

NINETY EIGHTY ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT, SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

6 June 1987

The 98th Annual Encampment of the Michigan Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (S.U.V.C.W.) was held on 6 June 1987 at Inn on Jackson Square, Jackson, Michigan. The Encampment was opened per ritual by Department Commander Keith G. Harrison at 9:43 a.m. Department Secretary/Treasurer J. Douglas Park read the roll of the Department's elected and appointed officers.

Commander Harrison - present
SVC Mitchell - present
JVC McCarthy - present
Secretary/Treasurer Park - present
Patriotic Instructor Patch - present
Chaplain McBrien - present
Color Bearer/Guide Hodges - present
Also Guest - Commander in Chief Bury - present

Credentials Committee Report

Senior Vice Commander Mitchell reported that delegate representation from the following camps were present: Wa-Bu-No #53, Ben Pritchard #20, Curtenius Guard #17, E. Rowley #18, Austin Blair #7, and U.S. Grant #101. Bro Mitchell reported all delegate credentials had been reviewed and found in good order.

Encampment Committee Appointments

Commander Harrison appointed the following Encampment Committees:

Bylaws - Bro Mitchell (chair), Pahl, D. Rowley
Resolutions - Bro McCarthy (chair), Park, Gibson
Grave Registration and Memorial - Bro Lyons (chair), Neely, Cohoon

Reading of the Minutes

Motion by Commander Harrison to table, 2nd Bro Pahl, motion carried.

Department Officer Reports

Reports were received by and presented to the Encampment from the following Department officers:

Commander Harrison - Attachment 1
Junior Vice Commander Belert - Attachment 2
Secretary/Treasurer Park - Finances
Graves Registration/Memorial Chairman Lyons Tri-county graves registration

project in Clinton, Ingham, and Eaton counties
Senior Vice Commander Mitchell - Patriotic instruction program in
Curtenius Guard #17; Lower Peninsular Organizer Lyons discussed four
potential camp sites; New Baltimore, Holland, Flint, and Bay City

Brother Everett moved to accept officers reports; 2nd Bro Lyons, motion carried.

Communications

- a. Commander Harrison reported on letter received from the U.S. Department of Interior relative to needed repair of Michigan Civil War memorials/monuments at Gettysburg.

Motion by Bro Mitchell to send communication to Graves Registration and Memorial Committee for study and report; 2nd Bro Pahl; motion carried.

- b. U.S. Grant Camp #101 forwarded, for action by the Department encampment, a resolution calling for the elimination of a classification of membership known as associate member. After deliberation, Bro Adams moved this communication be considered by the Bylaws Committee, 2nd Bro McBrien; motion carried.

- c. Department Commander Pahl discussed need by Department to revise its Disciplinary Procedures and to update C and R to reflect same.

Bro McBrien moved this issue be charged to Bylaws Committee; 2nd Bro Mitchell; motion carried.

- d. Commander Harrison discussed present state of Constitution and Resolutions and its many versions and poor state of reproduction. Communications between Michigan Department and National Bylaws Chair Rippey did not result in National accepting Michigan Department's offer to update and print current version. Instead, National offered to accept our financial contribution to their long awaited updating effort. Discussion was held on Michigan pursuing updating C and R by placing current document on Word Processor for National to later print.

Bro Adams moved to forward issue to Resolutions Committee; 2nd Bro Pahl; motion carried.

- e. The DUVCW desire that the availability of their GAR scholarship be announced. This will be done.

Old Business

- a. Council Chairman Lyons moved the \$2 per capita per quarter be retained for the upcoming year.

Bro Pahl moved to the table; 2nd Bro McBrien, motion carried. Issue tabled.

- b. Bro D. Rowley pointed out omission in National Site Committee for 1988 National Encampment. His membership on said Committee had been omitted and is hereby corrected. Bro D. Rowley further indicated he had not received credentials to last years National Encampment. Apparent communications problems will be addressed by sending such material personally to credentialed delegates rather than to each camp.
- c. Bro N. Rowley complained he had received only two letters during last fiscal year. As per capita tax mailings have been unaffected throughout year, Commander Harrison could not explain why communication problems only affected one household and only involved Department orders. Commander Harrison will provide special handling to Bro Rowley in future.

New Business

- a. The 1987 National Encampment will be held at the Hilton Hotel, Buffalo, New York, August 8-13, 1987. Hotel accommodations are \$54 single, \$66 double, and an additional \$12 per person. Normal amenities are expected. Only 75 rooms are reserved and the close of reservation is 18 July 1987.
- b. Banner - Issues have not been received by anyone. The Banner used to be published monthly in the 1920's. General orders were included, in the past, in the Banner and issues were sent to the Departments in bulk. Later, it became a quarterly issue. Beginning in mid 70's, complaints that the Banner came late, or not at all, began to be heard. The postage quadrupled and time lag for incoming reports were used as excuses. In 1981-82, National decided to send Banner direct to members. (Tom Graham last editor to mail in bulk). Also in 1981-82, National raised per capita tax. The problem with direct mailing is that National did not have a national roster. The solution was National having each camp submit their membership roster to the Department and Department submit names to National. Unfortunately, not all camps and Departments have done so, but those which have submitted names still do not receive Banner.

The first time National attempted new mailing system, they had 458 returns. National presently uses third class bulk rate (when post office has nothing else to do), and returns cost \$.50 per mailing with additional costs for additional mailing attempts.

Bob Gregory has been editor and distributor for two years. There is a tremendous involvement of time in sorting, folding, and mailing label application. National is considering a company to do this, especially in view of Gregory being in and out of hospital.

This will be discussed this year at National Encampment. We may also consider separation of editor from distributor. Editor is a volunteer position, but National appropriates funds for four issues each year. This funding is unspent if issues not printed.

Other considerations for National:

- i) Should use first class - delivered in a few days not weeks.
- ii) We are gypsies - everyone moves a lot. Only changes to permanent addresses should be forwarded to National.
- iii) National should give credit to Departments/camps for per capita tax collected and not spent.

Nationals' \$30,000 permanent fund and yearly budget is, according to National, not sufficient to carry on National's operations and Banner. National now believes this puts them in a deficit since they require interest on certificates of deposit and a healthy National Patriotic Instructor's Fund to subsist.

- c. The need for the National office to utilize computers, hire a full time secretary, maintain Word Processor capability and produce legible correspondence and, perhaps, even develop a national headquarters which would double as a tourist center (trap) was discussed. The overall concept and \$100,000 cost estimate was considered realistic.

The funding issue brought out the fact that \$53 million in assets was not claimed by National SUVCW in 1959 that was right fully theirs. Bro Gage suggested SUVCW investigate possibility of establishing joint National headquarters with VFW, American Legion, etc., since GAR was the Veteran's organization which first took those under their wing and now SUVCW is struggling and, in turn, needs help. A suggestion was made that a five year budget cycle for National be introduced and, further, the above partnership with VFW or American Legion could put National in touch with six million potential members and 25 million families-a fertile area for recruiting.

Lunch Recess

Meeting reconvened 1:30 p.m.

New Business (Continued)

- a) SUVCW raffle tickets were passed out.
- b) Jack Patch passed out 1926 Allied Orders program.
- c) Commander in Chief Bury discussed song and that the Banner will be out soon.

- d) Lyons moved, McBrien 2nd that per capita tax per quarter be \$2 per member. R. Adams moved to amend dollar amount to \$3. Gage 2nd vote on amendment; Adams yes, rest nays, motion defeated. Vote on original motion; majority yes, Adams nay, motion carried.
- e) Commander Harrison discussed National Patriotic Instructor fund. A discussion of Department contribution to fund ensued. McBrien moved; Gibson 2nd, Department contribute. Pahl moved to amend that amount be \$25, Lyons 2nd. Amendment vote; majority yes; Adams, N. Rowley no; motion carried. Vote on original motion; majority yes; Adams, N. Rowley no; motion carried.
- f) McCarthy discussed Civil War dead in Elmwood Cemetery, Detroit and cemetery granting permission to U.S. Grant 101 to clean-up grave stones, correct stones, etc. Poor gravestone repair, inconsistent records between stones and actual records, etc., were noted needs for work. Estimates to project are \$20. per grave x 240 graves = \$4,800. McCarthy moved Department should conduct a fund raiser to help Grant Camp 101. Motion died for lack of 2nd.
- g) Adams moved to go to election. Motion died for lack of 2nd.
- h) Lyons moved the Department endorse, in spirit if not financially, projects such as described by McCarthy; Adams 2nd; motion passed.
- i) Norm Rowley moved Department observe a moment of silence to commemorate those ^{who} gave the ultimate sacrifice 43 years ago today, 6 June 1944 at Normandy; Lyons 2nd; motion carried. A moment of silence was immediately observed.
- j) Dave Rowley moved Encampment Committees be dismissed; Mitchell 2nd; motion carried.
- k) R. Adams moved secretary minutes be made official proceedings of meeting; Pahl 2nd, majority yes; Adams no; motion carried.
- l) Commander in Chief Bury announced:
 - i) Camps should use ritual in its proper form, long form for military application, in camp meetings.
 - ii) Department Commander Harrison presented national ribbon for National Patriotic Instructor as well as Aide to National Commander.

Minutes - off the table

Minutes changed to reflect D. Rowley in attendance at Department Encampment in 1986 and 7th Michigan flag changed.

R. Adams moved approval; 2nd H. Gage; motion approved.

Committee Reports

a. Bylaws Committee

SVC Mitchell through Department counselor Pahl stated that Chapter 5, Article VI needs restructuring for proper disciplinary procedures to be updated and referenced. This was referred by Commander Harrison to counselor Pahl. McBrien moved; Hodge 2nd that Pahl submit suitable amendatory language. Motion passed.

Resolutions

The Resolutions Committee of the Encampment presented the following resolutions:

- a. That the National SUVCW enter into studies for a National headquarters in conjunction with other patriotic organizations.
- b. That Gordon Bury be placed in nomination to serve as Commander in Chief 1987/88.
- c. That National SUVCW enter into studies to obtain most cost efficient data base system.
- d. That National SUVCW develop mechanisms to lay claim to any and all properties which should be possessed by SUVCW in behalf of various departments.
- e. That National SUVCW develop a National membership roster and that any postal charge backs be changed to National if camps have provided accurate membership rosters, but that camps shall bear these charges if camps have not provided accurate data to National.

The following officers were elected:

Commander - Keith G. Harrison
SVC - Mike Mitchell
JVC - Kevin Belert
Secretary/Treasurer - Doug Park
Department Council - Peebles, Gibson, Lyons

Delegates to National:

Lyons
Mitchell
Everett
Hodges
Gibson

Alternate delegate to National:

Neely
Patch

Commander Harrison said delegate and alternate credentials will be sent out immediately.

Appointments

Commander Harrison appointed:

Chief of staff - Dave Rowley
Counselor - Jim Pahl

Installation

Commander Harrison and all officers were installed according to ritual by Commander in Chief Bury. (No proxy for JVC - to be installed later).

There being no other business to come before the encampment, the meeting was adjourned and closed per ritual at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,



J. Douglas Park
Department Secretary/Treasurer



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

KEITH G. HARRISON, DEPARTMENT COMMANDER
1837 Shadywood Lane
Okemos, Michigan 48864
517-349-3694

1987 ENCAMPMENT ADDRESS
Jackson, Michigan
6 June 1987

Encampment Delegates, Department Officers, Camp Commanders, Brothers and Honored Guests:

I have the distinct privilege and pleasure to provide you with a report of my activities as Commander of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War for the period 7 June, 1986 to 6 June, 1987. During this past year, I have again had the honor to represent the Department and therefore help to foster the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic, at a total of 54 different functions including: Civil War reenactments, parades, ceremonies, presentations, meetings and installations.

Upon assuming the position of Department Commander two years ago, I made a pledge to the Department to initiate a program which would (1) result in the S.U.V.C.W. again becoming a known entity within the State and (2) increase the S.U.V.C.W. membership. I am again here before you to report on the progress made to date on that pledge.

All general publicity programs initially begun in 1985 were continued during this term. In June, 1986 the names of all newly elected and appointed Brothers to the Department were published statewide. This notice in turn resulted in a feature article about the Order. The information flyers about the Order were updated with the names of newly elected Camp officers and distributed to the general public at numerous Civil War reenactments, genealogical meetings and Civil War seminars. In 1987, the information flyer was also once again placed into the annually updated Hereditary Directory published by the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Michigan and distributed to libraries and genealogical societies.

Department participation in the Michigan Sesquicentennial, Greater Michigan Foundation, and other historic and patriotic organizations' events this past year has continued to serve to further the name recognition of the Order on a statewide basis. Notable in these activities was the sponsorship of a raffle held to raise funds for the restoration of the U.S. Colored Infantry Troops (1st Michigan Colored Infantry Troops) federal flag. The Order raised a total of \$326 towards this cause. The Order also participated in the reinternment ceremony of Michigan's Unknown Civil War Soldier held on Veteran's Day at Fort Custer and served in the color guard for the 350th Anniversary Celebration of the National Guard.

Considerable state-wide recognition was also achieved by the Order as a result of its participation in two special Sesquicentennial endorsed Memorial Day ceremonies. The first ceremony was held in Sunfield in conjunction with the dedication of a Michigan History Marker for the Samuel W. Grinnell Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) Hall. This particular G.A.R. Hall represents

the only such hall in Michigan that has remained in continuous use by the G.A.R. and/or its Allied Orders. The second ceremony was held in Detroit inconjunction with the dedication of four newly placed headstones for Brigadier General John Pulford, 5th Michigan Infantry; Major Albert F.R. Arndt, Commander, 1st Michigan Light Artillery, Company B; Major Horace Gray, 4th Michigan Infantry; and Confederate Major S.W. Higgins, Texas Rangers. In addition, the S.U.V.C.W. also participated in Memorial Day ceremonies and programs in Kalamazoo, St. Johns and Bay City. It is significant to note that all five ceremonies took place on 30 May; the date established in 1868 by the G.A.R. as Memorial Day.

On behalf of the Department, Brother Robert Adams and I attended the 105th Annual Encampment of the National Organization held in Lexington, Kentucky. The 1986 National Encampment was very successful from Michigan's standpoint as all resolutions offered by our 1986 Department Encampment and motions offered by our Department's representatives were approved. The Michigan motions approved included:

1. To accept Michigan's invitation to hold the 1988 National Encampment in Lansing,
2. To support passage of Senate Bills 233 & 234 currently in the Michigan House of Representatives to change the state observance of Memorial Day back to 30 May,
3. To explore the feasibility of creating a Junior S.U.V.C.W. membership category (Infant to 14 years) and/or a sixth Allied Order called the "Children of the G.A.R." which would be administered by a board composed of a representative from each of the current five Allied Orders,
4. To consider the incorporation of the following requirements into the Sons of Veterans Reserve Standard Operating Procedures:
 - A. All infantry NCOs to be knowledgeable and proficient in the School of the Soldier, U.S. Infantry Tactics 1861,
 - B. All infantry officers from Captain and below to be knowledgeable and proficient in the School of the Company, U.S. Infantry Tactics 1861, and
 - C. All infantry officers above Captain to be knowledgeable and proficient in the School of the Battalion, U.S. Infantry Tactics 1861.

Other actions to take place at the National Encampment included Michigan being named the recipient of the Alan B. Howland Membership Award for having the largest net growth in members for the period July 1985 to July 1986, and the naming of three Michigan Brothers to 1986/87 National Organization positions: Keith Harrison, National Patriotic Instructor; Robert Adams, member of the Americanism and Education National Committee; and Kevin Bolert, member of the Membership National Committee.

Despite some unforeseen problems within a couple of our Camps, membership within Michigan continued to grow this past year. Since last year at this time, the Order has increased 19% and currently stands at 124 members. The

number of local Camps within the Department remained unchanged at eight. However, and based on the work of the Camp Organizers, it appears that possibly three new Camps, Holland, Bay City and New Baltimore, may be in the offing for next year. It is the Department's hope that one or two of these may be organized prior to the 1987 National Encampment in August.

Internal communication programs initiated within the Department in 1985 were continued during this last year. For instance, every member of the Order within Michigan continued to receive a copy of the Department's General Orders thereby ensuring updates on ongoing and upcoming state and local events and activities; and also, ensuring receipt of the Commander-in-Chief's General Orders. In addition, and as resolution of one of my goals established in 1985, the revised Michigan Department Bylaws which were developed at the 1986 Department Encampment received approval of the Commander-in-Chief in August, 1986 and were distributed to the Department's membership as promised.

On a somewhat of a less enthusiastic note, but pursuant to the Order's Constitution and Regulations, the Department was also given the task to hear a disciplinary action appeal this past year. While certainly not the most pleasant of the Department's responsibilities, I am pleased to report that the appeal process worked well and that all Department officers and appointed hearing officers conducted themselves and the appeal in an exemplary manner.

Finally, and as a result of the National Organization's 1986 selection of Lansing, Michigan for the 1988 National Encampment, the Department, in close cooperation with the Commander-in-Chief and the National Site Selection Committee, arranged for and conducted two sets of site visits to area hotels in 1987. I am very pleased to report that the hotel selection and the execution of the National contract have since taken place. The hotel selected for the 1988 National Encampment was the Clarion Hotel in Lansing. Details are currently being finalized which we believe should make the 1988 National Encampment hopefully the best in S.U.V.C.W. history.

I continue to believe that great strides have been and are continuing to be made within Michigan in terms of S.U.V.C.W. publicity, membership and intra- and inter-organizational relations; however, it still only represents a beginning. There still remains a lot of work before us. I again encourage all Brothers during this new year to continue to promote our Order and the principles for which it was organized. In addition, I would encourage all Camps to actively meet whenever possible and to take on programs and projects within their local areas which will help to keep the Order in the public's eye and help to further the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic. Finally, I would again encourage all Brothers, both old and young, to work with and to learn from each other and together continue the Order's growth within Michigan.

In closing, I wish to sincerely thank the membership for affording me this second opportunity to be a part of a very exciting and rewarding period in the history of our Order. It has been my privilege to again serve you in fraternity, charity and loyalty.

Keith G. Harrison
Department Commander



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

KEITH G. HARRISON, DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

1837 Shadywood Lane
Okemos, Michigan 48864
517-349-3694

ACTIVITIES OF THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT COMMANDER, S.U.V.C.W. DURING 1986-1987

1986

12,13 June Civil War Reenactment; Rockville, IN
28,29 June Civil War Reenactment; Grand Ledge, MI
4 July Parade; Grass Lake, MI
4 July Program; Jackson, MI
17,20 July 125th Anniversary Reenactment of Battle of Bull
Run; Certerville, VA
29 July Camp #17 Meeting, Sunfield, MI
10-13 Aug National S.U.V.C.W. Encampment; Lexington KY
25 Aug Meeting with Inn at Jackson Square, Jackson, MI
6, 7 Sept Parade & Recruitment Program; Marshall, MI
12 Sept Elementary School Presentation; Jackson, MI
12 Sept Kiwana's Luncheon; Jackson, MI
13,14 Sept Civil War Reenactment; Jackson, MI
18 Sept Recruitment Drive, Genealogical Council of Mich.;
Lansing, MI
25 Sept Fund Raiser Encampment, Greater Mich. Foundation;
Lansing, MI
19 Oct Memorial Service for 102nd U.S. Colored Inf.
Troops; Lansing, MI
19 Oct Fund Raiser Encampment for Restoration of U.S.
Colored Inf. Troops; Lansing, MI
25 Oct Historic Fort Wayne Lantern Tour; Detroit, MI
28 Oct Camp #17 Meeting; Sunfield, MI
5 Nov Officer Installation, Camp #101; Detroit, MI
6 Nov Meeting with Inn at Jackson Square; Jackson, MI
11 Nov Veterans' Day Parade & Reinternment of Mich.
Unknown Civil War Soldier; Fort Custer, MI
11 Nov Veterans' Day Parade; Lansing, MI
1 Dec Officer Installment, Camp #29; Kalamazoo, MI
7 Dec Color Guard for 350th Anniversary of National
Guard; Lansing, MI
14 Dec Planning Meeting for Camp #17 Civil War Round
Table; Lansing, MI

1987

4 Jan Recruitment Program; Dimondale, MI
17 Jan Planning Meeting for Camp #17 Civil War Round
Table; Lansing, MI
19 Jan Meeting, Department Council; Lansing, MI
27 Jan Camp #17 Meeting; Sunfield, MI
30 Jan Color Guard for Mich. Press Association Annual
Convention; Grand Rapids, MI
11 Feb Meeting with Inn at Jackson Square; Jackson, MI
21 Feb SOR/SUVCW Celebration of George Washington/Abraham
Lincoln Birthdays; Lansing, MI

21 Feb	Site Visit to Lansing Hotels for 1988 National Encampment; Lansing, MI
28 Feb	Camp #17 Civil War Round Table; Lansing, MI
9 March	Meeting, Mich. Sesquicentennial; Lansing, MI
14,15 March	Winter Encampment, Fort Wayne; Detroit, MI
27 March	Site Visit to Lansing Hotels for 1988 National Encampment; Lansing, MI
3- 5 April	125th Anniversary Reenactment of Battle of Shiloh; Pittsburg Landing, TN
25,26 April	Civil War Encampment & Program for Boy Scouts; Jackson, MI
28 April	Camp #17 Meeting; Sunfield, MI
2- 3 May	Historic Fort Wayne Civil War Days Encampment; Detroit, MI
11 May	School Presentation; Perry, MI
11 May	Camp #17 Patriotic Instructor Meeting; Lansing, MI
14 May	Camp #17 GAR Hall Work Day; Sunfield, MI
16 May	Michigan Week Parade; Sturgis, MI
19 May	Helen M. Edwins Tent #30-DUVCW Meeting; Sunfield, MI
21 May	Meeting with Inn at Jackson Square; Jackson, MI
24 May	Camp #17 GAR Hall Work Day; Sunfield, MI
25 May	Memorial Day Parade; Sheridan, MI
30 May	Meeting, Mich. Sesquicentennial; Sunfield, MI
30 May	Memorial Day Ceremony & GAR Hall Marker Dedication; Sunfield, MI
30 May	Memorial Day Ceremony for Confederate Soldier; Woodland, MI
31 May	Recruitment Program; Jackson, MI
6 June	SUVCW Annual Department Encampment; Jackson, MI

OFFICERS REPORT

FOR

JR. VICE COMMANDER

JUNE 1986-JUNE 1987

KEVIN J. BELERT

JR. VICE COMMANDER

DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

SONS of UNION VETERANS of the CIVIL WAR

The following is a report of my activities this past year, during my term as Jr. Vice Commander, June 1986-June 1987.

June-December 1986

In June I was elected Jr. Vice Commander at the annual Department Encampment held in Clare, Michigan. Along with this I was appointed to the Department Membership Committee in which I chaired.

I also attended a total of four (4) Civil War reenactments and/or Living History Programs during this month.

In August I had the honor of being appointed to the National Membership Committee at the National Sons Encampment held in Lexington, Kentucky.

I would also like to congratulate Commander Harrison and Brother Robert Adams on their appointments to the National Patriotic Instructor and Americanism & Education Committee respectively.

In September I attended a total of three (3) Civil War reenactments and/or programs.

November I attended a Veterans Day program held in Holland, Michigan.

December was spent close to home due to the impending birth of our baby. December 31, 1986 Karl Adam Belert was born.

January-June 1987

The first two or three months of this year were spent close to home once again since I was getting use to being a new father.

In January I did attend the regular of the Curtenius Guard Camp #17.

February I began once again to organize a Sons Camp in the Holland area. I did have a good response to articles that I placed in local papers.

I had a tremendous response from the newspapers themselves. The Holland Sentinel in particular, who came and did a feature story.

Applications and further information was sent out to all prospective members who contacted me. As yet I have not had a very good response from those persons.

In March I presented a total of five (5) programs on the Civil War to schools in Harrison and Beaverton, Michigan.

The first weekend in May I attended a Civil War reenactment-Living History program at Historic Fort Wayne in Detroit, Michigan.

As Memorial Day approached, I visited some of the local cemeteries in the Holland area. Any gravesites of Civil War veterans who had no real marker to distinguish them as such, I placed a small marker there.

I hope before another year is up I can get these graves marked with appropriate markers.

I marched in a parade May 25 in Sheridan, Michigan along with members of the 7th Michigan and 3rd Michigan Infantry.

On May 30, the true Memorial Day, I attended the Memorial Program and Historical Marker Dedication held at the G.A.R. Hall in Sunfield, Michigan.

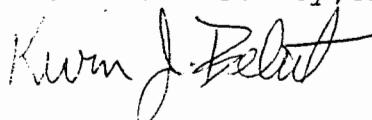
This concludes my report of activities for the past year June 1986-June 1987.

I wish to thank the members of the Department for nominating and electing me to the office of Jr. Vice.

I have enjoyed serving as Jr. Vice Commander as well as Sr. Vice in the past and look forward to serving the Department and the Order in the future, whatever it may be.

I am proud to be a member of this organization and will continue to be the rest of my days.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,



Kevin J. Belert

Jr. Vice Commander

Department of Michigan

S.U.V.C.W.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VI, CHAPTER V OF THE NATIONAL REGULATIONS

As proposed by the Michigan Department in encampment assembled, June 6, 1987

ARTICLE VI

DISCIPLINE

Section 1. The Commander-in-Chief shall have original jurisdiction over charges preferred against Departments of the Order and also against members-at-large of the Order, and also members and Camps when Camps or Departments fail or neglect to act upon any breach of discipline within their jurisdiction.

Section 2. Charges may be preferred for violation of obligation or the doing of anything tending to injure a veteran or brother, or the Order of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, however, such charges must be filed within ninety (90) days of the occurrence of the incident complained of, or upon sufficient demonstration, within 90 days of learning of the occurrence.

Section 3. Charges shall be made in writing, specifically detailing the actions complained of, and the Complaint shall be addressed to the Camp Commander; except when the Complaint is made by a Camp, when it shall be addressed to the Department Commander; except when the Complaint is made by a Department, it shall be addressed to the Commander-in-Chief. A copy of the charges shall in all cases be delivered to the accused within a reasonable time of being filed with the appropriate commander.

Section 4. Upon receipt of such Complaint, the commander of the Camp, Department or the Commander-in-Chief shall appoint a Trial Commissioner, who shall be a member of this Order. This Trial Commissioner, so far as practicable, shall not be acquainted with the parties or the dispute. If this is not possible, then the Trial Commissioner shall be appointed who is not involved in the dispute and who can render a fair and reasonable report and recommendation.

Section 5. The Trial Commissioner shall hold a hearing, and give at least ten (10) days notice to the party preferring the charges and to the accused by registered mail, return receipt, of the time, date and place for a hearing. The accused shall also receive with such notice, a full copy of the charges made against him. Such hearing notice may also require the accused to file a written answer, however, failure of the accused to file a written answer will not negate the requirements for a hearing. Pre-hearing motions or a change of venue shall not be allowed, except a motion to postpone the scheduled hearing.

Section 6. The Trial Commissioner shall have the power to postpone or continue the hearing, subpoena witnesses and shall impartially ascertain all the facts relative to the issue. The Trial

Commissioner may employ a stenographer and the expenses of the trial shall be borne by the Camp, Department or National Organization in which the case originated. The Trial Commissioner, in the alternative, may record the proceedings, or otherwise make a record of the proceedings so that a written word-for-word transcript of the proceedings can be made. A convicted member may be required to pay any costs incurred in the proceeding. The Trial Commissioner shall allow the parties to be represented by counsel, so long as such counsel is a member of this Order, however, the Trial Commissioner need not appoint any member to act as counsel should the accused fail to obtain his own counsel. Any member of this Order may act as counsel for a party.

Section 7. The Trial Commissioner shall then make a detailed written report containing specific findings of facts, and contained within said report, make recommendations. This report and recommendations shall be forwarded to the authority appointing the Trial Commissioner, with copies to be forwarded to the party preferring the charges and to the accused. The specific findings of facts of the Trial Commissioner shall be conclusive and may not be changed or challenged on appeal, unless it can be shown that the Trial Commissioner acted in gross abuse of judgment and discretion.

Section 8. Upon receipt of the report and recommendation, the authority appointing the Trial Commissioner shall then give at least ten days notice to the party preferring the charges and to the accused, of their right to file written comments and objections, addressing the report and recommendations of the Trial Commissioner. The authority appointing the Trial Commissioner may, but is not required to, grant further hearings thereon, under the same recording requirements contained in Section 6 herein.

Section 9. If the charges are filed with a Camp Commander, the Camp Commander shall then submit the report and recommendations, along with his written comments, and the comments and objections of both parties, to the Camp Council, and the Camp Council shall, by majority vote, accept or reject the recommendations of the Trial Commissioner. The Camp Council may, upon proper motion, second, and majority vote, modify the recommendations of the Trial Commissioner, and then adopt those amended recommendations as the decision of the Camp Council. Rejection of the Trial Commissioners recommendations shall serve as a final determination of the Camp Council. Acceptance of the Trial Commissioners recommendations, or any amended version thereof, shall serve as the decision of the Camp Council, and same shall be published by the authority appointing the Trial Commissioner as the final decision of the camp.

Section 10. If the charges are filed with a Department Commander, or the Commander-in-Chief, then such Commander or the Commander-in-Chief, shall then decide the issue and render a written decision, based upon the report and recommendations of the Trial Commissioner, however, nothing herein shall be construed to command the Department Commander or the Commander-in-Chief to follow the recommendations of the Trial Commissioner. It is preferred, where practicable, that the Department Commander or the Commander-in-Chief

receive the advice of the Department Council or the National Council of Administration, as appropriate, prior to issuing the final decision, and any such advice received from the respective council shall be advisory only.

Section 11. The sentence may be a reprimand, fine, suspension from rights and privileges for a given time, and/or expulsion from the Order. Any fine imposed shall be paid to the Camp, Department, or National Organization as the same may be entitled. Such fine may include any reimbursement due to the Order of such costs as are found proper.

Section 12. The Commander-in-Chief may, in extraordinary circumstances, summarily discipline a member, Camp or Department, and in the event of such action, he shall appoint, within ten (10) days thereafter, a Trial Commissioner to take testimony and proceedings as indicated in the previous sections.

Section 13. Charges against the Camp Commander shall be filed with the Camp Council, as against the Department Commander with the Department Council and as against the Commander-in-Chief shall be made to the Council of Administration, each who shall act upon the same in accordance with the provisions of this Article. Any action by the Council of Administration under this Section must be approved by a majority vote of the Departments.

Section 14. An appeal shall lie from any decision of a Camp to the Department Commander, and from any decision of the Department Commander to the Commander-in-Chief, whose decision shall be final. Such appeal shall detail the reasons for the appeal, and contain appropriate argument as to why the appeal should be granted. Such appeal must be filed within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the final decision or appeal decision in which is being appealed to the next higher authority.

Section 15. Upon an appeal, a written transcript of all proceedings embodying the evidence, with original documents or certified copies thereof, shall be transmitted by the authority rendering the decision to the authority that received the appeal.

Section 16. Whenever a Department Commander or the Commander-in-Chief shall receive an appeal, such Commander or the Commander-in-Chief, shall appoint a three member Appeals Panel. Such Appeals Panel shall consist of members of this Order, and shall, so far as practicable, not be acquainted with the individuals involved or as to the factual matters in dispute. Should it not be possible to find members of the Order who are not acquainted with the individuals or the factual matters, then the Appeals Panel shall be selected from those members of this Order who can fairly and justly hear this appeal and issue a fair and just recommendation.

Section 17. The Appeals Panel shall notify the opposite party on appeal, who shall then be entitled to file written objections to the appeal, accompanied by written arguments. The Appeals Panel

may, but shall not be required to, hold a hearing where the parties may appear to present further oral arguments.

Section 18. The Appeals Panel shall then issue a written report to the authority appointing the Appeals Panel, and such report shall contain recommendations of the Appeals Panel. The authority appointing the Appeals Panel shall then serve upon the party bringing the appeal, and the opposing party, a copy of such report and recommendations, and said parties shall then have at least 10 days time to file comments and objections to the report and recommendations of the Appeals Panel.

Section 19. The authority appointing the Appeals Panel shall then issue a written decision on the appeal, and issue this decision to the party bringing the appeal, and the opposing party, and the authority issuing any decision appealed from.

Section 20. Any service required under this Article is intended to mean by certified mail, return receipt requested.

Section 21. No objection may be raised as to the form of any document required under this Article, so long as such document otherwise contains such content as required in this Article.