

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON
JUNIOR LEGION ACTIVITIES**

Joe Blythe, of North Carolina, Chairman.

The 1930 National Convention of The American Legion held in Boston, created a committee to study the feasibility and advisability of The American Legion sponsoring and propagating a Junior Legion. Following that Convention a committee was appointed by the National Commander to make a survey and report its findings. That committee convened in Detroit in 1931 prior to the National Convention held there, and made the following recommendations to the Convention, which were approved.

First, that the National Organization of The American Legion approve, encourage, and foster organizations of sons of members of The American Legion.

Second, that each Department Commander be urged to include this activity in his program.

Third, that a national committee on this activity be continued, and that said committee prepare definite recommendations for a uniform constitution, by-laws, program, and ceremonials, under which various units of this activity might function.

In formulating its recommendations, your committee felt that suggestions from the various Departments on the subject would be helpful at arriving at definite conclusions, therefore, letters were sent to the various Department Commanders asking for an expression on the subject in its entirety.

As a result of the committee's study and recommendations made to it from various Departments, we wish to submit our report in the form of the following resolution:

Whereas, Every boy whose father is an Ex-Service man is proud of that fact. He seeks recognition as the son of a man of honorable war record. His dad is a pattern of a man. In the propagation of an organization for such boys lies a plan to mold the boy's future around a fine idea, and assist in bringing out the best type of citizenship; and

Whereas, An organization of this sort will bring the father closer to his son and make a better Legionnaire of him; and

Whereas, The National Policies Committee has approved of this idea in principle; be it

Resolved, One, that The American Legion officially propagate, recognize, and sponsor an organization to be known as "Sons of The Legion"; and be it further

Resolved, That the membership in such organization be extended to all male descendants of men or women having served honorably in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps in the service of the United States between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention hereby create a permanent committee consisting of five members to direct and guide the affairs of the Junior organization. The members of this committee shall be appointed by the National Commander, and the term

of membership on said committee shall be for a period of five years, except in case of original appointments as follows:

The incoming Commander in the year 1933 shall appoint one member to serve one year, another to serve two, another three, another four, and another five. The member appointed to the one year term shall be chairman, and each year the National Commander shall appoint a member to take the place of that member whose term expires, the senior member, that is, the member with the earliest expiring term, shall be chairman; be it further

Resolved, That this committee be charged with writing the constitution and by-laws for the Junior organization, designing and designating the official emblem of the Junior organization, and formulating a definite program of activities for the organization, and with the responsibility of assisting the various departments in organizing local units and that it submit to the 1933 May meeting of the National Executive Committee, a full and complete plan in detail to carry out every phase of inaugurating this movement on a National basis; and be it further

Resolved, That for the time being, and until such time as this organization shall be self-maintaining, the administrative function of this committee be carried out by the National Adjutant, who will be ex-officio secretary of the committee; be it further

Resolved, That the National Executive Committee has full and complete authority to accept or reject recommendations of this committee, and shall at all times be the final reviewing authority on its action and activities.

The report was adopted.

**ADDRESS OF PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER RALPH T. O'NEIL (KANSAS)
IN PRESENTATION OF FLAGS**

I have the most pleasant detail of any speaker that has appeared before this Convention. Well do I remember one year ago when our Past National Commander accepted the Colors and promised us that he would carry them high and keep them clean. He has confirmed that promise.

It has been a troublesome year, a most troublesome year. But during those days that have been more or less difficult, our National Commander has never forgotten the Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion. And he has never forgotten that he was here to serve you according to the dictates of the last National Convention.

Henry Stevens has done well. He has done more than well. When he accepted the position of National Commander of our organization he loved his organization and they loved him. As he retires they love him more and he loves them more.

I am happy to have the opportunity, on behalf of you, my Comrades, to present to him the Colors that he has carried so well and has carried high.

Henry, I am happy, as a representative of this Convention, to give you the Colors