

Ninth Congressional District, Edgar
 B. Dunlap ----- Gainesville
 Tenth Congressional District, Ed. C.
 B. Danforth ----- Augusta
 Eleventh Congressional District, J. W.
 Oglesby ----- Quitman
 Twelfth Congressional District, Roy
 A. Flynt ----- Dublin

BASIL STOCKBRIDGE

Commander

Basil Stockbridge was born in Saporro, Japan, the son of Dr. Horace E. and Belle Lamar Stockbridge. After an early education he attended the University of Florida and in



BASIL STOCKBRIDGE, Commander

1913 he graduated with a degree in law from the Atlanta Law School.

Basil Stockbridge served with the National Guard of Georgia, and on August 5, 1917 was drafted into Federal service as First Lieutenant, Infantry, N.G., being promoted

Captain on December 11, 1917. He served in the 122nd Regiment of Infantry and 329th Infantry. He was stationed at Camp Gordon, Ga., Camp Wheeler, Ga., Braswell, Ga., Macon, Ga., A. E. F. in France and at Camp Mills, N. J. His service overseas extended from October 7, 1918 to January 31, 1919. He was discharged from service on February 18, 1919.

Basil Stockbridge's record for Legion service is unequalled by any Legionnaire in the Department. From the first date of the organization in Georgia up to the present date, and bids to continue, Basil Stockbridge has unselfishly served the Legion in the State of Georgia. The American Legion has become to him almost a religion; his first interest and his latest thought centers around the Legion. As a charter member of the Charles D. Montgomery Post No. 1, Atlanta, Ga., Basil Stockbridge became the first commander of the Department elected at the first annual Convention, held in Atlanta, in 1919. Since that time he has consistently and faithfully worked in the interest of the Legion in the State of Georgia.

On July 22, 1917 Captain Basil Stockbridge was married to Miss Jessie Folsom of Atlanta.

They have one child, Miss Lamar Folsom Stockbridge, who was born in Atlanta, Ga.

KIRK SMITH, JR.

Adjutant

Kirk Smith, Junior, was born in Norwalk, Ohio, on May 16, 1891, the son of Kirk and Kate Conklin Smith. His education was attained in the high schools of his native town, with several years spent in the Ohio State University.

Kirk Smith's military record during the World War began with his enlistment in the First Officer's Training School at Fort McPherson, Ga., receiving a commission as First Lieutenant. He was assigned to Company C, 321st Machine Gun Battalion, 82nd Division. He served overseas from May 2, 1918 to April 1919, and participated in the engagements at Toul, St Mihiel, and the Argonne, being gassed in the battle of St.

Mihiel. He was discharged in 1919 from Camp Gordon, Ga.

As a member of the Charles D. Montgomery Post No. 1, Atlanta, Ga., Kirk Smith,



KIRK SMITH, JR., Adjutant

Junior, served as Adjutant of the Department of Georgia, The American Legion, under Basil Stockbridge, the first Commander of the Georgia Department.

His fraternal affiliations are limited to the Chi Phi Fraternity and The American Legion.

On October 6th, 1917, in Atlanta, Ga., Kirk Smith, Junior was married to Miss Gladys Dunson, of Atlanta. Their first child died while Lieutenant Smith was serving in France, their other child, a daughter, Miss Margaret D. Smith was born in Atlanta, Ga.

PERMANENT CHARTER

The permanent Charter for the Department of Georgia, The American Legion, was issued on August 1, 1920, and was signed by Franklin D'Olier, National Commander and Lemuel Bolles, National Adjutant.

THE FIRST NATIONAL CONVENTION

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Minneapolis, Minn. — Nov. 10, 11, 12, 1919

To insure a full representation from the Department of Georgia, The American Legion, to this, the first National Convention of the organization, was the object of a call meeting of the Executive Committee of the Department, which was held in Atlanta, November 1, 1919. Present at this meeting were: Basil Stockbridge; Barry Wright; Kirk Smith, Jr.; James A. Bankston; Walter A. Harris; J. G. Holdst; Allen L. Henson; and Asa Warren Candler. The Georgia Division was entitled to six delegates, and six alternates.

Those Legionnaires which represented the Georgia Division at the Minneapolis Convention were:

Edgar B. Dunlap, Gainesville; Basil Stockbridge, Atlanta; Barry Wright, Jr., Rome; Allen L. Henson, Calhoun; C. Baxter Jones, Macon; Asa Warren Candler, Atlanta; Eugene Oberdorfer, Jr., Atlanta; John F. Folsom, Atlanta.

The Georgia Division was represented on the following National Committees:

Credentials, Eugene Ober-	
dorfer, Jr.,	Atlanta
Rules, C. Baxter Jones	Macon
Emblem, Hal Morrison	Atlanta
Eligibility, Barry Wright, Jr.	Rome
Auxiliary, C. Baxter Jones	Macon
Political Restrictions, Edgar B. Dun-	
lap	Gainesville
Finance: National Dues, Asa Warren	
Candler	Atlanta
Constitution: Organization, Edgar B.	
Dunlap	Gainesville
Legislation, Allen L. Henson	Calhoun
Next Meeting Place, Allen L.	
Henson	Calhoun
Activities and Memorials, C. Baxter	
Jones	Macon
Employment, Asa Warren Candler	Atlanta
War Risk Insurance, Eugene Ober-	
dorfer, Jr.,	Atlanta
Beneficial Legislation, Barry Wright,	
Jr.	Rome

Military Policies, Hal Morrison -- Atlanta
Resolutions, Basil Stockbridge ---- Atlanta

Commander Stockbridge's reports as rendered to Franklin D'Olier, Chairman State Organization Division, on October 31, 1919, is as follows:

Number of Posts actually chartered ----	59
Number of Posts organizing, charter not issued -----	16
Paid up members to date -----	2047
Number of members enrolled -----	3091
Number of delegates, alternates and delegates at large to the Convention --	6

WAS THE DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA AMERICAN LEGION, IN POLITICS?

In the Spring of 1920 Thomas E. Watson, a lawyer, of Thomson, McDuffie County, Georgia, announced himself as a candidate for the office of United States Senator from Georgia. Watson, a man of no mean ability, a shrewd politician, directed his talents towards a destructive rather than a constructive end. For years he had been a great factor in the political world of Georgia. He was the editor and the publisher of "The Jeffersonian", a weekly newspaper which was printed in Thomson, Ga. As the leader of the "Jeffersonian Democrats" the formal name of his political faction, but otherwise and better known as "The Third Party", Watson had built up a political following in Georgia which exerted a great influence in all the elections in the state. For this reason his influence and his support were solicited by all candidates for State and County offices. Watson's individual platform in times of political peace, and his battle-cry in times of political strife was the anti-Catholic, the "pure Anglo-Saxon", and the anti-foreign appeal which struck a responsive and sympathetic chord in the hearts of his partisans.

The culmination of Watson's career was during the years of the World War and the sequential period of reaction which immediately followed the signing of peace. During the World War, Thomas E. Watson opposed most bitterly the passage and the regulations of the Conscription or Draft Act, the only means by which the United States

of America could call into service a sufficient number of men to vindicate the national honor. His advice to men of military age was the evasion of this law, and as a consequence he was the means of many young Georgians becoming evaders of the draft. In his editorials in "The Jeffersonian", Watson most severely criticised all the programs of Woodrow Wilson and the procedures of Congress; upheld and defended Eugene Debs, the Socialist, whose activities had caused his incarceration in a Federal prison; advocated the release of all draft-evaders and traitors who were confined in military prisons; and spread other seditious doctrines. This rabid and inflammatory propaganda caused the United States Post Office Department to close the mails to "The Jeffersonian". Watson became more incensed at this drastic but necessary action and vented his spleen in his publication which was sent by express to certain agents for distribution in different sections of the State. However, the circulation of his newspaper was greatly curtailed, and abandoning the publication of "The Jeffersonian", Watson edited "The Columbia Sentinel", another weekly, which was published by him in Harlem, Columbia County, Georgia. Its tone, as far as concerned Watson's criticism of the Government, was less inflammatory.

In the post-war period, Watson, through the medium of "The Columbia Sentinel" excruciatingly criticised the official war staff, and the military administration of the A. E. F. In this he did not confine himself to the truth but played up and magnified false rumors of inhumane treatment of private soldiers by the officers of the U. S. Army in France. The war, among the class from which Watson drew many of his adherents, had never been popular, and these false statements of Watson were accepted as truths and drew many to his standard who otherwise would have been uninfluenced by these statements. Watson's intense hatred of President Woodrow Wilson and his cabinet, and his severe criticism of the conduct of the war in general found also a ready response in the hearts of his followers.

Allied with Watson and running on the

same political ticket was the candidate for the office of the Governor of Georgia—Thomas W. Hardwick. During the World War period Thomas W. Hardwick was one of the United States Senators from the State of Georgia. He, like Watson, was an obstructionist, blocking with all his power many necessary measures of President Wilson, thereby hampering and retarding movements which aimed to bring success to the American arms. Hardwick's actions were so aggressive that President Woodrow Wilson, himself, addressed an appeal to the people of Georgia that Hardwick be not returned to his seat in the Senate.

The announcements of Thomas E. Watson and Thomas W. Hardwick, (the "Two Toms" as they were called), of their candidacy for senatorial and gubernatorial positions respectively, elicited at first only scattered outbursts of indignation from World War veterans. Many of these veterans, considering the records of these two candidates, looked upon them as arch-traitors, equally as perfidious as was Benedict Arnold of Revolutionary fame.

Hoke Smith and Hugh Dorsey announced themselves as opponents of Thomas Watson, and Clifford Walker entered the lists as the antagonist of Thomas Hardwick. These three opponents of the Watson-Hardwick coalition had many friends who were members of Legion. Astute politicians tried to ally the Legion with one or the other of these candidates, but the sentiment of being anti-Watson and anti-Hardwick was crystallized in the passage of a firm resolution by the Charles D. Montgomery Post No. 1, Atlanta, Ga. This resolution condemned in no uncertain terms the candidacy of Watson and Hardwick without advocating the election of their opponents. This was the first resolution of many passed by The American Legion Posts of the Department of Georgia. The publication of this resolution in the press of the State brought forth from Watson and his chief henchman, Grover Edmondson, a scathing denunciation of the Legion with an intention to prove that the Legion had invaded the realm of politics.

Upon the passage of this anti-Watson-

Hardwick resolution by the Charles D. Montgomery Post, Trammell Scott, Robert Troutman and William A. Sirmon, all of Atlanta, on their own initiative began to carry into effect the purposes of this resolution. This committee, termed by the opposition press as "The Trammell Scott Committee", bore the brunt, equally with the Legion itself, of the vindictiveness and vituperation, of Thomas E. Watson. Gradually as the campaign got under way, a special committee, by its own ardor, was annexed to the committee under Scott;—this special committee being composed of Hugh Howell, Albert B. Morris, Philip F. L'Engle, Charles W. Davis, and Charles M. Gallienne; all of Atlanta. Most active co-operation with this augmented committee and hearty support was made evident by the ardent actions of Basil Stockbridge, James A. Bankston, Fonville McWhorter, J. G. C. Bloodworth, H. A. Alexander, Robert G. Stephens, Thomas Pitt, and others; all of Atlanta. The action of the Charles D. Montgomery Post was soon imitated by other Posts throughout the Department. And action by other posts carried the campaign to other points in the State, as hitherto it had been confined in the vicinity of Atlanta.

Basil Stockbridge, W. A. Sirmon and others spoke at political gatherings in nearby towns, meetings were held at strategic points, forensic oratory abounded, accusations and refutations made, even the political meetings of the enemy were invaded, and the press was filled with Legion-anti-Watson-Hardwick matter. However, the Legion to its credit maintained its original position of being "anti-Watson" and "anti-Hardwick" and not "pro-Smith", "pro-Dorsey", or "pro-Walker". It faithfully worked for the Legion and for Americanism. Support in the campaign was given The Legion by various other civic and patriotic organizations and many outstanding men in the State endorsed individually the stand The Legion had taken. As a typical example of this a portion of a telegram from Judge Andrew J. Cobb, a much-loved, highly respected, and very able jurist of Athens, Ga., is quoted:

I am in thorough sympathy with the

Legion. The sifting process that war begets is necessary and inevitable. Classification is indispensable. The line must be drawn between the earnest and the indifferent—the loyal and the disloyal—the patriot and the traitor. Each individual by his work or by his conduct classifies himself. The public simply declares the judgment that the individual has entered in his own case. Indifference is reprehensible—opposition is disloyalty—a single word of discouragement is moral treason. The classifications made during the War were made by each for himself. Let them stand as made—at least until after long years of penance and the appearance of the fruits meet for repentance. In the anxieties and problems of the peace which the war has achieved, only those who were true, faithful and loyal can be trusted. The welfare and the good name of the State are in per-

il in the present emergency. I congratulate you and your associates that you have taken up a work, unselfish in its nature, inspired solely by the desire to preserve the best interest of your people—the good name of your State—and to demonstrate to the world that we are true to those who died.

Sincerely

ANDREW J. COBB

It was deemed necessary to publish the platform of Thomas E. Watson in comparison with the adopted Constitution, the platform, of The American Legion, Department of Georgia. This comparison is sufficient to show that The American Legion under no circumstances could support or condone the candidacy of Watson or others who subscribed to the tenets he promulgated.

WATSON'S PLATFORM

"1. The immediate repeal of all laws authorizing U. S. officers and spies to invade the States, breaking into private rooms and dwellings without search warrants, arresting persons without criminal warrants, casting these persons into dungeons, refusing such persons a public and speedy trial, refusing to present their cases to grandjuries, refusing them their Constitutional right to trial by jury, but trying them in secret before an agent of the so-called Department of Justice, refusing them the benefits of counsel and of compulsory process to bring their own witnesses into court; and convicting them without evidence, except that of Mitchell Palmer's paid spies."

"The mental dementia of Woodrow Wilson shows itself nowhere more unmistakably than in his rage for despotic power, and his craze for keeping us technically at war, when every sane American wants peace, and knows he could get it, were it not for Wilson's mulish obstinacy."

"2. If elected I will do my utmost to have a jail delivery of all citizens who are im-

(See Column 1, next page)

LEGION'S CONSTITUTION

I. "The name of this organization shall be The American Legion, (Georgia Division).

I. Objects: The objects of this organization shall be:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred per cent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our association in the Great War; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, State and Nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

II. Membership: All white persons shall be eligible to membership in this organization who were in the military or naval service of the United States during the period between April 16th, 1917 and November 11,

(See Column 2, next page)

WATSON'S PLATFORM

prisoned because of Wilson's autocratic intolerance of opinions different from his own. He did not have mind enough to remember the victimized Russellites, the victimized conscientious objectors, the victimized Socialists, one of whom, Eugene Debs, is still in prison because he had the bravery to tell the truth about the real causes of the Great War."

"3. I will do all in my power to repeal those statues which attempt to enlarge the law of treason, as defined in the Constitution of the United States. The attempts being insidiously made are known as the Allen Sedition and Espionage laws; and they seek to make treasonable mere words, mere expressions of opinion, peaceable assemblages to criticise the government, and all other acts of free men and women not in accord with the official views of the White House."

"The Constitution of the United States has but one definition for treason, and that definition cannot be changed, except by the will of the people, expressed through their State legislatures, after two-thirds of the Senate and Lower House of Congress shall have proposed the amendment, and three-fourths of the State Legislatures shall have ratified it. The law of treason as defined in the Constitution requires that the traitor shall have made war upon the United States, or have given aid and comfort to their enemies; and the Constitution expressly says that unless the accused makes confession of guilt in open court, he shall not be convicted, except by the testimony of two witnesses, swearing to the same overt act."

4. "If you elect me your Senator, I will strive with all my might to return to you your personal liberties which have been taken from you by the despotic administration of Woodrow Wilson. The infamous doings of the Department of Justice, under Mitchell Palmer, the present incompetent and tyrannical Attorney-General, has crowded the jails of this country with citizens, males and females and even little children, under the Allen Act, who were arrested without warrant, released without compensation or banished to Russia."

5. "As is well known throughout the coun-

(See Column 1, next page)

LEGION'S CONSTITUTION

1918, both dates inclusive, and all persons who served in the military or naval services of any of the governments associated with the United States at the time of their enlistment and who are again citizens at the time of application, except those persons separated from the service under terms amounting to dishonorable discharge, and except also those persons who refused to perform their military duties on the grounds of conscientious objection. Non residents of this State, otherwise eligible may be admitted to membership in the Posts in this State on the same basis as residents of this State.

III. Nature: While requiring that every member of the organization perform his full duty as a citizen according to his own conscience and understanding, the organization shall be absolutely non-partisan, and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles or for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

IV. Administration:

1. The legislative body of the organization shall be a State convention to be held annually. The place and time of the State convention shall be fixed by the preceding convention. In the event that the preceding convention does not fix a time and place they shall be fixed by the Executive Committee.

2. The annual convention shall be composed of delegates and alternates from each Post, each of which shall be entitled to one delegate and one alternate, and to one additional delegate and one additional alternate for every fifty memberships, or major fraction thereof, paid up thirty days prior to the date of the State convention. The vote of each Post shall be equal to the total number of delegates to which the Post is entitled.

3. The delegates to the State convention shall be chosen by each Post.

4. The officers of the State Executive Committee shall be a Chairman, one vice-Chairman, a Secretary and a Treasurer. These officers shall be elected by the annual State Convention.

5. The executive power shall be vested

(See Column 2, next page)

WATSON'S PLATFORM

try I am opposed to the League of Nations, root and branch, with or without reservations”.

6. “I am immovably opposed to Compulsory military training, in peace. Such training is the death of democracy and blood lust.”

7. “If elected your Senator, I pledge myself to do all in my power to repeal what is known as the franking privilege, which allows Members of Congress, Cabinet officers, heads of Departments, and the President himself to send thousands of millions of pounds of mere junk through the mails, without paying postage on it.”

8. “I will endeavor to stop the appropriation of money to public Government papers and magazines * * * * *”

9. “If elected to the Senate I will do my utmost to reassert and restore the reserved rights of the States. We need a determined leadership, which will establish the Americanism which is written in the Declaration of Independence, in the U. S. Constitution, in Washington's Farewell Address, in the great messages and addresses of Thos. Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, Andrew Jackson, Robert Toombs, Ben. J. Hill and Alexander H. Stephens.”

“We do not intend to have our Americanism measured by the secret Code of those Popish organizations—the Knights of Columbus, the Jesuits and the young officers of the American Legion.”

10. “I will do my utmost to have the Postmaster General deprived of all power to censor the mails, and to crush publications which do not meet his approval. Let every publisher be responsible to the Courts, for any abuse of Free Press, but let the Postmaster General keep his paws off. His office does not impose upon him the arduous duty of teaching a free people what to say and print: his official duty is to see that the mails are efficiently handled; and if he does that he will have measured up to the full expectations of the public. We do not intend to take our opinions from the White House, or from the Post Office Department; and the sooner the idea soaks into the heads of such petty tyrants as

(See Column 1, next page)

LEGION'S CONSTITUTION

in a State Executive Committee, to be composed of the officers and fourteen members, one of whom shall be from each Congressional District, and two from the State at large, to be elected by the State Convention, and each of said members of the State Executive Committee, present at a State convention shall have one vote in said convention. The State Executive Committee may appoint a sub-committee of three to seven members in addition to the State officers, as ex-officio members, and may empower such sub-committee to exercise the authority of the State Executive Committee between meetings of the State Executive Committee.

6. The local unit: The local unit shall be termed the Post, and shall have a minimum membership of fifteen. No Post shall be received into this organization until it shall have received a charter. A Post desiring a charter shall apply to the State organization and the charter will be issued by the National Executive Committee whenever recommended by the State organization. The National Executive Committee will not issue a charter in the name of any living person. Any annual convention of the Georgia Division of The American Legion may be a three-fourths vote of all accredited delegates withdraw any charter previously granted. No Post shall be organized in any county until all existing posts in such counties have been informed of the new application, and their views obtained, and such views shall be considered in determining the granting of the new charter.

7. Dues: Each Post shall pay annually to the Treasurer of the State organization the sum of fifty cents for each of its individual members. A charter fee of five dollars shall be payable to the Treasurer upon the issuance of the charter.

8. Quorum: A quorum shall exist at a State convention when ten Posts are partially or wholly represented by duly elected delegates or alternates.

9. Rules: The rules of procedure at the State convention shall be those in the lower house of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia.

(See Column 2, next page)

WATSON'S PLATFORM

Burleson and Woodrow Wilson, the better it will be for democracy; civilization and the happiness of mankind, everywhere."

11. "We want the thousands of useless employees, the majority of whom are negroes and Catholics, put off the payrolls of the Government, since they have nothing now to do—if they ever had anything to do, except to enjoy themselves at your expense."

12. "Without any authority whatsoever President Wilson loaned to European Kings and European Governments nine thousand millions of dollars of your money. I oppose this unconstitutional policy."

* * * * *

16. "The monstrous one man autocracy of Woodrow Wilson is too deeply entrenched at that end of the avenue for any President to ever dislodge it. The work has got to be done in the Senate and to a lesser degree in the House. You have seen what a few Senators could do, in repulsing Woodrow Wilson's traitorous attacks upon the fundamental principles of our Government. I mention such intrepid Senators as Reed, of Missouri, Shields, of Tennessee, Borah, of Idaho, Johnson, of California. If four Senators could prevent the betrayal of your country to England and Japan, a fifth of the same sort would certainly not weaken the barrier against Woodrow Wilson's surrender of your independence to a foreign league, which holds out to him the prospect—so alluring to his soul—of becoming the first Emperor of the World."

"No flag above ours."

FURTHER UTTERANCES OF THOMAS
E. WATSON

"If Wilson had said when he was a candidate, that he intended to arrest men and deport them without warrant and trial by jury he would never have been elected. If it is sedition to say these things then clasp the irons on my wrists: I am a seditionist. If Wilson had announced that he intended to conscript your sons to fight foreign wars, he would not have carried a single State. The greatest battles of history have been won by volunteers. You don't have to conscript free men to fight

LEGION'S CONSTITUTION

10. Amendment to Constitution: This constitution may be amended at any Annual Convention upon the vote in favor of such amendment of two-thirds of the delegates authorized to vote in such Convention; provided that such amendment shall have been proposed in writing to the Executive Committee at least thirty days prior to such Convention. It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to mail a copy of the proposed amendment to each local Post at least fifteen days before such convention.

for their country when attacked by an enemy. Conscription was not needed in the old days, and it is not needed now. If any foreign fleet ever sails for these shores, we can raise an army of twenty million men at the sound of a bugle, who will drive back any army Europe can send against us."

IN THIS SAME SPEECH HIS REPORTER
WRITES

"Mr. Watson said that if the Officers' Legion had investigated his record and read his paper, it would never have accused him of working against the interests of the private soldier. He said he had always defended the privates against the injustice and cruelty of their officers. Mr. Watson repeated the statement that American soldiers were hanged at Gievres, France. 'I hold in my hand a picture of the gallows', and there was great interest manifested in the audience as the picture was handed to the crowd for inspection. Many mothers wept. Old fathers—many of them Confederate soldiers—were moved to the greatest emotion when the speaker described the soldier boy dragged from the fireside, hurriedly transformed into a cog in a vast war machine, hurled across the ocean, and landed in a foreign country, to meet the fate of death on a gallows by orders of the brutal officers put over him. 'Did they tell you that your boy would be a victim of Gievres? In the papers you were told, each morning, how many soldiers were killed, wounded, or died from disease. Then the list followed 'died from other causes', thus covering the criminality practiced at Gievres'.**

*The platform of Thomas E. Watson, and portions of a speech, made at Washington, Wilkes County, Georgia, was taken from "The Columbia Sentinel", dated Harlem, Georgia, September 6, 1920. The quotations are verbatim.
The Constitution of the Georgia Division, The American Legion, is that adopted in 1919.

Up to the date of August 16, 1920, the following Posts* of the Department of Georgia, The American Legion, had passed resolutions of condemnation of Thomas E. Watson and Thomas W. Hardwick,

Charles D. Montgomery, Post No. 1—Atlanta
 John D. Mathis, Post No. 2—Americus
 Joseph N. Neel, Jr., Post No. 3—Macon
 Walter Shanklin, Post No. 5—Rome
 Morris-Little, Post No. 6—Milledgeville
 Paul E. Bolding, Post No. 7—Gainesville
 Early County, Post No. 11—Blakely
 Troy D. Barnett, Post No. 15—Griffin
 Paul B. Minter, Post No. 16—Monticello
 Putnam County, Post No. 19—Eatonton
 Allen R. Fleming, Post No. 20—Athens
 Jerome A. Wootten, Post No.

22—Washington
 Fate Carter, Post No. 24—Baxley
 Leon Martin, Post No. 25—Barnesville
 Claude Roberts, Post No. 26—Willacoochee
 James Stanley Moore, Post

No. 28—Atlanta
 Blackjack, Post No. 29—Marietta
 Albany Post No. 30—Albany
 Newton County Post No. 32—Covington
 Charles S. Harrison Post No. 35—Columbus
 Calvin George Post No. 37—Madison
 John Bryan Ryals Post No. 38—Cordele
 Ransom S. Rabun Post No. 43—Louisville
 Paul Gwin Post No. 47—Calhoun
 William Coleman Post No. 51—Atlanta
 Emory University Post No. 52—Atlanta
 John Rich Pentecost Post No. 53—Winder
 Alvin Hugh Harris Post No. 57—Newnan
 Bainbridge Post No. 62—Bainbridge
 Grover Calhoun Post No. 63—Arlington
 Brodus-Lindsey Post No. 64—Monroe
 Frank L. Adkins Post No. 65—Vienna
 Baxter L. Shaub Post No. 75—LaGrange
 Bibb City Post No. 85—Columbus
 Dexter Allen Post No. 90—Statesboro
 Merriwether County Post No. 92—Greenville
 Thomas S. Teabeaut Post No. 41—Moultrie
 Philport Post No. 93—Acworth
 Grady L. Garland Post No. 96—Cornelia
 Mars McDonald Post No. 99—Fitzgerald
 D. J. Gross Post No. 102—Franklin
 Emanuel County Post No. 103—Swainsboro
 Ralph Wilbur Humphries Post No.

105—Lincolnton
 Grover Carpenter Post No. 106—Demorest
 Chatham County Post No. 36—Savannah

By the time of the Second Annual Convention of the Department in Augusta, nearly every post in the Department had taken some action in regard to Watson and Hardwick.

The chief topic scheduled for the coming Department Convention, the Second, which was to convene in Augusta on August 18, 19, and 20, 1920, was the "anti-Watson-Hardwick Campaign". By its action this convention of the Department showed very clearly that it desired, at all cost, to maintain its neutrality as regards the opponents of Watson and Hardwick. The Legion as a Department and as a National body had, in unmistakable terms, condemned slackers, draft-evaders, deserters, traitors, and others who had impeded the war policy of the United States of America during the World War. It was basically necessary for the Department of Georgia, The American Legion, to place the stamp of disapproval upon the political aspirations of Thomas E. Watson and Thomas W. Hardwick. If this could be called being in politics, then may the Department of Georgia, The American Legion, be now and forever more in the politics of the same nature. The Department of Georgia, first and foremost, was true to the Constitution which it upheld and it was devoted to the ideals of Americanism which this Constitution embodied. The Legion of Georgia was true; it was loyal; it was patriotic—it stood for

"GOD AND COUNTRY."

CALL

SECOND STATE CONVENTION

(GEORGIA DIVISION)

In conformity with the action of the first State Convention, (October, 1919) in fixing the place for the meeting of the annual convention of 1920, and in accordance with Section 1 of Article V of the State Constitution of the Georgia Division of The American Legion empowering the State Executive Com-

*This list is taken from the "American Legion Post" published in Atlanta, Ga., on Aug. 16, 1920.

mittee to designate the time for holding said convention:

The Second State Convention of the American Legion will be held in the City of Augusta, Georgia, commencing at 10:00 o'clock Augusta time, *Thursday, August 19, 1920.*

PURPOSE

The Convention is called for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year, amending the Constitution to bring it in harmony with the National Constitution of The American Legion and in such other respects as may be necessary, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before it.

REPRESENTATION

Representation in the Convention shall be by Posts. Each duly chartered Post shall be entitled to one delegate and one alternate, and to one additional delegate and alternate for each fifty memberships or majority fraction thereof, whose State and National dues have been paid up as shown by the books of the State Treasurer on or before July 18, 1920.

In addition the members of the State Executive Committee shall each be entitled for one vote in the Convention.

The vote of each Post shall be equivalent to the total number of delegates to which such Post shall be entitled.

ALTERNATES

Alternates shall be entitled to seats in the Convention but shall only be entitled to vote in the absence of the regularly chosen delegates.

STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMEN

A meeting of the present State Executive Committee will occur at 10:00 o'clock a. m., Augusta time, *Wednesday, August 18th, 1920,* for the transaction of such business as may come before it.

CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS

Registration of delegates, alternates and Executive Committeemen will occur at American Legion Headquarters, 13th Floor Lamar Building, Augusta, Ga.

LOCAL INFORMATION

In the absence of more detailed information, inquiries concerning matters of local importance should be addressed to Mr. Landon Thomas, Commander, Louis L. Battey Post No. 4, American Legion, Augusta, Georgia.

MISCELLANEOUS

Information covering program, order of business, local entertainment, hotel accommodations, etc., will be distributed to all concerned as rapidly as possible.

By authority of the State Executive Committee

The American Legion, (Georgia Division)

Basil Stockbridge, Chairman

Kirk Smith, Jr., Secretary.

Atlanta, Ga., July 12, 1920.

DISTRIBUTION

- 1 to each State officer.
- 1 to each State Executive Committeeman.
- 3 to each Post Commander.
- 3 to National Headquarters.
- 1 to each elected delegate and alternate, as soon as names and addresses are reported to State Secretary.
- 10 to Mr. Landon Thomas, Augusta, Ga.

PROGRAM

OF THE

SECOND ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION

THE

AMERICAN LEGION

GEORGIA DIVISION

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA AUGUST 19-20, 1920

"For God and Country"

All Time Is Augusta Time

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18TH

10 A. M. Meeting State Executive Committee, 13th floor Lamar Building.

3 P. M. Registration of Delegates, 13th floor Lamar Building.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19TH

10 A. M. Genesta Hotel, Convention called to order.

Invocation.

Address of Welcome, Hon. H. C. Hammond, Judge Superior Court.

Roll call and report Credential Committee.

Annual report of Officers.

Report of the Executive Committee.

Appointment of Committees.

1 P. M. Adjournment.

2:30 P. M. Barbecue tendered by the Louis L. Battey Post No. 4, Augusta, Ga.

4 P. M. Reconvene.

Reports of Special Officers.

J. G. C. Bloodworth, Jr., War Risk Officer.

John M. Slaton, Jr., Vocational Training.

Eugene Oberdorfer, Jr., Americanism.

8:30 P. M. Special cars leave Monument on Broad Street to attend "Smoker" tendered by Louis L. Battey Post No. 4, to all delegates and guests.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20TH

9 A. M. Genesta Hotel, Convention called to order.

Invocation.

Address—Maj. Gen. David C. Shanks, U. S. Army.

Address—Miss Lucy J. Chamberlain, A. R. C.

Address—John H. Folsom, Bureau War Risk Insurance.

Address—Dr. C. G. Shultz, Federal Board Vocational Education.

Reports of Committees.

Amendments to Constitution.

Selection of place next Convention.

Election of Officers, Delegates, Committeemen.

Resolutions.

Adjournment.

THE QUEEN OF RICHMOND ENTERTAINS THE LADS OF THE LEGION

The clarion call had gone forth and the Georgia Legionnaires took possession of the fair city of Augusta. Veterans from the "hills of Habersham;" from the "marshes of Glynn;" from the mountain crags of Dade to the sandy sweeps of Seminole—north, south, east and west—came into the queen city of the upper Savannah for the second annual Convention of The Legion of Georgia.

On the first morning of the Convention Commander Stockbridge appointed the following Convention Committees:

RESOLUTIONS

Robert B. Troutman, Chairman, Atlanta.

C. E. Doremus, Atlanta.

Walter Flournoy, Columbus.

W. L. Erwin, Athens.

Rodney S. Cohen, Augusta.

Robert R. Gunn, Crawfordville.

Enoch Callaway, La Grange.

Robert S. Roddenberry, Moultrie.

W. H. Burt, Albany.

Curtis Barrett, Barnesville.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Edgar B. Dunlap, Chairman, Gainesville.

Robert Hill Freeman, Newnan.

C. Baxter Jones, Macon.

J. R. Fitzpatrick, Columbus.

Landon Thomas, Augusta.

EXPANSION

Louis H. Bell, Chairman, Atlanta.

W. B. Elliott.

W. H. Burt, Albany.

CREDENTIALS

Robert Hill Freeman, Chairman, Newnan.

B. C. Hogue, Americus.

Eugene Oberdorfer, Jr., Atlanta.

PUBLICATIONS

Asa Warren Candler, Atlanta.

Allen L. Henson, Calhoun.

Kirk Smith, Jr., Atlanta.

CONTESTS

Joseph B. Cummings, Jr.
W. B. Holtzclaw.
Middleton McDonald.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Hilliard Spalding.
J. G. C. Bloodworth, Jr.
James M. Lewis.

AUDITING

James A. Fort, Americus.
J. G. Holst, Americus.
H. F. Ahearn.

WAR RISK INSURANCE

J. G. C. Bloodworth, Jr., Atlanta.
E. F. Griffith, Eatonton.
John H. Jones, Jr.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

John M. Slaton, Jr., Atlanta.
Leon L. Folsom, Atlanta.
Edward J. Trotter, Madison.

SERGEANTS-AT-ARMS

J. R. Cooke.
W. L. Holly.

THE POPPY BECOMES THE OFFICIAL FLOWER OF THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT

To Miss Moina Michael of Athens, Georgia, belongs the honor of advocating the red poppy as the official and the memorial flower of the World War. Miss Michael held The Legion in such a high regard and desired that it should adopt her idea, which had been incited by the reading of the immortal poem of Colonel John McCrea, "In Flander's Fields."

On the eve of the second annual Convention of the Georgia Department, Miss Michael came to the Legion headquarters in Atlanta and turned over to the Charles D. Montgomery Post No. 1, The American Legion, the data concerning the origin and the advocacy of her idea. Charles M. Gallienne, a member of the Charles D. Montgomery Post, assumed charge of the movement and on the convention floor in Augusta proposed the adoption of the poppy as the

official flower of The Legion. The resolution of adoption was carried and the Department delegates to the National Convention in Cleveland, Ohio, September 27-29-1920, were instructed to present and urge the choice of this flower as the official flower of the National organization.

The resolution of endorsement of the poppy as the official and memorial flower of The American Legion was offered by J. G. C. Bloodworth, Adjutant, a delegate from the Georgia Department at the Cleveland Convention: this resolution reading as follows:

WHEREAS, A movement has been instituted to adopt the Shirley poppy as the memorial flower of The American Legion throughout the nation; and out of this should come some symbol to perpetually remind us and to teach forthcoming generations the value of "The Light of Liberty" and our debt to those who helped to save it for us by paying the supreme sacrifice, and that we may not forget that

"In Flander's fields the poppies grow
Among the crosses—row on row."

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By The American Legion, in convention assembled, that the movement to have the Shirley poppy adopted as the memorial flower of The American Legion be indorsed, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That each member of The American Legion be urged to wear a red poppy on November 11 of each year, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the National Convention adopt the poppy as the official flower of The American Legion.

This resolution was unanimously adopted by the National Convention, and the poppy today is the adopted flower of The Legion and the memorial flower of the World War.

The following year, in October 1921, in convention assembled, The American Legion Auxiliary also adopted the poppy as the official and the memorial flower of its organization. In succeeding years The Legion willed the poppy program to the Auxiliary, and the

sale of these flowers, made by disabled veterans of the World War who were confined in hospitals, enables The American Legion Auxiliary to carry on its splendid program of rehabilitation.

Miss Michael received further honors at the hands of The Legion when she was presented with the Distinguished Cross of Service at the Boston, Mass. Convention of The American Legion in 1930.

The most important resolution introduced at the second annual Departmental Convention, in Augusta, was the one of condemnation of Thomas E. Watson and Thomas W. Hardwick. The fight against these two candidates at first centered around Atlanta, gradually expanding until the contest became State-wide in its scope, and resulted in the passage of strong expressions of disapproval to which the delegates from all parts of the State subscribed. Portions of this resolution, containing the most pertinent and essential facts are quoted:

WHEREAS, The American Legion encountered on the threshold of its entrance into Georgia the bitter opposition of Thomas E. Watson, whose own conduct during the World War marked him as the extreme opposite of the Legion's ideals, and who has sought to array class against class, to create strife and discord amongst the people of Georgia and especially among those who fought for the honor and safety of their country and its people; and

WHEREAS, Since its formation numerous false, malicious and contemptible allusions concerning the character, conduct and purposes of the Legion have been circulated by this man for the purpose of undermining the influence of the same in behalf of patriotism and good government; and

WHEREAS, The said Thomas E. Watson, as a means of arousing group animosity, has inserted into his platform as a candidate for United States Senator a malicious falsehood concerning the Legion, thereby dragging as a material issue into the political arena and menacing as a part of his campaign the fact of the

Legion's patriotic and unoffending existence; and

WHEREAS, It is recalled that Thomas E. Watson during the war exerted all his ability, energy and power to hamper, obstruct impede and embarrass our government in the prosecution thereof; and

WHEREAS, Thomas E. Watson did by his false and disloyal counsel and advice cause countless men and boys of our beloved State of Georgia to refuse to respond to the call of their country during such war, and is reported to have received for his false, disloyal and unpatriotic counsel and advice a stupendous sum of money collected by contributions from throngs of persons who were thus misled by him; and

WHEREAS, The statements published by Thomas E. Watson during the conduct of the war were so seditious and obstructive that as a measure of war-time safety his newspaper was denied the use of the United States mails for distribution; and

WHEREAS, While thousands of our comrades were upon the soil of France preparing to face the German hordes, Thomas E. Watson was giving aid and comfort to the enemy by urging the young men of our State not to respond to the call of their country, either by voluntary enlistments or by answering the call of equal obligations imposed by the selective service law; and

WHEREAS, This man, who is a lawyer by profession, made the untenable assertion that the selective service law was unconstitutional, and collected money for the purpose of testing its validity at a time when he knew, or by the exercise of any degree of diligence could have known, that the Supreme Courts of Georgia, Texas, Alabama, Mississippi, Virginia, North Carolina and Pennsylvania had already decided sixty years previous that the government had ample power under the constitution to enact a selective draft law, and well knew that compulsory military service had been used by the United States in both the War of the Revolution and the Civil War. He further knew that the Confederate Government had enforced a selective draft law in the Civil War, and that Great

Britain, France, Belgium, Italy, and practically all of our allies in the World War had used conscription, and that notwithstanding these facts he persisted in giving false and disloyal counsel to Georgia boys and Georgia parents to resist the call of their country at the time of its dire necessity thereby causing wholesale desertions of their country's cause, in consequence of which some of these Georgia boys are now serving prison sentences, while he remains free to inject fresh poison into the minds and souls of men for money; and

WHEREAS, Thomas E. Watson has falsely stated that the American Legion is:

- (a) a Catholic organization,
- (b) a secret organization,
- (c) a military organization,

(d) an organization run and controlled by officers. All of which charges are false and were known by said Watson to be false when he uttered them; and

WHEREAS, Thomas E. Watson knows that no session of The American Legion is held behind closed doors; that its constitution and laws are public property which have been widely disseminated; that it was created and incorporated by an act of Congress; that there is no religious distinctions involved in it; and that there are among its members ten former enlisted men to every officer; and

WHEREAS, Thomas E. Watson has been tendered the sum of \$2000 provided he will sustain any of the malicious charges made by him against the Legion; and despite his greed and well known love for money he has failed to produce any proof whatsoever as to their verity, therefore admitting his complete inability to produce such proof,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Georgia Department of The American Legion, in annual convention assembled, That the candidacy of Thomas E. Watson for the office of United States Senator is unqualifiedly condemned, and that all loyal, patriotic and devoted citizens of Georgia, and all men who served and are proud that they served, are urged to prove their devotion to their govern-

ment and its institutions by voting against this man.

The following resolution against Thomas W. Hardwick, the running mate of Watson, has been abridged and is as follows, the provisions at least being quoted:

WHEREAS, The American Legion presents to the citizens of Georgia the following specifications taken from ex-Senator Hardwick's record in Congress in support of this conclusion:

(1) That he willfully obstructed and opposed practically every important legislative action introduced during the war for the purpose of prosecuting the same successfully,

(2) That he opposed the selective service law, the object of which was to make all able-bodied men, between the ages of twenty-one and thirty inclusive, available to redeem the pledge of ex-Senator Hardwick embodied in the original declaration of war.

(3) That he predicted his opposition to the same upon the fallacious idea that the war could be prosecuted with no military forces except those raised by voluntary enlistments, knowing at the same time that his present political partner, Thomas E. Watson, was urging the boys of Georgia NOT to enlist voluntarily,

(4) That if the contentions of these two obstructionists had then prevailed there would have been no army raised and Georgia would now be under the domination of a Prussian sub-governor,

(5) That he opposed the food control law, designed for the purpose of insuring equitable distribution of food and the necessities of life among all classes of people, rich and poor alike this preventing there being hoarded or withheld from persons most in need of them and least able to afford them.

(6) That he opposed the fuel control law, designed to furnish for munition works and war transports the fuel needed for the delivery of the necessary munitions for the prosecution of the war and for the transportation of men and material across the seas,

(7) That he opposed the bill creating the War Finance Corporation, designed to furnish adequate and fluid funds with which to meet the emergent payrolls of munition and other war contractors,

(8) That he opposed the ship purchase bill, having for its object the acquirement by the United States of a number of vessels interned in our harbors, which vessels were badly needed for the transportation of men and munitions across the Atlantic,

(9) That he opposed the appropriation for creating a large air force, at a time when all military experts realized that the building of military aircraft was virtually necessary to the conduct of the war,

(10) That in June 1917, he voted against the amendment to the federal reserve bank act, necessary to prevent the banking system of the country breaking down under the strain of war,

(11) In February 1918, That he opposed the bill giving government control and operation of the railroads, necessary to relieve congestion and facilitate movement of troops and war supplies to ports of embarkation,

(12) In May 1917, that he opposed the bill necessary to enable the government to free the country of spies, to prevent German submarines getting information of the departure of American troop ships, to prevent dynamiting and burning of munition factories (this was actually going on at the time the bill was being voted on), and to stop the publication through the mails of seditious and treasonable papers, like "The Jeffersonian," which were inciting resistance to the draft,

(13) In 1920, he cast his political fortunes with Thomas E. Watson, and

WHEREAS, While the facts were fresh and the issues of loyalty were clearly defined, and while the war was still in progress and the casualty lists of our comrades were saddening our homes, the people of Georgia in 1918 proved their loyalty by repudiating the disloyalty of Thomas W. Hardwick by overwhelmingly defeating him for re-election to the United States Senate, and

WHEREAS, This record has not been changed, nor has Thomas W. Hardwick expressed a word of regret, nor committed an act of repentance, and

WHEREAS, by his own misconduct he has rendered himself unfit to hold public office in the State of Georgia, or the United States, and

WHEREAS, by reason of his well known political views it is significant that a meeting of the Socialists in New York City, held for the purpose of fostering the spread of communism in this country, at which meeting his client (who paid him an admitted fee of \$30,000.00), one Ludwig G. A. K. Martens, representative of the Russian Soviet Government in the United States, also made a public address, ex-Senator Hardwick was acclaimed as the "next Governor of Georgia," and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That in thus denouncing the records of these two men and exposing them to deserved rebuke, we pledge ourselves to use every peaceful, legitimate and honorable means to the end that the shame which would befall our State in the election of either of them be avoided,

And in this we do not and will not espouse the candidacy of any man for Senator, for Governor, or of any public office.

This "anti-Watson-Hardwick" resolution was reported favorably by the Resolutions Committee, and the issue became a matter of discussion. General Walter A. Harris, of Macon, endorsing in no uncertain words the sentiments against Watson and Hardwick, spoke against the resolution since it might be construed by the public that the Legion was entering politics, a prohibition of the State and National Constitution; his opposition to this resolution resting upon these grounds. Robert Troutman, who with Basil Stockbridge, had written the resolution, spoke in its defense, ably seconded by Sam Cann, of Savannah. A motion was made to allow General Harris time to confer with the Resolutions Committee but this motion was defeated by 100 to 42 votes. The resolution was then adopted by a split vote, but

upon the motion of The Joseph N. Neel Post No. 3, of Macon, Ga., the vote was made unanimous. Thus the Department of Georgia, in convention assembled, pledged itself to contest the political aspirations of Thomas E. Watson and Thomas W. Hardwick.

There were many Legionnaires who entertained a feeling that the National organization, unless the facts were made clear to it, might frown upon the action on the part of the Department of Georgia. Commander Stockbridge, in anticipation of this, had given a comprehensive statement to National Commander D'Olier, and the telegram from the National Commander, which was read at the Thursday night's meeting of the Department brought forth much applause. This message is as follows,

Indianapolis, Indiana
August 17, 1920

Basil Stockbridge
Commander, Georgia Department
Atlanta, Ga.

Because of his service during the Great War no civilian has a keener sense as a citizen and a voter than the ex-service man. No State furnished more patriotic and loyal soldiers than Georgia, and members of the American Legion of Georgia owe it to themselves and to the memory of their fallen comrades who paid the supreme sacrifice, to use the full power of their ballot to keep out of public office any individual, regardless of party, whose record during the war was disloyal and unpatriotic. This can be done without conflicting directly or indirectly with the letter or the spirit of our constitutional restrictions against political activities. To make good on our profession of 100 per cent Americanism, we must use the full power of the ballot against those of proven disloyalty seeking public office. The very best of luck to The American Legion in Georgia and all patriotic citizens of Georgia in your fight to keep out of public office any and all of proven disloyalty.

FRANKLIN D'OLIER.

The receipt of this message was most enthusiastically received, and gave assurance that the National organization looked upon the fight undertaken by the Legion of Georgia as a move in the interest of good citizenship and Americanism.

Invitations were received from the cities of Savannah, Columbus and Americus for the Convention of 1921. Columbus, receiving a plurality of votes, was chosen as the Convention city of the third annual meeting of the Georgia Division, The American Legion, the date of which shall be determined by action of the Executive Committee.

NEGRO MEMBERSHIP

At the Second Annual Convention of the Department the question of negro membership was brought to the forefront by the introduction of a proposed amendment to the Constitution of the Department. This proposal, made by Henry H. West of Athens, provided that only white men be allowed to hold membership in The American Legion. Robert S. Roddenberry, of Moultrie, seconded the motion of H. H. West, and insisted that the Department of Georgia go on record as opposing the acceptance of colored veterans in The American Legion. Edgar B. Dunlap, of Gainesville, opposed this motion, basing his opposition on the grounds that such a membership restriction would be in direct conflict with the National Constitution to which all Departments of The Legion subscribed. Dunlap said, "We know no member of the Legion will ever countenance negro membership. We know that no negro can vote in this state and we know that no Legionnaire will ever permit a negro to join his Post." The proposed amendment to the Constitution was lost by a vote of 29-24.

This was not the first time that this interracial question had obtruded itself upon the Legion in Georgia. Almost at the very hour of the birth of The American Legion in the State this sociological feature confronted the Department and required serious consideration. In the draft of the temporary Constitution of the Department, confirmed at the State caucus in Macon, July 11, 1919, a pre-

requisite of membership was that the applicant be of the Caucasian race; the word "white" being placed in the membership requirements. At the First Annual Convention of the Department, in Atlanta, October 15 and 16, 1919, accredited delegates from fifty-four duly constituted and fully chartered Posts in the Georgia Branch of The Legion, sanctioned and adopted the provision that only white men be eligible to membership in the State organization.

Attention was called to the officials of the Department that the State constitution did not by word conform to the National Constitution, especially as regards the membership requirements, and the word "white" was deleted from the Constitution of the Georgia Legion to establish conformity. But the Department in one of its early meetings passed the following resolution,*

"BE IT RESOLVED; by the Georgia Division, that it is the sense of this body, in convention assembled that the question of negro membership in The American Legion, together with such other questions as are peculiarly State issues, be left to the Legion organizations in the various States, and that our delegates to the National Convention be instructed to vote for all measures giving the individual State organization this power of State determination." So the delegates from the Department of Georgia were instructed, being empowered by the foregoing resolution, as to the attitude of the Department in regard to this racial question.

At the National Convention in Minneapolis, Minn., this question destined to come upon the floor of the convention. In anticipation of this a meeting of all the delegates from the Southern States or Departments, the first of the many famous "Southern Caucuses," was called to provide concerted and united action should the measure be brought up for discussion. Such a discussion would have led to unpleasantness, and might have resulted in the withdrawal of the Southern Departments from the National organization. Fortunately the question was not brought up for discussion on the floor, but it was agreed that the Constitutions of the Departments in the South conform by word with

that of the National organization, and that a meeting of all the Commanders of the Southern States be held in Birmingham, Alabama, where the matter of State Determination as regards membership would be agreeably settled. At this meeting in Birmingham, National Commander Franklin D'Olier was present and the matter was settled by giving the authority to the Executive Committee of each Department to approve or disapprove of charter applications of the Posts in their respective jurisdictions.

Wise, indeed, were the leaders of The American Legion in Georgia and other Southern States, in not only discouraging but forbidding the reception of negroes into the Legion in the South. The race question in the South was a problem dating from the early years of the Seventeenth Century, and the action of the Legion leaders of the South was a procedure resulting from the mellowed reflection and intensive mental consideration of the experience and the accumulated wisdom of the foremost scholars of sociology in the Southland. Southern tradition willed that the races be kept separate and distinct and one may not transgress traditions with impunity. Any action which would tend to place the negro upon an equality with, or permit him to occupy a social place with the white man would have been fraught with danger. It would have been disastrous to the negro and it would have meant self-destruction and annihilation of The American Legion, not only in Georgia but in all the Southern States.

By the present arrangement the negro has profited much. He pays no dues in The American Legion but all the agencies and benefits of State and Governmental legislation, favorable to the World War veteran, sponsored by the Legion itself, has been made known to the colored veteran, and free and efficient assistance given him by the Service Officers of each Post in the Department. It is estimated that three-fourths of the work of the Service Officers of the Posts in the Department and the State Veterans Service Office, the child of the Georgia Legion, is in behalf of and in the interest of the negro veteran or his dependents.

*Resolution No. 8 of the First Annual Convention of the Georgia Division, American Legion, Atlanta, October, 1919.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

In the Second Annual Convention of the Department of Georgia the election of officers brought to a close a Convention which stands in the annals of the Department as the most interesting annual meeting of the organization in the State. It was marked by enthusiasm engendered by the intensive emotions of embittered Legionnaires, publicly expressed, in resentment of an unwarranted and unprovoked attack not only on the order to which they belonged but upon their individual and collective record as members of the armed forces of the Nation during the World War.

Several prominent Legionnaires were mentioned as possible candidates for the office

of the Department Commander. Edgar B. Dunlap, most popular, on account of his political affiliations, would not accept the nomination without causing embarrassment to the Department so his name was withdrawn. Curtis Barrett of Barnesville and D. J. Meyerhardt of Rome were mentioned as possible contenders. The Convention, however, decided to abide by the decision of a nominating committee, consisting of representatives of each of the Congressional Districts in the Department; this committee being appointed by the Commander. The list of officers they submitted were unanimously elected, Allen L. Henson, of Calhoun, being their choice as the Commander of the Department.

AMERICAN LEGION POSTS

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT

Dates of Charters from the date of October 15, 1919 to June 14, 1920.

No. of Post	Name	Town	Date of Charter
55	Albert H. Hargrove	Eastman	10-15-19
56	Georgia Tech	Atlanta	10-21-19
57	Alvin Hugh Harris	Newnan	10-24-19
58	Albert C. Dial	Tallapoosa	10-21-19
59	H. Earl Williams	Thomson	10-24-19
60	Walter B. Sadler	Atlanta	10-19-19
61	Canoochee	Claxton	10-20-19
62	Bainbridge	Bainbridge	11-20-19
63	Grover W. Calhoun	Arlington	11-21-19
64	Broadus-Lindsey	Monroe	11-21-19
65	Frank L. Adkins	Vienna	11-26-19
66	Harold Byrd	Decatur	12-12-19
67	Joseph Attaway	Rome	12-11-19
68	Tom Reed Beasley	Reidsville	12-11-19
69	Jesse S. Hanlin	Atlanta	11-26-19
70	Charles Pendley	Jasper	12-12-19
71	Albert Parker	Millen	12-12-19
72	Davis Zeigler	Sparks	12-12-19
73	Carl Goldsmith	Atlanta	12-10-19
74	L. K. Barrett	Atlanta	12-15-19
75	Baxter L. Shaub	La Grange	12-15-19
76	Frederick Withoft	Fort Valley	12-15-19
77	Charles E. Granger	Conyers	12-19-19
78	Henry Thomas Ross	Atlanta	12-19-19
79	Linsdale	Linsdale	12-19-19
80	Telfair	McRae	12-30-19
81	W. L. LeConte	Atlanta	12-31-19
82	Curtis Goldsmith	College Park	1- 2-20
83	Hancock County	Sparta	1- 5-20
84	Habersham County	Clarksville	1-30-20
85	Bibb City	Columbus	2-10-20
86	Joseph S. Brewster	Cedartown	2-28-20
87	Ross Graham	LaFayette	2-28-20
88	Dan M. Boswell	Manchester	2-28-20
89	M. C. Overton	Greensboro	3- 8-20
90	Dexter Allen	Statesboro	3- 8-20
91	Cook County	Adel	3- 8-20
92	Merriwether County	Greenville	3- 8-20
93	Philport	Acworth	3-22-20
94	Leesburg	Leesburg	3-22-20
95	B. F. Green	Gray	3-24-20

No.	Post	Town	Date of Charter
96	G. L. Garland	Cornelia	4-7-20
97	Jordan Owens	Royston	4-12-20
98	Dewey Hulsey	Ashburn	4-12-20
99	Mars McDonald	Fitzgerald	4-12-20
100	Harold King, Oglethorpe	Atlanta	4-15-20
101	G. A. Minsey	Sylvania	4-15-20
102	C. J. Cross	Franklin	4-28-20
103	Emanuel County	Swainsboro	5-6-20
104	Stephens County	Toccoa	5-6-20
105	Ralph W. Humphries	Lincolnton	5-6-20
106	Grover Carpenter	Demorest	5-19-20
107	Hart Rushin	Pavo	5-19-20
108	Candler County	Metter	5-9-20
109	Hart County	Hartwell	5-24-20
110	Candler Grogan	Lithonia	5-27-20
111	Young Blood	Duluth	6-1-20
112	Dalton	Dalton	6-8-20
113	C. A. Brownlee	Sylvester	6-14-20

COMMANDERS AND ADJUTANTS OF THE POSTS, 1920
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT, THE AMERICAN LEGION

No.	Post	Town	Mem.	Commander	Adjutant
1		Atlanta	1603	Eugene Oberdorfer	
2	John D. Mathis	Americus	82	Dan Chappell	
3	Jos. N. Neel, Jr.	Macon	177	Lincoln McConnell	John J. McCreary
4	Louis L. Battey	Augusta	275	Rodney S. Cohen	Chas. C. Stulbs, Jr.
5	Shanklin-Attaway	Rome	68	Kenneth Hamilton	
6	Morris-Little	Milledgeville	0	Joseph Muldrow	H. E. Andrews
7	Paul E. Bolding	Gainesville	43	Edgar Dunlap	
8	Roy Dozier	Crawfordville	56	T. O. Simmons	Roy Lunsford
9	Brunswick	Brunswick	0	Eustace C. Butts	Jas. D. Gould, Jr.
10	Ware County	Waycross	65	Warren Lott and L. E. Pedrick	
11	Early County	Blakely	14	C. C. Haisten	
12	Thomas W. Perry	St. Marys	0	William Todd	
13	Valdosta	Valdosta	15	J. L. Newbern	
14	Edmund B. Tate	Elberton	26	Howard B. Payne	
15	Troy D. Barnett	Griffin	45	S. M. Gable	
16	Paul B. Minter	Monticello	0	Fred Jordan	
17	Laurens County	Dublin	60	A. A. Burch	
18	Douglas	Douglas	0	John R. Smith	
19	Putnam County	Eatonton	31	Dr. E. F. Griffith	
20	Allen R. Fleming	Athens	99	William L. Erwin	
21	Tift County	Tifton	28	W. B. Bennett	R. N. Terrell, Jr.
22	Jer. A. Wootten	Washington	25	A. S. Quinn	R. Motte Smith, Jr.
23	Pierce County	Blackshear	0	Lester B. Moore	
24	Fate Carter	Baxley	19	S. C. Crosby	
25	Leon Martin	Barnesville	25	Charles Graddick	
26	Claude Roberts	Willahoochee	25	Henry T. Corbett	
27	Bob Toombs	Lyons	0	J. E. Newton	
28	James S. Moore	Atlanta	16	Estes Doremus	Rolfe Edmonds
29	Blackjack	Marietta	49	A. L. Crowe	
30	Albany	Albany	126	Geo. S. Whittlesey	
31	T. L. Spence, Jr.	Thomasville	90	S. T. Kidder, Jr.	W. J. Powell
32	Newton County	Covington	31	Thos. C. Meadors	M. G. Boswell
33	Henry E. Fulghum	Atlanta		H. A. Sappington	Arthur H. Seager
34	Tom Hollis	Forsyth	0	Frank B. Willingham	
35	Chas. S. Harrison	Columbus	259	John J. McKay, Jr.	H. S. Banner
36	Chatham Co.	Savannah	225	Sam Cann	H. M. Dodd
37	Calvin George	Madison	82	E. C. Walker	Carte Shepherd
38	Jno. B. Ryals, Jr.	Cordele	0	Dr. W. B. Elliott	
39	G. C. Gunnells	Danielsville	25	R. C. Griffith	
40	Rabun Co.	Clayton	0	John C. Laurent	
41	T. S. Teabeaut	Moultrie	49	James I. Dowling	W. L. Strother
42	Carl Boyd	Cartersville	46	W. E. Strickland	
43	Ransom S. Rabun	Louisville	44	W. W. Abbott, Jr.	
44	Giles Parson	Homer	13	S. R. Jolly	
45	Thomas S. Brady	Canton	69	Benj. F. Kilby	
46	Clyde Y. Nix	Lawrenceville	0	W. Grady Holt	
47	Paul Gwin	Calhoun	23	W. Roy Richards	William Moss
48	Wilbur Oglesby	Quitman	0	W. L. Fisher	
49	Univ. of Georgia	Athens	4	W. O. Cantrell	
50	Grady County	Cairo	15	R. R. Van Landingham	

No.	Post	Town	Mem.	Commander	Adjutant
51	William B. Coleman	Atlanta	131	R. S. Fleet	E. P. Howell
52	Emory University	Atlanta	55	Rev. James B. Douglass	
53	J. R. Pentecost	Winder	0	J. C. Pratt	
54	Marcus W. Beck	Atlanta	0	Oscar B. Keown	P. S. Woodward
56	Georgia Tech	Atlanta	80	Professor Kirk	H. L. Stearns
57	Alvin Hugh Harris	Newnan	61	Albert S. Camp	Landon Spradlin
58	Albert C. Dial	Talapoosa	0	H. C. Hutchens	
59	H. Earl Williams	Thomson	0	K. Boyce Lazenby	
60	Walter B. Sadler	Atlanta	0	Lauren Foreman	
61	Canooche	Claxton	19	J. Carl Hodges	
62	Bainbridge	Bainbridge	80	H. S. Baggs	A. C. Soules
63	Grover W. Calhoun	Arlington	19	Ernest Boynton	Thedford Turner
64	Brodus Lindsey	Monroe	0	James W. Ray	
65	Frank L. Adkins	Vienna	44	Robert G. Lumsden	
66	Harold Byrd	Decatur	0	Joseph M. Gardner	
67	Joseph Attaway	Rome		Consolidated with No. 5, Rome	
68	Tom R. Beasley	Reidsville		J. D. Brandon	
69	Jesse S. Hanlin	Atlanta	18	M. D. Baker	
70	Charles Pendley	Jasper (Tate)	36	O. W. Wells	
71	Albert Parker	Millen	0	Dr. Q. A. Mulkey	
72	Davis Zeigler	Sparks	0	R. I. Fletcher	
73	Carl Goldsmith	Atlanta	25	L. S. Crosby	H. R. Turner
74	L. K. Barrett	Atlanta		E. H. Spalding	
75	Baxter L. Shaub	La Grange	45	Wm. I. Howard	
76	Frederick Withoft	Fort Valley	0	Westley Houser	
77	Charles E. Granger	Conyers	25	J. B. Cowan	
78	Henry Thos. Ross	Atlanta	84	R. S. Ellington	
79	Linsdale (McLean)	Linsdale	49		
80	Telfair County	McRae	39	T. J. Smith	L. L. Campbell, Jr.
81	W. L. LeConte	Atlanta		Robert M. Cobb, Jr.	
82	Brewster—C. L. Smith	College Park		C. E. Martin	
83	Hancock County	Sparta	15	Edward V. Walker	
84	Habersham County	Clarksville	30	Frank I. Gabrels	
85	Bibb City	Columbus		John J. McKay	A. E. Davis
86	Joseph S. Brewster	Cedartown	86	Homer Watkins	R. P. Watson
87	Ross Graham	LaFayette	20	Freeman C. McClure	
88	Daniel M. Boswell	Manchester	25	C. F. Taliaferro	Claude Tidwell
89	M. C. Overton	Greensboro	20	Louis L. Robinson	Roy Stokley
90	Dexter Allen	Statesboro	22	Leroy Cowart	
91	Cook County	Adel	0	Hugh B. Peoples	
92	Merriwether Co.	Greenville	26	C. A. Huddleston	
93	Philport	Acworth	0		
94	Leesburg	Leesburg	0	O. S. Neylans	
95	Bernard F. Greene	Gray	26	Willard H. Burgess	J. G. Lowe
96	G. L. Garland	Cornelia	21	D. R. Farlinger	
97	Jordan Owens	Royston	50	W. L. Poole	Cleve Brooks
98	Dewel Hulsey	Ashburn	25	G. C. McKenzie	E. F. Knowles
99	Mars McDonald	Fitzgerald	39	C. B. Adams	J. J. Pryor
100	Harold King, Oglethorpe	Atlanta	0	E. Carrol James	
101	G. A. Minsey	Sylvania	0	H. B. Lynch	Dr. J. C. Cail
102	C. J. Cross	Franklin	40	Joseph Ames, Jr.	Thos. P. Whitaker
103	Emanuel County	Swainsboro	42	Guy Alford	S. G. Herrington
104	Stephens County	Toccoa	0	F. C. Chandler	
105	Ralph W. Humphries	Lincolnton	0	Robert W. Smith	M. R. Stephens
106	Grover Carpenter	Demorest	15	Robert Lamb	J. O. Humphries
107	Hart Rushin	Pavo	15	James M. Freeman	B. B. Adams
108	Candler County	Metter	32	J. C. Trapnell	A. B. Stapler
109	Hart County	Hartwell	36	John P. Morris	W. E. White
110	Candler Grogan	Lithonia	0	F. F. Cagle	
111	Young Blood	Duluth	0	Quinton H. Roberts	
112	Dalton	Dalton	0	W. Gordan Mann	R. M. McGinty
113	C. A. Brownlee	Sylvester	0	J. I. Fison	