turner District due to its geographic position. This was the result of a prevailing majority at the vote of the Pittsburgh Turner District.

For that reason, we recommend the Convention ask the Birmingham gymnastic society and the gymnastic society of the South side of Pittsburgh to resolve all previous disputes. Furthermore, we recommend the Birmingham gymnastic society comply with the majority of the district as well as the Union Statutes. Lastly, we recommend the representative of the above gymnastic society, J. H. Sorg, be granted a seat and a voice in the deliberations of this Convention.

## Minority Report.

After hearing out the representatives of both parties, the Special Committee in the grievance of the Pittsburgh Turner District and the Lake Erie Turner District came to the following conclusion:

1. The actions of the Pittsburgh Turner District in not allowing the Birmingham gymnastic society to leave the Pittsburgh Turner District without sufficient reason and join the Lake Erie Turner District was entirely correct and in accordance to the relevant statutes.

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In fact, the committee cannot but express its acknowledgment that the Pittsburgh Turner District acted with meticulous diligence in this matter.

2. Regretfully, the committee is convinced that currently the relationship between the gymnastic societies in question is so unpleasant that a productive cooperation is unthinkable at this point.

3. Considering this fact, the committee allows itself to recommend the Convention adopt the following decisions:

1. The Convention regrets the unfortunate, damaging the Union, disagreements between both gymnastic societies in the Pittsburgh.

2. The Convention is of the opinion that a temporary separation of both societies may be useful for a future harmonious cooperation and therefore recommends:

3. the Pittsburgh Turner District, which, according to the existing statutes, has alone jurisdiction in this matter, grant such possible request from the Birmingham gymnastic society, in the interest of the entire Gymnastic Union.

After a long and exhaustive discussion, the majority report was rejected and the minority report was accepted.

The Committee for Practical Gymnastics submitted its report, which was read in its entirety. During the discussion following the report, motion made to adjourn. Motion passed. The Chair declared the meeting adjourned until June 4, 9 am.

John R. Bollinger,  
Meeting Secretary

**Fourth Day.**

Morning Session.

The Chair opened the session at the appointed time.

The minutes of the session from the previous day were read and approved.

The following telegrams were handed in to the Chair and read by him to all present:

Boston, Mass., June 3, 1884.

To the Convention of the North American Gymnastic Union!

The Boston gymnastic society is honored that it was elected to host the next Convention.

Best wishes!

The Boston Gymnastic Society.

Second telegram:

Burlington, IA., June 4, 1884.

To the Eleventh Convention of the North American Gymnastic Union, c/o John Hill, gymnasium.

The Burlington gymnastic society is in session. We are happy to congratulate you for your successful Convention and invite the delegates to honor our district gymnastic fest on June 7 – 10 with their presence.

A. Althof,  
Spokesman.

After the telegram from the Burlington gymnastic society was read, delegate H. G. Prenzler repeated the invitation to the Convention and assured that all delegates would be received with open arms by the Burlington gymnastic society.

The invitation was gratefully accepted.

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The discussion of the report of the Committee for Practical Gymnastics was re-opened and the report was finally accepted in the following form:

1. To decrease the difficulty of the mandatory apparatus exercises at gymnastic fests.
2. To publish only eight instead of sixteen exercises for each apparatus at gymnastic fests in the future.
3. To reconsider the decision that the Gymnastic Teachers Day take place always at the time of the final exam.
4. To instruct the Executive Committee to set the place and date for the Gymnastic Teachers Day in agreement with the gymnastic teachers.
5. To recommend the establishment of schools for Vorturners [Vorturners were the most gifted and skilled gymnasts in a group who assisted the gymnastic teacher by demonstrating the new exercises to the other gymnasts who then learned and practiced them under the guidance of the Vorturners] to all districts.

6. To recommend the Convention inform itself about the newly created barbell, the invention of gymnastic teacher Carl Zapp.

7. In future, the observation committee by Union gymnastic fests must consist of five members, three of whom must be gymnastic teachers. Each member of this committee must present a report of his work to the technical committee of the Executive Committee. The latter must compile all these reports and, if necessary, publish them separately.

8. The regulations in paragraphs §28, 29, 31 and 34 of the program for the gymnastic fests will be amended to the effect that the minimal accomplished score given in athletics is 'one'.

9. The judges will note the accomplished results next to the score in the gymnastics competitions.

10. Any score over ten accomplished in gymnastics will not be added to apparatus gymnastics.

11. The score for three jump must run as follows: 26 feet equal 1 point, up until 30 feet, each 2 feet equal 1 point, over 30 feet, each 1 foot equals 1 point.

12. The measure used by rope climbing will be attached to the foot of the athletes. When they reach the top, they must perform a leg grip.

13. Only the barbell, with a weight of 112 lbs., must be used by weight lifting. Each lift will count for one point.

14. The following will be added to §23 of the program for the gymnastic fests: "The evaluation of the exercises by apparatus gymnastics is performed with a 5-point score in the following way: 5 points for an excellent execution, 4 points: very good, 3 points: good, 2 points: quite good, 1 point: poor. Half points will be counted.

15. Every competitor in fencing will be allowed to use his own weapon; however, the weapons must be of equal length.

16. By judging the thrust and slash fencing, the following will be taken into consideration:  
a) position, stance and break-off.; b) ability to hit the target and dexterity by the defense.

17. To set the following rules for competitive, free and choreographed exercises: a) Each team must have at least eight members; b) Each team is given fifteen minutes, however if the team has more than eight members, it can be allowed five extra minutes for each eight additional members; c) The judging will take in consideration the difficulty and number of exercises, as well as number of the team members – a team of eight members receives one point, for each additional eight members, one point is given. No team will receive more than five points for the number of its members.

18. The two best executions in the javelin throw will be awarded a prize.

19. The arc throws will be removed from the javelin throw competitions and only six horizontal throws will be performed.

20. The following addenda will be made to §2 of the program for the gymnastic fests where b) of the same paragraph is elaborated:

“The following apparatus and equipment, in good condition, must be available: 3 horses, 3 horizontal bars (with spare poles), 3 parallel bars, several vaulting horses and swinging rings, as well as one ladder and climbing frame (the last two for elected exercises and gymnastic demonstrations)”.

“For the following athletic exercises, four pieces must be provided of each piece of the equipment – for high, long, three and high jump with a pole as well as weight lifting, stone throw and rope climbing”.

“In addition, one even area or a floor covered with boards for the competition, free and choreographed exercises as well as a 656 feet (200 meters) long track in a straight line”.

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Upon motion made by Turner C. Hermann Boppe, the following decision was passed:

In order to conduct a planned and successful campaign against the small minded, rooted in religious intolerance and nativism efforts of the supporters of prohibition, temperance and

Sunday laws throughout the entire country, the North American Gymnastic Union should become the intellectual center of the necessary propaganda. Therefore, the Eleventh Convention of the North American Gymnastic Union instructs the National Executive Committee to distribute comprehensive flyers written in English and to show to the American people in the clearest way the most un-republic of all attempts to limit the freedom of conscience and pass laws for forced customs, laws that are unfeasible and could only support lies and hypocrisy. In addition, the National Executive Committee is instructed to utilize all its potential in taking on the fight the supporters of prohibition, temperance and Sunday laws imposed on the freethinking elements of the nation.

On behalf of the Committee for Union Affairs, Turner Huhn recommends the Convention allot \$500.00 from the Union treasury so that the National Executive Committee may be authorized to use this amount for a suitable propaganda for the distribution of the principles of the North American Gymnastic Union.

A minority report by Turner Tiedemann recommends the following:

Considering that there are many claims on the Union treasury already and that the amount requested is so small that it could achieve nothing regarding propaganda work, let it be decided: to table the proposals and not allot any treasury funds.

After long deliberations, the minority report was approved.

Upon a motion by Turner Huhn, it was decided: to add the following names to the already appointed members of the committee for the organization of the reunion of the gymnastic veterans from the years 1850 – 1861: Jacob Heintz from the New York Turner District, Hans Böbel from the Wisconsin Turner District, Christ. Müller from the Upper Mississippi Turner District.

Upon a motion by Turner Starkloff, it was decided: the delegates to the National Union Convention express their heartfelt gratitude to the members of the Davenport gymnastic society for the excellent reception and the friendliness they demonstrated to the delegates in everything and hope that the true Turner spirit dwelling in their midst will remain alive in them for all time.

In addition, the Convention thanks the citizens of Davenport for their undivided interest in its proceedings and for their kindness toward the delegates.

Upon a motion by Turner Eberhard, it was decided: to send at least one delegate (appointed by the National Executive Committee) to the German National Gymnastic Fest, however the Union will not cover any expenses.

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In addition, the following decisions were passed:

Decided: To express the Convention's gratitude to the press in general and the local "Democrat" in particular for their lively interest and truthful reports of our proceedings.

Decided: To instruct the delegates to the German American Teacher Day to discuss ways how both organization may secure the financial situation of the German American Teachers Seminary which, despite plentiful donations, is currently still precarious.

Decided: The Executive Committee is instructed to contact the Board of Directors of the Gymnastic Teachers Seminary to determine whether and how the education of the gymnastic teachers may be effectively expanded so that the graduates are ready to take on positions as elementary school teachers in the future. Thus, the Executive Committee would play a part in the education of the students. The Executive committee will report about this at the next Convention.

Decided: The Convention thanks its officials for their prompt, competent and impartial performance of their duties during the proceedings and shows their respect for them as all delegates rise from their seats.

Decided: Considering the fact that several addenda to the tenets were passed, and now cause a seeming inconsistency with the individual sentences, the Executive Committee is instructed to perform the necessary editorial changes.

On behalf and upon instructions from his society the Newark gymnastic society, Turner Roder from Newark thanked for the honor and trust the Convention demonstrated to the

gymnasts of Newark with the favorable vote making them hosts of the next National Gymnastic Fest.

On behalf of the Ohio Turner District, Turner Bertsch proposed the following: The Convention thanks the National Executive Committee for the exemplary management of the affairs of the National Union their untiring work for the good of the Gymnastic Union. Proposal approved unanimously.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, the Spokesman of the National Union Turner Starkloff thanked the Convention for its appreciation expressed to the Executive Committee and said that it only did its best fulfilling its duty.

In addition – decided: To express the warmest gratitude to the Board of Directors of the Gymnastic Teachers Seminary for their selfless and hard work managing the Seminary.

Turner C. Hermann Boppe thanked for the high praise on behalf of the Board of Directors.

As there was no other business, the minutes of this final session were read by the meeting secretary and approved.

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The Chair Turner Emil Wallber expressed his satisfaction that the Convention, as the largest so far with its 145 delegates, was conducted in a pleasant and harmonious atmosphere, that, despite differences of opinion the discussions were conducted with parliamentary grace and that is why we, looking back at our work with satisfaction, can part as friends and brothers. With earnest words, we recommended to all to follow the path as mapped out in our platform and tenets. He closed wishing all a happy “Until next time” and asked the audience to join him in cheerful “Good Luck!”

At this point, he declared the Eleventh Convention of the North American Gymnastic Union dismissed.

John R. Bollinger,

**ADDENDUM A.**

**Platform and Statutes of the North American Gymnastic Union.**

**Platform.**

We, the Turners of the North American Gymnastic Union, united under the name "The North American Gymnastic Union", aim to support each other in the education and training of physically and intellectually diligent people.

We acknowledge in the expansion of education and fostering of good morals the only way to a sound reform in the social, political and religious areas.

We support and strive for the development of the government of the people on a truly humane ground. We will fight most determinedly against every attempt to restrict the freedom of conscience as well as all infringements of the law, which impede the improvement of our free institutions.

**Tenets.**

In its efforts to realize the principles included in the platform of the North American Turner Union, the Convention affirms the following:

The sovereignty of the people is unsalable and cannot be assigned to its representatives or employees neither in the legislative nor executive areas. Just as all must be done for the people, so then all must be done by the people. That is why the people must secure the constant and direct dependence and responsibility of those it entrusts with its interests. For this purpose, it must retain the right to remove them when they do not fulfill their obligations in a satisfactory manner and hold them accountable under conditions and provisions capable of preventing abuse. At the same time, it must retain the right to submit nominations and to make the merit of all important laws passed by its legislators dependent on its subsequent approval.

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Complicated representations and artificial power distribution borrowed from the government system of the old world hinder and ruin true democracy and foster reactionary tendencies. The people needs only one group of responsible and accountable agents for its legislature and government. This group will put its decisions into action through an executive or administrative commission under its direct supervision, a commission, it elects from candidates from the entire population.

The Senate and the Office of the President are both copies of monarchial institutions and ought to be destroyed as not democratic and not suited for a republic.

The right of the individual states to pass laws or introduce policies which are against the spirit of the national constitution, namely such pertaining to the freedom of the press, religious affairs and the right of assembly, must be revoked completely.

The Convention recommends the following as suitable ways to lift poverty and improve the social conditions: defend work against exploitation and secure its real wage; sanitary support of the citizens through control of factories, food and housing; statistical assessment of the work conditions through the government; ban of children's work for industrial purposes; stop to all further gifts or sales of land to individuals and corporations. The public land must remain the property of the people under all conditions and for all time. It may be given to real farmers to use under secured conditions.

Free education in all educational institutions supported through state or community funding must be provided to everybody. Public financial support must be made available to the poor.

Introduction of a progressive income and inheritance tax and tax exemption for the minimum family income.

Destroying of all monopolies, deep reforms of the judicial system, removing of all indirect taxes.

Because the efforts toward social reforms supporting the socialization of land and the means of production are capturing the attention of the nations, the Convention urges all Gymnastic Union societies to hold lectures and discussions about these topics so that the members of the Gymnastic Union may gain the most correct opinions possible about them. In addition, the Convention recommends to the societies the acquisition of relevant literature to add to their libraries collections.

In addition, reducing the working hours and setting a lawful workday may be effective ways to improve the poor state of social affairs. The Convention recommends all unions should to learn more about these issues through lectures and debates.

Religious views and beliefs are an individual's own spiritual and moral need according to individuals' private view and education. Due to their nature, these views cannot be controlled or influenced with violence. On this account, all institutions, laws and decrees created and passed by the government in that regard, are tyrannical measures and are against good reason as well as against the spirit of the Constitution. They must be viewed and counteracted as violations of individual rights and the freedom of conscience.

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Some of these measures include: the requirement of the Sunday festivities; tax exemption for church property; hiring chaplains in Congress, the legislatures, the army, the

prisons and other institutions supported by public taxes; arrangement of religious holidays and fasting days by the President and the state governors; requirement to swear on the Bible or in any other religious form; the support of religious tendencies or institutions through federal funds or declarations; print of religious slogans on coins and documents.

The tenets below were added at later national conventions:

The principles and demands for reform expressed in the tenets build the program for creating the system of the pure government of the people, which must be established with persistent work in our republic if it does not want to share the fate of the republics of the antiquity. Therefore, the employees and members of the Gymnastic Union are urged to make this the topic of thoughtful debates, to expand an active propaganda in the Union itself and among the people of the United States, so that the government of the people is understood better. The Union must try everything to achieve this government. However, the Convention does not find it against the program if Turners, as long as no physical organization is established to reach this goal, participate individually in the public political life according to their preferences.

In addition, it was decided that energetic agitation for establishing mandatory school attendance, German classes in public schools and mandatory gymnastics classes is especially desirable.

The National Executive Committee is instructed, when memoranda in support of any decisions or legislative reforms need to be sent to Congress or the state legislatures to prepare those and circulate them among the societies of the Union.

## **Statutes.**

### **A. Organization.**

1. Several gymnastic societies located close to each other, which join an organization build a District, however the Districts should be confined as much as possible to their own state borders. All societies from the same township must belong to the same District.

2. The legislative body of the District is the District Convention, which takes place at least once a year.

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The delegates to the district conventions are elected by the individual gymnastic societies. Each District may determine the ratio between the number of delegates and its members as it deems appropriate.

3. The executive authority of the District is the District Committee. Its members are elected for one year by the District according to its own regulations.

4. The highest legislative body of the Union is the National Convention. Delegates from all districts are sent to this convention. However, the decisions of the National Convention in all principle and governing matters of exceptional importance must be declared laws only when they have been approved by a majority of the union members who actually have the right to vote through a ballot. The decision about which leadership issues ought to be presented to the societies for a ballot is reserved for the National Convention. However this ballot must be conducted as soon as at least ten delegates from six different districts have requested it.

As soon as 600 Turners of the North American Gymnastic Union ask in written form for a vote about any issue: the passing of a law, the reform or the removal of an old law, etc., the Executive Committee will be required to present this matter immediately to the unions and require a vote about the matter in question within 6 weeks from the day of the announcement. The following further regulations will be observed:

a) Only the votes in person shall be counted.

- b) After the successful gathering of the elections results, the Executive Committee will be responsible for announcing the end result to the individual societies. Every decision, which received the majority of votes shall come into effect within 30 days of the official announcement.
  - c) With their signatures, the First Spokesman and the Meeting Secretary of every society must certify the truthfulness of the votes collected at the election.
  - d) The election results of the individual societies, organized by Districts, must be published in the National Union newspaper.
5. The highest executive authority is the National Executive Committee.

## **B. Government.**

1. A National Convention meets every two years. It determines the location for the next convention. The Executive Committee determines the day the Convention starts, when possible, in the second half of May. The date must be announced at least two months in advance.

2. Upon demand from such a number of Districts representing at least one third of the union votes, the National Executive Committee is obligated to call an extra convention. Its location is determined by the Executive Committee. This convention may not take place in less than 30 days from the time of the call for it. Should the Executive Committee refuse to respond to this demand, the districts that submitted the petition would call the convention on their own.

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3. Only districts delegates have a seat and a vote at the National Union Conventions. No delegate can represent more than one gymnastic district.

4. Each district must be represented at the National Union Convention, either through its own or delegates from other districts. The districts are entitled to the following number of delegates: one vote for the first 50 members, for each next 50 members or over half of that number they receive an additional vote. A delegate can represent several votes in a district, however, the districts that want to be represented through candidates from other districts, do not have the right to elect a delegate from the District hosting the convention. Districts with outstanding dues for the year preceding the convention can be allowed a seat and a vote only if the convention grants it.

5. Districts that are not represented at national conventions and do not submit sufficient excuse to the Executive Committee within four weeks from the first day of the convention must be expelled from the Union. The Executive Committee's decision must be published in the national Union newspaper.

6. The National Union Convention determines the Executive Committee District; the convention of the Executive Committee District elects the members of the Executive Committee and three substitutes. An absolute majority is necessary for the election of the substitutes. The members of the Executive Committee, no fewer than 9, appoint the officials among themselves, as follows: one first secretary, one second secretary, one corresponding and one meeting secretary and one treasurer. The corresponding secretary and the treasurer must be remunerated for their time consuming work. The National Union Convention must provide the Executive Committee with sufficient funds for this purpose. It is up to the latter to determine the actual wages. The Executive Committee's District convention elects the Executive Committee's members and must take place within 30 days after the National Union Convention. The Executive Committee's District convention must elect the nine members of the Executive Committee and the three substitute officials whose job it is to fill any vacancies as first, second and third substitute according to the received votes.

Should a vacancy open in one of the 5 officials positions, the new Executive Committee, reinforced through the substitute, will elect a new officer from its midst.

7. The Executive Committee District is responsible for the management of the Union treasury by the Executive Committee. The treasurer of the National Executive Committee must provide a sufficient surety to the District committee.

8. At national conventions, the Executive Committee members have all rights of the delegates except the right to vote and therefore cannot represent any district. The Executive Committee members cannot accept that any district positions.

9. The fiscal year of the Union begins on July 1 and ends on July 1 of the next year.

10. Every Union district pays yearly dues of 20 cent for each member in the first half of the year.

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11. Any new districts joining the Union pay an application fee of 3 dollars for every local society to the Union treasury. If they joined during the first 9 months of the current fiscal year, they will pay the dues for the full year. If they joined in the last 3 months of the current fiscal year, they will pay the dues for the next year.

12. Gymnastic clubs that leave a district will be viewed as new members if they do not join another district within 60 days.

13. No district will have the right to accept a club, which has not fulfilled its financial and other obligations toward the district it belonged to previously.

14. The district committees have a responsibility to the National Executive Committee for the dues of as many members as recorded in their statistical reports on January 1. However, the National Executive Committee has the right to pardon member's taxes not paid by the societies.

15. Any districts, which, after having received a second reminder from the Executive Committee regarding any management affairs, do not resolve these, can be suspended by the Executive Committee without any further process. This action must be published in the Union newspaper. However, only the Convention can expel them from the Union.

Any expelled districts can be accepted back in the Union anytime if they fulfil their obligations; however, they must pay the regular application fees remitted by new districts.

Any districts that have not submitted their complete statistical reports to the Executive Committee by February 1 of the following year, must be charged a 10 per cent increase over the dues of those societies who owed members' dues last year.

The same charge will be applied if they submitted their complete statistical report to the Executive Committee after February 1. The same charge will be also applied to districts with outstanding dues for more than one year.

16. Candidates to join a gymnastic society must be at least 18 years of age, have an unblemished character, must be US citizens or have taken steps to become citizens, may not have been suspended from a gymnastic organization or, within the last year, expelled from such one. They must submit to a four - week long probation period and when they are accepted into the organization, they must pledge to abide strictly by the platform and statutes of the Union as well as the statutes of the club and district they joined.

17. The National Executive Committee provides forms for Turner passports to the districts by request. Only such passports stamped with the Union seal are valid in the Union.

18. Every Turner who owns such a passport signed by accredited employees must be accepted in a gymnastic organization without a probation period, vote and application fee if he joins it within sixty days of the issue of his passport (or six months

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if the passport was issued abroad) and if he pledges to abide by the specific statutes of that organization. However, it is absolutely required, that a Turner who entered the country on a foreign passport must be an American citizen or have submitted a legal application to become one before he surrenders his original passport. Every Turner who leaves his gymnastic society after fulfillment of his obligations can receive a passport if he so wishes.

19. A Turner who leaves his organization without fulfilling his obligations to it and joins another organization, even after a successful probation period there, should be expelled from the new organization until he has fulfilled his obligations to the original one.

20. A Turner who moves to a different city must join its gymnastic organization if there is one. Should he wish not to do that, the District committee of the District he is leaving must give its permission. No Turner may belong to two Union clubs in the same town.

21. One of the main tasks of the gymnastic organizations and the Union must be to urge the inclusion of systematic gymnastic classes in the existing schools as an essential part of a robust education for young people.

22. The gymnastic societies are obligated to practice gymnastics according to rational principles and pay special attention to the fact that only gymnastic teachers, instructors and Vorturners [Vorturners were the most gifted and skilled gymnasts in a group who assisted the gymnastic teacher by demonstrating the new exercises to the other gymnasts who then learned and practiced them under the guidance of the Vorturners] may be hired who grasp those concepts and are able to teach accordingly.

In addition, it is the duty of the societies to work toward building and improvement of good German – English schools where music, singing, drawing and gymnastics are represented to their full advantage. The unions must work toward mandatory school attendance and make sure that German is taught in the public schools.

23. It is the duty of the unions to hold monthly instructional presentations, lectures or debates for the education of their members. It is highly desirable the topics for these presentations pertain to the Union's decisions and principles. If the individual societies require it, the district committee will provide the topics.

The societies must inform the district committee what results were accomplished at the lecture or debate within four weeks. For this, they will use the forms provided by the district committee. These reports will be sorted and sent on to the Executive Committee, which will publish a compiled report.

24. The Union Convention will determine where and when the next Convention will take place.

25. The judges for these fests will be appointed by the Gymnastic Teacher Congress, which takes place in the year before the fest. Their travel expenses will be covered by the Union.

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26. The Union prizes are in form of diplomas and laurel wreaths. At the societies and districts fests, other prizes are permitted as well. A special committee appointed at the Union Convention will determine the topics for the literary competition, one of which must be about physical exercises. Gymnastic teachers may participate only in the literary competition. The literary works that were awarded diplomas will be published in the Union newspaper.

27. The Districts' committees must submit an accurate statistical report to the Executive Committee every twelve months, on January 1 of every year. The Executive Committee submits an annual report to the Union as well.

28. If necessary, the corresponding secretary of the Executive Committee has the right to contact the societies in question directly when gathering the annual statistical reports.

29. The Union platform and statutes must be the guidelines for all districts constitutions. The latter may not contain any policies that are in conflict with the Constitution of the National Gymnastic Union. Members, societies or districts that break any regulations of the platform or statutes of the Union must be held accountable by the next highest authority. They can be expelled if they refuse to comply.

30. The punishment of expulsion may only be applied to a member of the Union for dishonorable conduct. The district committees must submit all such expulsions to the National Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will make them public to the societies semi-annually.

31. Accusations or suspicions may never be announced to the public. However, if there are well substantiated reasons for an accusation or complaint, it is the duty of the individual Turner as well as of the particular society or district to bring those to the suitable authority.

32. When the town determined by the last convention to host a Union fest or a Union convention turns out to be impossible or absolutely unsuitable for unexpected reasons, the Executive Committee must suggest two other places and provide its reasons for selecting them. The city which receives a majority of votes will host the event. If there is no time for such vote, the Executive Committee has the right to postpone the convention to allow a vote be conducted.

### **C. Accusation and Appeals.**

#### The Accusation.

1. When a Turner is accused of any offense by either a society or another member, he must be notified of the meeting at which the accusation will be presented to the committee at least one week in advance.

2. The notification must include a brief description of the accusation.

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#### The Process.

1. At the committee meeting during which the process takes place, the plaintiff or the spokesman must first explain the charge. This is followed by the questioning of the witnesses for the prosecution and then of the witnesses for the defense. If the prosecution wishes to debilitate the statements of the witnesses for the defense, it may question them again. The same applies to the defense if it wants to debilitate the statements of the witnesses for the prosecution questioned last.

2. Every defendant is free to have a representative who must be a Turner, however. This representative can submit the witnesses for the prosecution to a cross-examination. The same applies to the plaintiff's representative who also must be a Turner – after the direct questioning is over, he can question the witnesses for the defense.

3. These processes are led by the First or possibly the Second Spokesman. Both parties must abide by his orders – provided, he has no personal interest in the matter.

4. After the witnesses have been questioned, the defendant, or his representative and then the plaintiff, or his representative are allowed to speak on behalf of their party and prove their case.

5. The deliberation of the verdict must be conducted in a private meeting excluding all people who are not committee members.

6. The committee may preside over a grievance matter only if at least two thirds of its members are present.

7. To issue a verdict, it is necessary to have a majority of votes from all committee members.

8. The record keeper must record the witnesses' statements in their essence. The statements must be verified by the Chair, the plaintiff and the defendant or their representatives.

### The Appeal Process.

#### Appeal to the Union.

1. In case one of the disputing parties is not satisfied with the verdict, it can appeal it to the society within two weeks.

2. The society has to schedule an appeal and notify the other party at least three days in advance.

3. The process must be conducted in a private meeting of the society. The meeting must begin with reading the charge and the witnesses' statements, after which either parties or their representatives are allowed to make statements. A simple majority decides whether to confirm or reject the verdict.

4. No new proof material is allowed at the appeal meetings in the society.

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Appeal to the District Executive Committee.

1. If one of the parties wishes to appeal the decision of the society to the district executive committee, it must send a written notification to the society as well as the district executive committee within 12 days.

2. In the case of an appeal to the district executive committee, the society, whose verdict the appeal is brought up against, is obligated to submit all relevant documents, papers and a certified copy of the witnesses statements to the district executive committee immediately.

3. The process in the district executive committee must be the same as it is in the executive committee of the society, with the only difference that new proof material may be allowed only when a majority of the executive committee members decides that there are compelling reasons to do so. The district executive committee has the right to examine the accuracy of the minutes if that is challenged.

4. The appeal to the district convention is removed. An appeal against the decision of the district executive committee must be submitted to it directly.

Appeal to the National Executive Committee.

1. When an decision of a district's executive committee is appealed to the National Executive Committee, the procedures must be the same as when a society verdict is appealed to

the district executive committee. However, under no circumstances may new proof material be accepted. Such appeals must be submitted to the National Executive Committee within 14 days after receiving the decision of the district.

Appeal to the National Union Convention.

1. When an appeal is submitted to the National Union Convention, it must be submitted by the National Executive Committee within 14 days.

2. The convention will determine its own procedures.

**D. Revision of the statutes.**

1. These statutes can be changed only at a regular national convention when there is a two-thirds majority of the represented national votes.

## **The Order of the Gymnastic Fests of the North American Gymnastic Union.**

### I. General guidelines.

#### 1. Organization, Management and Program.

##### §1. Organization.

The Gymnastic Fests of the North American Gymnastic Union last three days. One of these days must be a Sunday. The city hosting the fest will be determined by the previous convention. Should it turn out to be impossible or absolutely unsuitable for unexpected reasons to hold the fest there, the Executive Committee must suggest two places and provide its reasons for selecting them. The city, which receives a majority of votes, will host the event. If there is no time for such a vote, the Executive Committee has the right to postpone the fest to allow a vote be conducted.

##### §2. Management.

The Executive Committee of the North American Gymnastic Union or the technical committee of the North American Gymnastic Union oversees the fest. The gymnastic fest committee appointed by the host union (or unions) is in charge the following: a) creating the program of the fest and submitting it to the National Executive Committee no later than twelve weeks before the fest begins; b) preparing and furnishing the place for the fest and any other necessary rooms, for instance locker rooms for the competing athletes, meeting rooms for the judges, a wrestling ring furnished with saw dust or mulch, etc.; c) making arrangements for the lodgings of the guests; d) collecting the registrations for the fest and distributing the tickets.

Additional regulations to b): the following gymnastic equipment and tools in good condition must be supplied – 3 horses, 3 horizontal bars (with spare poles), 3 parallel bars, several vaulting horses and swinging rings as well as a ladder or climbing equipment (the last apparatus is for elected exercises and gymnastic demonstrations).

Four pieces of each of the gymnastic equipment must be provided for the following athletic exercises: high, long, three jump and jump with a pole, as well weight lifting, stone throw and rope climb.

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In addition, a smooth area or a floor covered with boards for the competition, free and choreographed exercises, as well as a straight track of 656 feet (200 meter).

The horse must be set at 3 ½ ft. height in the saddle from the upper end of the springboard. Javelin vaults must be 9 feet long and 1½ Zoll thick and be made from hickory wood. The poles for vault jump must be 11 – 14 feet long and ca. 1 ½ Zoll in diameter.

The gymnastic field dimensions must be 150 feet by 250 feet.

The union hosting the gymnastic fest is required to prepare for inclement weather so the competitions can be finished in a sheltered location.

The National Executive Committee will appoint five members to form an observation committee three of whom will be gymnastic teachers. Their travel expenses to the gymnastic fest will be covered by the Union. This observation committee will not interfere in any way in the management of the fest. Its role is only to observe the procedures at the fest. Each of its members must submit a report about his work to the technical committee of the Executive Committee. The latter must compile the reports and, if necessary, publish them separately.

### §3. Gymnastic Fest Schedule.

A welcoming party will take place on the night before the fest begins. At that event, the management of the gymnastic fest is handed over to the technical committee of the National Executive Committee.

Usually, the schedule is as follows:

First day: a) general free and choreographed exercises; b) competitive athletics;  
c) gymnastic demonstrations of various prize awarded teams.

Second day: competitive gymnastics;

Third day: a) if necessary, continuation of the competitive gymnastics and the award ceremony; b) an excursion for all participants. If possible, the competitions must take place at the same place. If there is to be a parade, it will be held on the third day together with the excursion.

§4. An exhibition of gymnastic apparatus and equipment must be organized at the gymnastic fests.

## 2. Participation in the National Union Gymnastic Fests.

### §5. Access.

Only gymnastic societies members of the North American Gymnastic Union, resp. their members, who fulfill their obligations to the same societies and their districts in accordance to the statutes, have access to the Union gymnastic fests. Gymnasts and gymnastic clubs outside of the North American Gymnastic Union can be invited by the National Executive Committee and, provided its agreement, by the fest committee of the host town. Both authorities may invite other individuals accomplished in gymnastics or the public life.

All participants, those who have a right to attend and those who received invitations, have the same rights and obligations. The National Executive Committee must notify the fest committee of the host town of all participants four weeks before the fest. Each fest participant will receive a lodgings and an event ticket from the local fest committee.

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### §6. Registration.

The fest participants must be registered with the local fest committee of the host town fourteen days before the fest.

§7. No Turner may appear in unusual dress at the gymnastic fest. In addition, it is forbidden to carry drinking horns.

§8. Only those Turners will be admitted at the competitions who participate at the specified group, free and choreographed exercises. Gymnastic teachers and instructors are required to encourage all other capable gymnasts to participate at those.

## II. Organization of Gymnastics and Competitive Gymnastics, its Judging and Award Criteria.

### 1. General policies.

§9. The entire preparation and management of all types of gymnastics is the responsibility of the gymnastic committee of the host city. It is required that a gymnastic teacher is a member of this committee. He is its Chair and first leader of the gymnastic part of the fest. The duties of the committee are: a) setting up and furnishing the sports field and various locations as described in §2; b) providing the necessary gear for the competitions, including the wreaths for the winners; c) creating the free, choreographed and general exercises.

### §10. Judging.

The National Executive Committee will determine the judges for the National Union fests and have their names published in the Union newspaper one month before the fest. The union will reimburse them for their travel expenses. There are 16 judges. The Executive Committee may appoint 3 judges for the fencing and swimming competitions from the host district or one close by. If necessary, the judges appointed by the Executive Committee can help each other out in their duties during the competitions.

In order to organize themselves, the judges elect a Chair and a record keeper among themselves. The Chair leads the judging process, oversees the work of the judges, provides the correspondence between the judges and the score keeping committee. The Chair may not work

as a judge at the competitions. The record keeper creates the records and a writes a report about the judging process for the National Executive Committee within two weeks after the fest. In addition, the record keeper is responsible for providing the judges with writing and measurement materials. At the beginning of each meeting of the judges, he must announce their names and note any absences in his official report.

At the competitions, three judges must be assigned to each piece of the gymnastic equipment (for the horse exercises, three judges each for the side jump and back flip). Two judges must be assigned to each type of athletics. All available judges with the exception of those who are team leaders must work at the free and choreographed exercises.

Before the competitions begin, the fest hosting society will elect a score keeping committee of five from the competent guests of the fest. This committee will add the numbers of the result lists created by the judges and hand their findings, signed, to the Chair of the group of judges.

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## 2. Specific policies.

### A. Gymnastics for Attendees.

§11. Only free and choreographed exercises will be conducted for all attendees. The Chair of the gymnastic committee will publish the free exercises two months before the fest at the latest in the Union newspaper. The fest attendees must practice the exercises in advance.

### B. Gymnastics of the Individual Districts and Clubs.

§12. Every district and club/other group of fest participants has the right, given there is sufficient time and opportunities, to perform exercises it has prepared in advance on the first day. These exercises must be registered with the gymnastic committee four weeks before the fest. Level of gymnastic difficulty, what kind and how much gymnastic apparatus, size of the

required location and projected duration (may not exceed 20 minutes) must be provided with the registration.

The gymnastic committee must decide immediately which exercises are acceptable and has the right to reduce performance time if necessary. Any rejections regarding required location, apparatus or too high a number of entries can be issued, however, only in exceptional circumstances, when a gymnastic performance is not possible even at the end of the second day. Such rejections may only be applied to the groups registered last.

#### C. General Elective Gymnastics.

§13. Every fest attendee who desires to participate in the general elective gymnastics may do so. These take place at the end of the first day. The gymnastic committee determines the duration of the event.

#### D. Competitive Gymnastics.

§14. Registration for the competitive gymnastics must be done four weeks before the fest with the Technical Committee of the Executive Committee and the gymnastic committee of the host town.

§15. Young adults' teams are not allowed at the Union gymnastic fests.

§16. Turners who have held a position as a paid or otherwise remunerated gymnastic teacher in the last six months before the fest may not participate in the physical exercises competitions. They may only compete in the literary works competitions.

§17. The judges will organize the competitive gymnasts and teams, write them down in the participants' lists and announce them before the exercises begin. To simplify the record keeping of the results lists, the competitive gymnasts and teams will be assigned numerical badges after registration. Any registered participants who are absent at the start of the exercises will be removed from the competitions.

§18. The competitions include team and individual competitions. Both take place at the following gymnastic apparatus: horizontal and parallel bars and the horse (side and back flip) as well as in four types of athletics. In addition, as far as the team competitions are concerned, free and choreographed exercises (with or without apparatus) will be included. There may be no fewer than six athletes in a team. Turners whose societies or districts do not build a team will be assigned to other teams, however their accomplishments will be judged only as individual ones. The competitions at the apparatus will be conducted only in one section.

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§19. At each of the gymnastic apparatus - horizontal and parallel bars, the horse (side and back flip) - three exercises must be performed, namely two mandatory and one elected. The mandatory exercises will be selected among the familiar exercises of level three as follows:

It is the duty of each gymnastic teacher employed in a gymnastic union to send in two exercises for each of the gymnastic apparatus to the Technical Committee of the National Executive Committee no later than four months before the fest. Failure to do so will result in the reprimanding publication of his name in the Union newspaper.

The Technical Committee must select eight exercises for each gymnastic apparatus and announce them in the Union newspaper one month before the fest. Via a drawing, the group of judges determines the mandatory competitions exercises from those submissions on the morning of the second day. The Technical Committee must provide suitable materials for the drawing.

§20. Every time before the start of the competition, the judges must select four sections from the athletic disciplines listed below and combine the exercises with the apparatus exercises as mandatory exercises (where only the movement of the Turner's body weight is caused) : 1. free high jump; 2. free long jump; 3. three jump (back limp step and jump); 4. running; 5. rope climb; 6. weight lifting; 7. high jump with a pole; 8. stone throw; 9. javelin

throw; 10. club swing; 11. wrestling; 12. thrust fencing; 13. slash fencing; 14. swimming; 15. shooting.

§21. All results will be recorded by the judges using the American foot measure and/or a stopwatch.

§22. The judges must consider the following three criteria: 1. smooth performance; 2. beauty; 3. difficulty of the exercises.

§23. The judges will evaluate the execution of an exercise. No zero points may be given under any circumstances unless the Turner refuses to do an exercise. The evaluation is done as described next: a) By apparatus gymnastics, the maximum score is five points in compliance with the following rules: 5 points for excellent execution, 4 points = very good, 3 points = good; 2 points = quite good; 1 point = poor. Half points will be counted.

b) By athletics: according to the regulations set in the following paragraphs.

In athletics, the numbers achieved must be written down next to the points.

In athletics, any points over 10 may not be added to the apparatus gymnastics.

§24. The Union prizes are diplomas and laurel wreaths.

Only teams whose members participate in all events of the competitive gymnastics and individual gymnasts who do the same are eligible for a prize. They are entitled to a prize only if: by teams – they have received at least two thirds of the highest possible score (160 points) and by individual gymnasts – they have received at least half of the same.

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The average score a team receives determines the team's prize and the highest score an athlete receives determines the individual prize. (The average score is determined by dividing the total score of all team members by their number).

No prizes 'a' and 'b' will be given; their numbering will be done strictly according to the points received.

The two best teams and the three best individual gymnasts who have performed all mandatory exercises will be awarded a laurel wreath and a diploma, all other teams and individual athletes will receive only a diploma. For every type of athletics, there will be three prizes – the first will be a laurel wreath and a diploma, the second and third only diplomas. Individual gymnasts may participate in all types of athletics, independently from the apparatus gymnastics. Gymnasts who received several prizes at the fest will be awarded only one laurel wreath and one diploma. All athletic disciplines in which the gymnasts received an award will be written on the diploma. The accomplished score will be written on the diplomas as well and be published.

§25. An intellectual competition will be conducted in combination with the physical competitions. It includes recital and literary papers. The former takes place on the evening of the first day of the fest. The topics for the literary papers, one of which must be from the area of physical exercises, are determined at the Union Convention preceding the Union gymnastic fest by a committee appointed specifically for that purpose. The papers must be received by the Executive Committee's Committee for Intellectual Efforts at the latest four weeks before the fest. The Committee for Intellectual Efforts will evaluate the papers and must submit the names of the authors of the best works to the group sent by the Executive Committee to the fest. This group will announce the names at the award ceremony.

The Executive Committee judges group will elect three competent fest guests for judges for the reciting competition. The latter will submit their decision to the Chair of the Executive Committee judges group. The best recital and the best literary paper will be awarded a diploma and a laurel wreath, the runner-ups in each category only a diploma. The literary papers to receive awards at a literary fest must be published in the Union newspaper.

Every submission may only be marked with a motto, while the author's name must be in a sealed envelope bearing the same motto. The envelope may be opened by the judges only after

the decision has been made. The Executive Committee has the right to give material prizes for the literary papers.

§26. No taxes may be bestowed upon any Gymnastic Union member who competes.

### 3. Special Regulations for Individual Exercises.

#### Free Jump.

§27. The landing space will be created by filling a ditch with bark or mulch instead of using mats. The runaway will be made from a plank suspended in the ground and will begin from the landing space. It is ca. 15 Zoll [1 Zoll = ca. 1.04 in.]wide and 30 ft. long.

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#### a) Free High Jump.

§28. We begin to count by a height of 42 Zoll: 42" = 1 point, for each 2 additional Zoll up to 60 Zoll, one point will be given; over 60 Zoll, one point will be given for each additional 1 Zoll. In future, no springboard may be used. A narrow wooden stick will be used instead of the string. If the pole has been overturned by the gymnast twice, no more jumps will be allowed. However, touching the pole will not mean a disqualification.

#### b) Free Long Jump.

§29. We begin to count by a distance of 12 feet: 12 feet = 1 point, for each additional foot up to 14 feet one point will be given; over 14 feet, one point will be given for each half foot.

Every Turner is allowed three jumps from a clearly marked spot. Only the best of those three jumps will count. A fall back of the body will mean disqualification.

#### C) Three Leap.

§30. We begin to count by a distance of 26 feet. 26 feet = 1 point; for every 2 additional feet up to 30 feet one point will be given; over 30 feet, for every additional foot one point will be given.

#### Running.

§31. The track will be 656 ft. or ca. 200 m. long, in a straight line if possible.

Finishing the track in 35 secs. = 0 points, each second less counts for 1 point.

#### Rope Climb.

§32. The rope will be at least 40-50 ft. long and ca. 1 ½ Zoll thick: a height of 20 ft. = 1 point, one point will be given for each additional 2 feet. The legs must be held stretched in any position, any fidgeting and pushing of the legs will lead to immediate disqualification. A tape measure will be attached to the foot of each athlete and the reached height will be read below. When the athlete climbs his highest, he must do leg grip.

#### Weight Lifting.

§33. Only the 112 lb. barbell will be used. Every lift counts for 1 point.

#### High Jump with a Pole.

§34. A height of 6 ft. = 1 point; for up to 8 ft., 4 Zoll receive 1 point; over 8 ft., each 2 Zoll receive 1 point. The same rules apply here as by the free high jump.

#### Stone Throw.

§35. The stone must be in the form of a dice and weigh 37 ½ English lbs. or 17 kilogram. The same rules for measuring the distance apply here as by the long jump. The stone may be thrown with the right or the left arm.

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#### Javelin Throw.

§36. The target for the javelin throw will be a disc with a 2 ft. diameter, divided in 10 rings. Only six throws at a 35 feet distance may be performed. Only throws that hit the target will be counted. The two best results will be awarded a price.

#### Club Swing.

§37. 5 lb. clubs will be used and for the duration of 10 minutes. The judges must consider the following: a) number of the performed swings and connections; b) the beauty choreography; and c) the duration of the performance.

Each Turner may select the clubs provided they meet the prescribed weight requirements.

#### Wrestling.

§38.

- a) All participants stand according to their height;
- b) Every participant must tell how much he weighs;
- c) A committee of three of the judges will divide the competitors in pairs. It will consider their weight, height and muscular build and assign the pair partners as equally as possible;
- d) After all pairs wrestle once, the competitors who lost, will participate in a narrowed down wrestling competition. The winners will wrestle with the first winners and so everyone will wrestle with everybody else;

e) Judging: Whoever was thrown in the second competition receives 1 point, whoever has the lowest number of points is the winner, for example: 0 points - first place, 1 point – second place, 2 points – third place, etc.;

f) Each pair has 3 minutes to achieve a hold. If this does not happen, the pair will take equal hold left over the shoulder, right over the hip or vice versa. Whoever touches the floor with both shoulders has lost.

#### Slash and Thrust Fencing.

§39. Every competitor is allowed to use his own weapon, however all weapon must have the same length.

By the judging of the slash and thrust fencing, the following must be taken into consideration:

- a) posture, aim and hit;
- b) ability to hit the target and dexterity by the defensive.

#### Swimming. Shooting.

§40. The society hosting the gymnastic fest creates the rules and appoints the judges for these two disciplines. The athletes participating in shooting can use their own weapons if the latter comply with the regulations.

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#### Free and Choreographed Exercises.

§41. The following rules apply to the free and choreographed exercises:

- a) Teams must have at least eight members.

b) Each team will be given fifteen minutes – however, if the team has more than eight members it may be allowed five additional minutes for every eight members.

c) The exercises are selected freely by the teams.

d) The judges must consider the difficulty and number of the exercises as well as the number of members in the team. A team of eight receives 1 point, an additional point is given for every eight additional members. No team may receive more than 5 points for the number of its members.

### III. Prize Awards.

§42. The Chair of the judges group announces to them to decisions of the score keeping committee. After the judges' approval, the Chair hands in the result to the Chair of the Executive Committee's fest committee. The latter announces the winners at the appropriate time and presents them with their awards. It is the judges' duty to keep their evaluations secret until the winners are announced.

## **ADDENDUM C.**

### **Rules for the Gymnastic Teachers Seminary.**

I. Main Laws (rules set by the National Gymnastic Union Convention; can be changed only by the same).

1. The purpose of the institution is the theoretical and practical education of gymnastic teachers who should be able to not only lead physical exercises but also influence the moral and intellectual development of the gymnastic youth and inspire the life of the Gymnastic Union. In order to increase the role of the college, it must remain in the same city as long as possible.

2. To accomplish this goal, the following methods are proposed:

A. Systematic classes in accordance with the duration of the course in the following disciplines:

a) Practical gymnastics, gymnastic terminology, apparatus science, goals of the gymnastic education, preparation of curricula for the consecutive classes;

b) History of the development, systematics, methods and literature of the entire gymnastic culture with special emphasis on the modern time;

c) Cultural history of the human race in connection with the history of gymnastics;

d) Principles of anatomy and physiology;

e) Dietetics, physical therapy and medical aid on the gymnastic field;

f) Principles of pedagogy and its applications;

g) German and English language and literature;

h) Simple gymnastic and folk songs;

i) Thrust, slash and bayonet fencing;

k) Swimming.

Subjects a) through f) will be treated as the primary and g) through k) as the secondary subjects. The latter must be taught if possible. If they are included in the curriculum of a course the attendance of these classes becomes mandatory for the students.

B. Frequent observations and samples of teaching in the gymnastic schools, at the men's practices and in those public schools where physical exercises are implemented in the curriculum.

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3. Upon the request of the Seminary's the Board of Trustees, the National Union Convention will approve a maximum amount of funds from the Union treasury that may be used to cover expenses for supplies, teaching and management during each course. In addition, this money may be spent toward any scholarships for capable students of modest means. The individual scholarships may not exceed the amount that covers food and housing during the course. No more than twelve such scholarships may be awarded during one course. The National Executive Committee must send all funds to the Board of Trustees directly.

If a student leaves the Seminary before the end of the school year for reasons other than having been suspended by the Board of Trustees on sufficient grounds, it is his duty to repay any scholarship money he was awarded to the Board of Trustees.

4. The National Union Convention elects an incorporated gymnastic society member of the Union that has a good gymnastic school for boys and girls, a well-kept gymnastic field, offers financial guarantees and has proved itself worthy of such honor through its support of the progressive goals of the National Gymnastic Union as seat of the Seminary.

If the host society requests it, the costs for lighting, heating and cleaning of the facilities for the duration of the course will be covered from the Seminary's treasury.

5. The management of the institution is in the hands of the Board of Trustees, which consists of five members and is appointed for a term of two years. The National Executive

Committee appoints the five trustees upon the recommendation of the town hosting the Seminary. If there are several societies that belong to the Union in the same city, the host town has the right to recommend members of those societies for the Board of Trustees as well.

6. The Seminary's host is liable to the National Gymnastic Union for the Seminary's treasury and any Union property provided to the college.

7. Each course must last at least ten months; however, the Board of Trustees may expand it provided the National Executive Committee grants its permission.

8. The Board of Trustees is accountable to the National Union Convention for its business affairs. The Board must submit an exhaustive annual report to the Union through the Executive Committee.

The National Executive Committee must make sure that the Seminary is managed in accordance with the regulations of the National Union Convention. The National Executive Committee will send an observation committee of three members to the Seminary's final exam.

9. The requirements for admission in the Seminary are:

a) Moral character;

b) Healthy, well-developed body, certified by a document from a practicing physician;

c) Sufficient practice in gymnastics;

d) Command of at least one of the two national languages – German language skills to a certain degree are absolutely necessary;

e) Any other characteristics that give hope the student is capable not only to teach but also to raise and educate diligent young Turners, the future material for the gymnastic Union;

f) The moral obligation to apply the knowledge and skills acquired in the Gymnastic Teacher Seminary in the interest of the Union.

Every applicant must fulfill the following requirements:

g) He must submit his application to the leadership of his gymnastic society;

h) The gymnastic society committee, or a competent commission appointed by it, submits the candidate to an oral and written exam regarding his general education and command the German and English national languages;

i) If the candidate passes the exam, the committee will mail a report about it signed by the committee or the exam commission, including the written exam, the application, the self-created curriculum vitae of the candidate and a certification about the requirements listed above under a), b), c), d), e) and f) to the address of the Board of Trustees within the deadline;

k) The candidate may be admitted to the Board of Trustees' exam only upon the receipt of this certification, the recommendation and submission of documents;

l) Every applicant must present himself to an exam given by the Board of Trustees regarding the listed requirements. The result of this exam decides the admission in the Seminary.

10. If the Board of Trustees finds the number of qualified for admission candidates too low, it has the right to cancel the anticipated course. No course may be held with fewer than six students.

11. Individuals who are not members of the National Gymnastic Union may participate in course for a fee of one hundred dollars. They must abide by all laws of the Seminary and are not eligible for scholarships.

If close relatives of Union members apply to receive an education as female gymnastic teachers, the Board of Directors has the right to decide about their admission, as it deems appropriate and take measures to facilitate their education. No scholarships applications will be accepted in this case.

Students, who failed the exam in a previous course due to reasons other than absolute inability, may be admitted to another course, however they may not be awarded a scholarship the second time.

12. The date for the final exam must be announced to the Executive Committee at least three weeks in advance. The exam is conducted by the individual teachers in the presence and with the participation of the Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee.

The decision about awarding diplomas is made in a conference following deliberations by the trustees, the members of the examination committee and all teachers.

The trustees and the teachers for the primary subjects have the right to vote. By equal votes, the observation committee of the Executive Committee will make the decision.

The grade in each subject is determined primarily by the teacher for that subject.

13. Only a National Union Convention can add or change these regulations.

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II. By-laws (Regulations that may be adopted or changed by the Board of Trustees with the permission of the National Executive Committee).

1. The Board of Trustees is structured by electing the positions below. In addition to the special duties described below, its members will assume all other duties these positions would usually fulfil:

a) Chair; b) Co-chair; c) Secretary; d) Treasurer; e) Archivist.

2. The Chair presides all meetings of the Board, managed the exams during the course and has the special duty of overseeing the classes. By vote equality, his vote will decide.

3. The Co-chair steps in for the Chair when the latter is unable to work and supports him by overseeing the classes and managing the exams.

4. The Secretary keeps the minutes and manages the correspondence and reports to the Executive Committee; in addition, he provides all written documentation unless instructed otherwise by the Board in special cases.

5. The treasurer manages the funds, keeps exact logs of income and expenditures and prepares and submits written reports about the treasury and the distribution of funds as often as the Board demands it. He must provide a surety to the Seminary's host as required.

6. The Archivist oversees the library, the gymnastic equipment and all mobile property of the Seminary. He keeps a chronologically organized, occasionally compiled in volumes collection of all proclamations, circulars, reports and any other publications of the Board and its employees, the important letters sent to it, as well as the convention minutes and society reports. Lastly, he stores all expired documentation of the Board and copies of the inventories of the library catalog and the training equipment created at the end of each course.

7. When the Board steps down, it must hand in all books, logs, documents and any other Seminary property to its successor. The same applies to each of its members should a Board's meeting decide it or if the member leaves the Board.

8. The Board must hold at least one meeting during the course. It determines its order of business and rules, manages faculty hire, makes the final decision about the syllabus and class schedule of the various disciplines, creates the required rules for order and student conduct, plans and schedules the monthly exams and decides about all Seminary expenditures.

9. The Board members are obligated to be present at all exams and sit in on the classes taking turns occasionally. The teachers must write about these visits in their monthly reports.

10. The Board elects the following positions from the student body:

a) One secretary who keeps a log about all classes, the attendance and absence of students and teachers and submits a monthly report;

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b) One librarian who checks out the books, reports monthly and is responsible for the safe keeping of the library books, boards, etc. entrusted to him.

c) One custodian who keeps all gymnastic equipment, reports monthly and is responsible for the property.

11. The Board takes care that the students are not overburdened. The number of classes assigned for training may not be exceeded by much. Lessons must be conducted mostly during the day to keep the students refreshed and energetic at all times.

12. It is desirable for the students to build a group amongst themselves for entertainment as well as mutual encouragement and study support. However, any excessive feasts damaging their strength, any staying up late and irregular life must be absolutely avoided because it is the duty of the students to stay in a condition, which allows them to obtain the maximum profit for themselves and for the Union from the education they freely chose.

13. Since the Board of Trustees is primarily accountable for the entire result of the education process, the students must abide by the rules and regulations provided to them at the beginning of the course. This applies for any locations they may find themselves in - the dining halls, on school trips and the like, as well as on the sports field.

14. Every month, one practical and one theoretical exam are conducted to test the material learned in the past month. In addition, the Board sets one exam/ repetition, or a visit for one or several of the other subjects each month.

15. Every month, all teachers must submit the students' grades to the Board on the forms supplied to them. In the week before the final exam, their reports will be especially detailed.

16. The final exam contains all classes included in the curriculum. In gymnastics, fencing, swimming, singing and partially for physical therapy and medical aid on the gymnastic field, this is a practical exam as far as it is possible; in all classes, there is a theoretical exam, in part oral and in part written.

The written exam in the various subjects can be held before the oral exam, however it must be conducted according to the regulations and under the supervision of the Board.

Test lessons with school classes are required in free and choreographed exercises.

The explanations and commands are given part in German and part in English.

17. By the signing of contracts, the Board requires all teachers submit a general syllabus (draft for such one) for their respective disciplines.

18. The students will be supplied with college notebooks for all classes. The latter are subject to the Board's inspection at any time and must be presented at the exams each month.

19. Any potential additions or changes to these by-laws may not be in contradiction to the rules of the Convention.

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