

**Journal of the
69th
Annual
Encampment**

Department of Michigan

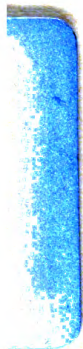
**Grand Army
of the
Republic**

★ ★

**Held at Grand Rapids
June 25-26-27
1947**



DEPARTMENT OF IOWA
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC
DES MOINES, IOWA



JOURNAL
OF THE
SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

GRAND ARMY
of the REPUBLIC

HELD AT

GRAND RAPIDS, JUNE 25-26-27, 1947

WITH ADDRESS OF

ORLANDO LeVALLEY, *Department Commander*

**AND REPORTS OF OTHER DEPARTMENT OFFICERS,
GENERAL ORDERS, ETC.**

*A spirit of true comradeship was beautifully exemplified by the
citizens of Grand Rapids*

Verily "I was a stranger and ye took me in."

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LANSING • 1948



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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Headquarters Department of Michigan
Grand Army of the Republic
Lansing, 1947.

Hon. Kim Sigler, Governor of Michigan:

Sir: I have the honor to transmit to you the Journal of the Sixty-Ninth Annual Encampment of the Department of Michigan, Grand Army of the Republic, held in Grand Rapids, June 25-26-27, 1947, with reports, General Orders and such parts of the administration as may be of interest to the general public, as required by the statutes.

Respectfully yours,

ORLANDO LEVALLEY,
Department Commander.

MAY 24 1948



HON. KIM SIGLER
Governor

**DEPARTMENT OFFICERS
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC
1946 - 1947**

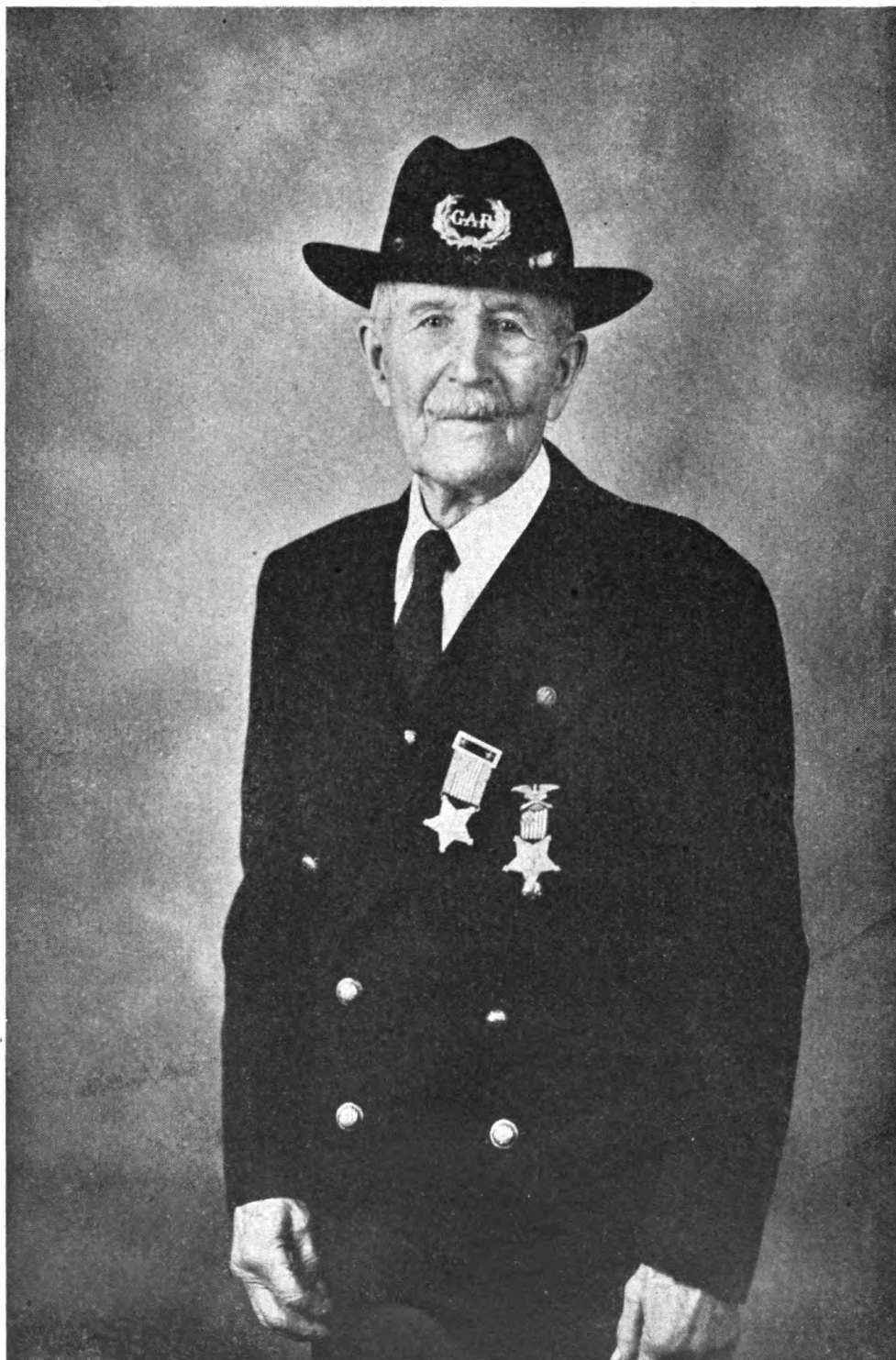
Orlando LeValley Department Commander, Caro, Mich.
Cyrus Perrigo Senior Vice Commander, Vassar

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION

Oscar Mott Benton Harbor
M. A. Loop Adrian

OFFICIAL STAFF APPOINTMENTS

Oscar Mott
..... Asst. Adjt. and Quartermaster General, Benton Harbor
Leah M. Simpson
..... Department Secretary, Box 433, Lansing 2, Mich.



ORLANDO LE VALLEY

**Department Commander, Grand Army of the Republic.
National Junior Vice Commander in Chief.**



OSCAR MOTT
Assistant Adjutant General
In His Home for His 101 Birthday, November 16, 1946. *
Died in Office, January 16, 1947.

PAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Russel A. Alger, deceased | Detroit, 1867 |
| Wm. A. Throop, deceased | Detroit, 1868 |
| Wm. Humphrey, deceased | Adrian, 1870 |
| C. V. R. Pond, deceased | Lansing, 1878-9 |
| A. T. McReynolds, deceased | Grand Rapids, 1880 |
| Byron R. Pierce, deceased | Grand Rapids, 1881-2 |
| Oscar A. Janes, deceased | Detroit, 1883 |
| Rush J. Shank, deceased | Lansing, 1884 |
| Charles D. Long, deceased | Flint, 1885 |
| John Northwood, deceased | New Lothrop, 1886 |
| L. G. Rutherford, deceased | Hart, 1887 |
| Washington Gardner, deceased | Albion, 1888 |
| Michael Brown, deceased | Big Rapids, 1889 |
| Henry M. Duffield, deceased | Detroit, 1890 |
| Charles L. Eaton, deceased | Paw Paw, 1891 |
| Henry S. Dean, deceased | Ann Arbor, 1892-3 |
| James H. Kidd, deceased | Ionia, 1893-4 |
| Louis Kanitz, deceased | Muskegon, 1894-5 |
| S. B. Daboll, deceased | St. Johns, 1895-6 |
| Wm. Shakespeare, deceased | Kalamazoo, 1896-7 |
| Aaron T. Bliss, deceased | Saginaw, 1897-8 |
| Alex L. Patrick, deceased | Detroit, 1898-9 |
| Russell R. Pealer, deceased | Three Rivers, 1899-1900 |
| Ethan M. Allen, deceased | Portland, 1900-1 |
| James Van Kleek, deceased | Bay City, 1901-2 |
| Edward C. Anthony, deceased | Negaunee, 1902-3 |
| D. B. K. Vanraalte, deceased | Holland, 1903-4 |
| George H. Hopkins, deceased | Detroit, 1904-5 |
| E. C. Cannon, deceased | Evart, 1905-6 |
| Joseph B. Griswold, deceased | Grand Rapids, 1906-7 |
| William Jibb, deceased | Adrian, 1907-8 |
| Charles Foote, deceased, died in office | Kalamazoo, 1908-9 |
| Geo. L. Holmes, deceased, to fill vacancy | Detroit, 1909 |
| James M. Greenfield, deceased | Flushing, 1909-10 |
| Samuel J. Lawrence, deceased | Detroit, 1910-11 |
| Geo. W. Stone, deceased | Lansing, 1911-12 |
| John T. Spillane, deceased | Detroit, 1912-13 |
| Frank R. Chase, deceased | Smyrna, 1913-14 |
| Riley L. Jones, deceased | Detroit, 1914-15 |
| Henry Rankin, deceased, died in office | Ypsilanti, 1915-16 |
| Eli Strong, to fill vacancy, deceased | Kalamazoo, 1915-16 |
| Lucius H. Ives, deceased | Mason, 1916-17 |
| William O. Lee, deceased | Port Huron, 1917-18 |
| David S. Howard, deceased | Pontiac, 1918-19 |
| Edwin F. Lamb, deceased | Detroit, 1919-20 |
| Henry Spaulding, deceased | Lansing, 1920-21 |
| J. J. Holmes, deceased | Eaton Rapids, 1921-22 |
| William Mears, deceased | Manton, 1922-23 |
| Lyman A. L. Gilbert, deceased | Highland Park, 1923-24 |
| Marvin C. Barney, deceased | Flint, 1924-25 |
| John Steel, deceased | Benton Harbor, 1925-26 |
| James R. Stephenson, deceased | Grand Rapids, 1926-27 |
| Charles A. Bartlett, deceased | Detroit, 1927-28 |
| A. C. Estabrook, deceased | Allegan, 1928-29 |
| A. C. Estabrook, deceased | Allegan, 1929-30 |
| A. C. Estabrook, deceased | Allegan, 1930-31 |
| Orestus Blake, deceased | Jackson, 1931-32 |
| Orestus Blake, deceased | Jackson, 1932-33 |
| Charles M. Cook, (died in office) | Kalamazoo, 1933-34 |

| | |
|--|-----------------------|
| John Killeen, deceased..... | Jackson, 1933-34 |
| Frank D. Keeler, deceased..... | Saginaw, 1934-35 |
| Ira M. Stewart, deceased..... | Petoskey, 1935-36 |
| Ira M. Stewart, deceased..... | Petoskey, 1936-37 |
| S. H. Carlton, deceased..... | Kalamazoo, 1937-38 |
| A. C. Estabrook, deceased..... | Grand Rapids, 1938-39 |
| A. F. Chappell, deceased..... | Detroit, 1939-40 |
| Martin J. Warner (advanced), deceased..... | Grand Rapids, 1940-41 |
| John M. Park, (Orlando Le Valley presiding), deceased..... | Coopersville, 1941-42 |
| Orlando Le Valley..... | Caro, 1942-43 |
| William H. Ferguson, deceased..... | Kent City, 1943-44 |
| Martin J. Warner (died in office)..... | Grand Rapids, 1944-45 |
| Ralph R. Towner (advanced), deceased..... | Allegan, 1945 |
| Orlando Le Valley..... | Caro, 1945-46 |
| Orlando Le Valley..... | Caro, 1946-47 |

PAST SENIOR VICE DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| H. M. Bigelow, deceased | Montague, 1878-9 |
| No record for 1880 or 1881 | |
| G. R. Wright, deceased | Benton Harbor, 1882-3 |
| M. A. Merrifield, deceased | Union City, 1884 |
| George L. Fisher, deceased | Fowlerville, 1885 |
| S. A. Hosmer, deceased | 1886 |
| W. W. Cook, deceased | Lansing, 1887 |
| True Hart, deceased | Midland, 1888 |
| William H. Russell, deceased | Clio, 1889 |
| E. L. Negus, deceased | Chelsea, 1890 |
| C. L. Brundage, deceased | Muskegon, 1891 |
| James A. Crozier, deceased | Menominee, 1892 |
| L. M. Ward, deceased | Benton Harbor, 1893 |
| Herman C. Frieseke, deceased | Owosso, 1894 |
| Norm G. Cooper, deceased | Sturgis, 1895 |
| Lucian W. Lyon, deceased | Saginaw, 1896 |
| L. W. Sprague, deceased | Greenville, 1897 |
| Moses F. Carlton, deceased | Port Huron, 1898 |
| J. C. Bontecou, deceased | Petoskey, 1900 |
| Theo C. Putnam, deceased | Grand Rapids, 1901 |
| Marvin C. Barney, deceased | Flint, 1902 |
| L. D. Vankleek, deceased | Pontiac, 1903 |
| S. A. Aldrich, deceased | Muskegon, 1904 |
| John J. Cornwell, deceased | Battle Creek, 1905 |
| M. D. Morgan, deceased | Traverse City, 1906 |
| Riley L. Jones, deceased | Saginaw, 1907 |
| Edwin B. Nugent, deceased | Bay City, 1908 |
| J. J. Drake, deceased | St. Joseph, 1909 |
| Henry P. Shutt, deceased | Kalamazoo, 1910 |
| A. J. Ward, deceased | Holland, 1911 |
| H. C. Rankin, deceased | Ypsilanti, 1912 |
| John A. Wardell, deceased | Lansing, 1913 |
| Frank L. Manning, deceased | Jackson, 1914 |
| Eli Strong, deceased | Kalamazoo, 1915 |
| Thomas Davey, deceased | Detroit, 1915 |
| M. M. Andrews, deceased | Bay City, 1916 |
| H. W. Stevens, deceased | Tecumseh, 1917 |
| J. J. Holmes, deceased | Eaton Rapids, 1918 |
| George H. Keating, deceased | Bay City, 1919 |
| M. D. Richardson, deceased | Lansing, 1920 |
| E. A. Jennings, deceased | Flint, 1921 |
| Samuel D. Bailey, deceased | Detroit, 1922-23 |
| John A. Miller, deceased | Grand Rapids, 1923-24 |
| Edwin R. Havens, deceased | Lansing, 1924-25 |
| George W. Howe, deceased | Port Huron, 1925-26 |
| Willis W. Crocker, deceased | Jackson, 1926-27 |
| William E. Walker, deceased | Benton Harbor, 1927-28 |
| J. P. Riley, deceased | Kalamazoo, 1928-29 |
| J. P. Riley, deceased | Kalamazoo, 1929-30 |
| John Killeen, deceased | Jackson, 1930-31 |
| S. S. Puckett, deceased | Petoskey, 1931-32 |
| J. J. Reiser (died in office), deceased | Grand Rapids, 1931-32 |
| C. M. Cook, deceased | Kalamazoo, 1932-33 |
| Eugene Owen, deceased | Grand Rapids, 1933-34 |
| Ira Stewart, deceased | Petoskey, 1934-35 |
| Theodore Burden, deceased | Holly, 1935-36 |
| Theodore Burden, (died in office) | Holly, 1936-37 |
| J. F. Beaumont, deceased | Milford, 1937-38 |
| Gilbert LaCroix, (died in office) | Mt. Clemens, 1938-39 |
| J. F. Beaumont, (died in office) | Milford; 1939-40 |

M. L. Warner, deceased..... Grand Rapids, 1940-41
 Orlando Le Valley..... Caro, 1941-42
 Cyrus Perrigo, deceased..... Vassar, 1942-43
 Ralph Towner (advanced), deceased..... Allegan, 1943-44
 Cyrus Perrigo, deceased..... Vassar, 1944-45
 Cyrus Perrigo (died in office)..... Vassar, 1945-46
 Martin A. Loop, deceased..... Adrian, 1946-47

PAST JUNIOR VICE DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| S. B. Kitchell, deceased | Coldwater, 1878 |
| W. A. Palmer, deceased | Grand Rapids, 1879 |
| W. A. Palmer, deceased | Grand Rapids, 1879-80 |
| Dallas Johnson, deceased | Montague, 1881 |
| Oscar A. Janes, deceased | Hillsdale, 1882 |
| J. N. Kellar, deceased | Saginaw, 1883 |
| M. H. Humphrey, deceased | Three Rivers, 1884 |
| H. F. Higgins, deceased | Petoskey, 1885 |
| August Gobel, deceased | Detroit, 1886 |
| Thomas H. Williams, deceased | Jackson, 1887 |
| George W. Stone, deceased | Harrison, 1889 |
| William Jibb, deceased | Adrian, 1890 |
| Wm. H. Marston, deceased | Grand Rapids, 1891 |
| Thomas M. Wiley, deceased | Owosso, 1892 |
| E. C. Anthony, deceased | Negaunee, 1893 |
| James M. Greenfield, deceased | Flushing, 1894 |
| Oscar Palmer, deceased | Grayling, 1895 |
| James O. Bellaire, deceased | Grand Rapids, 1896 |
| Ren Barker, deceased | Reed City, 1897 |
| D. C. Spears, deceased | Azalia, 1898 |
| S. H. Mallory, deceased | Lake Odessa, 1900 |
| Samuel J. Lawrence, deceased | Wyandotte, 1901 |
| H. A. Backus, deceased | Detroit, 1902 |
| M. D. Richardson, deceased | Lansing, 1903 |
| Edward S. Jamison, deceased | Marine City, 1904 |
| Dan J. Wilson, deceased | Jackson, 1905 |
| S. M. Kent, deceased | Grand Rapids, 1906 |
| O. Palmer, deceased | Grayling, 1907 |
| Henry Spaulding, deceased | Hartford, 1908 |
| George W. Wheeler, deceased | Boon, 1909 |
| Albert Dunham, deceased | Jackson, 1910 |
| George I. Nash, deceased | Marcellus, 1911 |
| J. J. Holmes, deceased | Eaton Rapids, 1912 |
| Charles A. Coolidge, deceased | Detroit, 1913 |
| Marvin C. Barney, deceased | Flint, 1914 |
| Thomas Davey, deceased | Detroit, 1915 |
| Alison L. Bryant, deceased | Mayville, 1916 |
| E. E. Lewis, deceased | Coldwater, 1917 |
| Frank Lester, deceased | Mason, 1918 |
| William G. Miner, deceased | Portland, 1919 |
| E. S. Post, deceased | Grand Rapids, 1920 |
| George G. Freeman, deceased | Detroit, 1921 |
| John Seel, deceased | Benton Harbor, 1922-23 |
| A. C. Estabrook, deceased | Allegan, 1923-24 |
| Arthur E. Ferry, deceased | Owosso, 1924-25 |
| Josiah Creque, deceased | Jackson, 1925-26 |
| George S. Farrar, deceased | Port Austin, 1926-27 |
| J. P. Riley, deceased | Kalamazoo, 1925-26 |
| Wm. Barrett, deceased | Bay City, 1928-29 |
| James Churchill, deceased | Pontiac, 1929-30 |
| A. F. Chappell, deceased | Detroit, 1930-31 |
| C. M. Cook, deceased | Kalamazoo, 1931-32 |
| Frank D. Keeler, deceased | Saginaw, 1932-33 |
| John W. Finch, deceased | Greenville, 1933-34 |
| John W. Finch, deceased | Greenville, 1934-35 |
| Edmond Rogers, deceased | Allegan, 1935-36 |
| J. F. Beaumont, deceased | Milford, 1936-37 |
| Eugene Owen, deceased | Grand Rapids, 1937-38 |
| William Parker, deceased | Lake Odessa, 1938-39 |
| Ira M. Stewart, deceased | Petoskey, 1939-40 |

Orlando LeValley Caro, 1940-41
 Cyrus Perrigo, deceased Vassar, 1941-42
 Martin A. Loop, deceased Adrian, 1942-43
 George Heusted, deceased Vassar, 1943-44
 George Morgan (died in office) Detroit, 1944
 Charles Riker, deceased Cement City, 1944-45
 Martin A. Loop, deceased Adrian, 1946-47

ROSTER
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN, GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC
JANUARY 1, 1947

WHITESIDE POST NO. 143, CARO.

Chartered May 25, 1883.

Membership 1.

Post Commander—Orlando Le Valley.

Comrade at Large—January 1, 1947:

Oscar Mott

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC
HELD AT
GRAND RAPIDS—JUNE 25-26-27, 1947
WITH ADDRESS OF
ORLANDO LeVALLEY, *Department Commander*
AND REPORTS OF OTHER DEPARTMENT OFFICERS,
GENERAL ORDERS, ETC.

Temporary Headquarters of the Grand Army of the Republic were established Tuesday, June 24, 1947 in suite 814-16 upon the arrival of the Department Secretary and opened for visitors Wednesday morning at nine o'clock.

A great basket of flowers from the Woman's Relief Corps, bouquets from friends and members, with the Flag presented by the Daughters of Union Veterans, made the room beautiful in anticipation of the arrival of Department Commander, Orlando Le Valley.

Registrations, Council meetings and official openings of the Allied Orders filled the day until the hour set for the evening banquet; we realize with keen disappointment, our Commander will not be with us but like good soldiers all duties announced in the Program must be carried out but always with a sense of sadness that the familiar strains of "Tramp, Tramp, Tramp the Boys Are Marching," brought no Comrade to mingle with us. Past National Commander in Chief Union Mackey of our Sons, presided as Toastmaster in his usual fine manner so pleasing to all.

ADDRESS OF THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER.

Another year has passed since I greeted the Allied Orders at the Camp Fire Banquet of the 68th Annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, held in Lansing; while Comrade Loop was the only Comrade

able to attend, we enjoyed the week with its many social activities and many gifts.

Following the close of our session I entertained Comrade Loop, Mr. R. C. Bachman and Secretary Simpson at dinner in the Hotel Olds. Little did I think that never again would I break bread with Comrade Loop; keen and active, despite his 103 years, his passing in September was a great shock to me.

Many invitations came to me during the year but always the distance too great for me to attempt. These duties, for many years, have been delegated to our Secretary, to our entire satisfaction. I make every effort to attend the National Encampment, each year hoping it will be nearer home.

In August, with daughter Ivah, I spent the week in Indianapolis—the 80th Annual Encampment—and remained over to broadcast a nationwide program with other Comrades. I attended every session, assisted in the Audit, and was elected Junior Vice Commander in Chief, an honor I proudly share with our Department.

Returning home in time for my birthday, a shower of cards and the gift from the Department Secretary greeted me. For all of this I am grateful.

Fearing a long cold winter on my farm, I spent the months at the home of my daughter in Caro. Days saddened by the passing of my Senior Vice Commander Perrigo and Assistant Adjutant Mott.

I was not permitted to leave the house and again Secretary Simpson paid the tribute to these faithful officers and represented me at the funeral service in Benton Harbor.

In February, with no thought of blizzards and blocked roads, Department Secretary Simpson with Department President Hammond of the Daughters, Past Department Commander Hammond of the Sons, and Mr. W. H. Marshall, Council member of Camp 7, spent the day with me.

This year, I am convinced, has been a difficult one for my Secretary in Headquarters. The added burden of conferences with Military Committees, Senators and Representatives, groups from state-wide patriotic and Veteran organizations tested her efficiency in securing amendments to House Bill 395.

While not all we could wish, the Headquarters of the Grand Army will remain undisturbed until after the Department is disbanded and a tablet eulogizing the Grand Army is placed in or in the vicinity of our old Headquarters room we have held since 1897.

To explain all this our Secretary spent two days at my home where we reviewed the work of the year and closing plans for Encampment.

In 1939 on recommendation of Commander Estabrook the Secretary was required to take over the making of all reports the General Orders and compiling the Annual Journal as Comrades were refusing to hold office and attempt even the routine work and no Adjutant or Quartermaster could remain at Headquarters as required by the law. I have

no real duties to perform but never in all the years has our Dept. Secretary failed to submit all work before typing for the state printer. I appreciate this courtesy and add my thanks to those of my Predecessors.

In Caro, the Memorial Day Observance was carried out by the Legion Post; I gladly took part in memory of Whiteside Post and veterans of all wars.

Reviewing the year on this last visit of my Secretary has been a pleasure as thoughts of the many happy hours that have been mine, come before me and I look forward to greeting many friends in Grand Rapids Encampment where always a warm welcome from the Pantlind Hotel and Convention Bureau managers awaits us.

To every Allied Order, may success crown every effort; may your zeal grow greater in patriotic work till America leads the nations in ways of Peace, Justice and Freedom.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Orlando Le Valley,
Department Commander.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL.

MY DEAR SECRETARY:

You have asked for a short report for the Journal but this seems impossible for me to make for you as my daughter Mrs. Sarber has to read all the General Orders and your letters to me because of my failing eye sight. This prevents my signing as you have noticed but I make my cross and daughter signs for me.

I have had several callers from our Orders since you were here and am glad I was able to attend the party on my birthday you planned with the Daughters it was a grand event. I thank you for coming I know it is a long trip from Lansing. As we have no receipts from any except the Happiness Fund the Ladies give us, I thank them all for doing so much for us. I appreciate the high honors that have been given me and wish you all success.

In F. C. and L.

Oscar Mott
Asst. Adjutant General.

Report.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Number of Posts June 30, 1946 | 1 |
| Number of Posts June 30, 1947 | 1 |
| Number of members June 30, 1946 | 4 |
| Number of members Dec. 31, 1946 | 2 |

Orlando Le Valley; Whiteside Post No. 143.
Oscar Mott, Comrade at Large.



ANNA GROESBECK
Woman's Relief Corps



CORA HECKMAN
Woman's Relief Corps

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

Orlando Le Valley, Department Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic.

As President of your Auxiliary, I bring to you the very best wishes of our Auxiliary. One of my most pleast memories will be of having such a fine Grand Army man as my Commander, and I submit to you the following report:

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Number of Corps June 1, 1946 | 96 |
| Number of Corps June 1, 1947 | 95 |
| Number of members March 31, 1946 | 6,247 |
| Number of members March 31, 1947 | 6,320 |
| Number of Corps instituted | 1 |
| Number of Corps disbanded | 2 |
| Cash disbursed for non-pensioners | \$ 13.00 |
| Cash expended for flowers | \$ 1,978.81 |
| Cash expended for child welfare | \$ 430.50 |
| Cash relief expended | \$ 3,181.07 |
| Cash expended for bond | \$ 100.00 |
| Number of members assisted | 2,209 |
| Number of widows of Union Soldiers assisted | 82 |
| Spanish War Veterans assisted | 107 |
| Cash expended for nurse's scholarship | \$ 100.00 |
| Red Cross | \$ 386.05 |

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Cash expended for National Veterans Fund | \$ 2,025.00 |
| World War Veterans assisted | 5,633 |
| Relief, other than money | \$47,721.36 |

Now that our year is over, we only hope it meets with your approval, and to you, Commander, it has been an honor to serve the Grand Army and its Auxiliary, and I pray that God will watch over you and guide our Auxiliary.

Respectfully submitted in

Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty
ANNA C. GROESBECK
Department President
Woman's Relief Corps

Auxiliary of the Grand Army of the Republic

HIGHLIGHTS IN THE DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S YEAR.

A gain of 721 members during the year but Death entered many home and 126 answered the call. Michigan stood second in gain of membership.

The PROJECT: A goal of two thousand dollars for remodeling the greenhouses at the Michigan Veterans Facility was over subscribed: Col. Walter Baker was presented the check amounting to \$2,304.11 for this most altruistic effort: "Flowers are God's Messengers of Love".

Michigan stood first in National Victory Fund and received the award.

A scholarship for a nurse was presented a deserving pupil attending the University in Ann Arbor.

A one hundred dollar Bond purchased.

One Corps and one Junior Club instituted; 61 Corps visited. Sponsored an afternoon party at Fort Custer for 53 patients. Presented six Flags and dedicated one for Boy Scouts at Sherman Lake; Motored to Caro to enjoy a visit with Commander and present a gift. Many and varied social activities throughout the state record a keen interest and devotion to the ideals of the Woman's Relief Corps, the Auxiliary of the Grand Army of the Republic.

CAMP FIRE BANQUET.

Memories of happy hours when comrades told their stories and sang their songs, when music of the Fife and Drum Corps set feet and hands to beating time, when Comrade Bartlett urged us to "Tell the Story when the Boys in Blue Were Gone" and Comrade Warner proudly called the Roll of his regiment. Our thoughts turn to Commander Le Valley, always so happy to welcome his great family; memories sweet and tender come to us as we gather for the first time, with no Commander or Comrade with us.

"We shall meet
But we shall miss them".

Brother Urion Mackey Past Commander in Chief of the Sons, presided and presented Mr. Frank Whitwam, manager of Grand Rapids Convention Bureau who extended a warm welcome even to disclosing we held the invitation for 1948 and negotiations moving for the National Encampment in Sept. 1948. Department Secretary Simpson responded for the Grand Army and Allied Orders.

Each National Representative and Department leader spoke briefly, Rev. Cornelius Swart of the Michigan Facility paid glowing tribute to the Grand Army and challenged us to be ever alert and watchful of all who would destroy our Government, in this the greatest Nation in the world today.

Music and recitations closed the evening.

The Department Secretary had asked that this year all gifts be personal ones to our Commander but this was disregarded; the Department President of the Women's Relief Corps, Ladies of the G.A.R., Daughters of Union Veterans and Auxiliary Sons of Union Veterans each presenting a check to Secretary Simpson to continue the Happiness Fund. Our sincere thanks for this unlooked for pleasure.

UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS.

The highlight for Thursday was the Annual dinner sponsored by the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic. Mrs. Meryl Lintner serving her second year as Department President, was a charming hostess, dispelling for the time our loneliness in the absence of our Commander. National Sr. Vice President Lillie Wall, Col. Walter J. Baker and Capt. Cornelius Swart from the Facility with Department Secretary Simpson representing the Grand Army, were honor guests at this delightful gathering.

The Daughters, Sons and their Auxiliary held a "Get to Gether" at the Colony Club which taxed the capacity of the banquet room.

Exemplification of the Ritual by Corps No. 41, exhibition drills, and Aides breakfast were happy events for the W.R.C.

The Daughters were honored by having their Past National President, Bertha Droz, their guest thru all sessions.

The official opening of the Auxiliary carried out by Chief of Staff to introduce President Violet Hinz was especially fine. A strikingly beautiful memorial arranged by Lela Doran for the Daughters, Sons and Auxiliary featured a moving cross formed by the uniformed Drill Team of Detroit with Captain Mabel Bantle in command. Tributes to Comrades Cyrus Perrigo, Martin A. Loop and Oscar Mott were given by Dept. Secretary Simpson in this sweetly solemn hour.

The Sons carry out no special features other than the Past Dept. Commanders breakfast but join with Daughters and the Auxiliary. Recess of their session, to visit Commander was necessarily omitted. Enrollment in each order exceeded expectation—approaching "pre War" days.

MEMORIAL HOUR

The most pathetic passing of today, is that of the Grand Army of the Republic; its lessening numbers call for our renewed devotion; soon only Memory will suffice to honor their sacrifice and deeds.

The Woman's Relief Corps service was held in the Ball Room of the Pantlind Hotel, conducted by Mamie Bockhouse in the absence of Department Chaplain Leah Mills whose illness prevented her attendance at the Convention.

The solemnity of the hour, the hushed music and tributes paid the members called Home during the year, brought to all that "none may stay the hand of DEATH" and that soon the Grand Army of the Republic will reach the end of the trail. Department Secretary Simpson paid the tribute to Grand Army comrades.

Then let us clasp hands as we walk together
 Let us speak softly in love's sweet tone,
 For none may know, if, on the morrow,
 Two, walk on together, or one-alone.

MEMORIAM

OSCAR MOTT—Asst. Adjutant General, born in St. Joseph, Michigan, November 16, 1845, died in Grand Rapids, January 16, 1947, aged 101 years and 2 months.

January 5, 1864, while visiting in Wisconsin he entered the service of his country, enlisting in company F 25th Infantry, transferred to company E., 12th Wisconsin and received his final discharge Aug. 16, 1866. With exception of the years in the Civil War he has made his home in Benton Harbor, identifying himself in civic and fraternal life of the community. In 1900 he mustered in Geo. H. Thomas Post No. 14; the Post disbanded in 1936 and when approached to again align himself with the Grand Army of the Republic, gladly enrolled as a Comrade at large. At the time of his death was serving as Adjutant General.

Preceding the impressive church service Comrade Mott lay in state in the Methodist Peace Temple; the Flag he loved covering the casket, surrounded by countless floral offerings. Department officers, members or our Allied Orders, representatives of the local patriotic organizations, friends and neighbors by their presence paid tribute to a true soldier and citizen.

Military honors at the grave were rendered by Post 1459 V. F. W. Department Secretary, Leah M. Simpson, representing the Michigan Department Grand Army of the Republic paid the tribute; three volleys were fired by the Firing Squad; soft notes of Taps floated over the air—the last tribute of a soldier to a comrade—we leave our comrade—sleeping.



Group—Comrades at Lansing Encampment, June, 1941: Park, Le Valley, Chappelle, Killeen, Ferrigo, Warner, Owen.
Comrade Le Valley is the only survivor of this group.

We share the grief of the daughter and family in this great loss. Memories of the long years of devotion to his Country and Flag, will remain with us till life's end.

CYRUS PERRIGO—Senior Vice Commander was born in Decker, N. J., May 22, 1845, died in office Dec. 9, 1946, aged 101 years. He came to Michigan as a child with his parents who settled on land near Vassar obtained by a grant to his grandfather for service in the War of 1812. Here his long life was spent until the death of his brother in 1941 left him alone and reluctantly the old homestead cherished for ninety-six years was given up.

Sept. 19, 1863 he enlisted in company I, First Michigan Sharpshooters mustered in Detroit and trained at Dearborn. Before being sent to the front, guarding prisoners of war at Chicago was the first duty. Michigan points with pride to the record of this regiment through the Wilderness: Spottsylvania; Cold Harbor; Pegram Farm and on to Petersburg where on April 3, 1863 Michigan First Sharpshooters gained the enviable notoriety of being the first to enter Petersburg the Flag of the First Sharpshooters was raised upon the court house and the Second Michigan colors floated over the custom house. These Flags are now sealed in cases in the rotunda of the Capitol. Comrade Perrigo received his honorable discharge July 28, 1865.

A staunch believer in the principles of the Grand Army of the Republic at the organization of Post 194 in Clio he became a member serving as commander in 1912 and again in 1920-25 when as only surviving member he affiliated with Millington Post 214 and upon the disbanding of this Post he became a Comrade at Large in the Department, giving willing service in many offices. His last visit to Headquarters was on his 99th birthday.

Services in Newton church and the Newton Cemetery where for many years he personally decorated the graves of the many who had preceded him in death, were in charge of the Vassar American Legion Post.

When the dark angel beckons those we hold dear and opens wide the door through which we all must pass, how vast the emptiness appears.

A great sadness is our as we say "good night" to these friends of many years.

In sincere tribute

Leah M. Simpson
Department Secretary
Grand Army of the Republic.

MEMORIAL ROLL
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN
FOR THE YEAR 1946

STEELE BROS. POST NO. 441, MASON

Holden Albro, March 12, 1946; Private Co. D., 11th Mich. Infantry.

COMRADES AT LARGE

James F. Lyon, April 20—Lieut. Co. D., First Wisconsin Infantry

Ralph R. Towner, April 27—Private 166th N.Y. Vol. Infantry.

Martin A. Loop, September 17—Private Co. A., 17th Michigan Infantry.

Cyrus Perrigo, December 9—Co. I., First Michigan Sharpshooters.

**Servants of God, well done,
Thy glorious warfare is past
The battle fought, thy race is won,
And thou are crowned, at last.**

In Memoriam

The march of another comrade is over and he lies down after it in the house appointed for all the living.

MARTIN A. LOOP, born January 14, 1843, in a little log house in Adrian, died in his home in that city September 17, 1946, age 103 years and nine months. God in His great goodness had spared our comrade to us long years beyond the allotted span of life, for this we give thanks.

August 6, 1862, he enlisted as Corporal in Co. A. 17th Michigan Infantry. Under command of Col. W. H. Withington of Jackson, the 17th left Michigan August 28th, arriving in Washington, was assigned to the Ninth Army Corps, continuing to be a part of this celebrated Corps during its term of service.

Two weeks after leaving the state, Martin A. Loop realized what war meant, as the enemy's shot and shell mowed down his comrades at South Mountain as they struggled through Turner's Gap, but here they earned the title of "Stonewall Regiment," honorably carried through the war. Then came Antietam; Siege of Vicksburg, Miss.; Knoxville, Tenn.; the Wilderness, Va.; in 1864 to Cold Harbor, soldier Loop tramped valiently; here he was stricken with typhoid fever and sent to Flushing, L.I., on furlough. His father, in bringing him to Adrian contracted the fever and died within two weeks, leaving Martin "to fend for himself." He received his honorable discharge for disability, January, 1865.

Comrade Loop retained his keenness of mind, remarkable strength and activity till within a month of his passing. On his 100th birthday, entertained at dinner and public reception in Adrian, and the following day motored to Jackson,

guest of Department Secretary at a banquet sponsored by Sons and Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War; the following week, traveling alone, left for California guest of the N. Y. Central R. R. Co. He returned a year ago happy in anticipation of "years yet to enjoy old friends." January of this year he motored to Toledo, honor guest on his 103rd birthday of the N. Y. Central R. R. Conductors' Association; their oldest Charter member, having served the road forty-two years.

For more than half a century Comrade Loop never faltered in his allegiance to the Grand Army of the Republic, serving his local Posts in all offices, and as Commander in California, and when added honors were his, giving the same fine service to the National and Department organizations.

At the time of his passing, was serving the Department for the second time as Jr. Vice Commander. No Memorial Day observance for him was complete without his rendition of the Gettysburg Address; his last tribute was paid this year as he placed a wreath at Tipton Monument and rode in the motorcade to the cemeteries in Adrian.

A member of the Presbyterian Church, the Rev. John Emig held service at the Funeral Home; Department Secretary Simpson paid the tribute for the Grand Army of the Republic; at the grave the solemn Masonic committal was given with military honors; "Taps" by United Spanish War Veterans and Firing Squad.

Farewell, dear voyager, your work is done,
Now may peace rest with thee.
Your kindly thoughts and deeds live on,
This is not Death, it is Immortality.

In grateful memory of a soldier and friend.

LEAH M. SIMPSON,
Department Secretary.

RESOLUTIONS.

80th National Encampment

Indianapolis, Ind., Aug. 27, 1946.

To our Auxiliary and Allied Organizations:

Realizing the time is not far off when our Encampments will be ended, it is our earnest wish that our Allied Orders continue to hold their Annual Conventions, together.

We therefore ask that as a Memorial to the Grand Army of the Republic you continue to meet at the same time and place: and suggest that the incoming and outgoing Presidents or presiding officers act as a committee to make arrangements for the future National Conventions when the Grand Army of the Republic CEASES TO MEET.

Resolution adopted by unanimous vote.

To clear any misunderstanding as to WHEN this takes place, a motion—"to re-affirm the action of previous years, that the Grand Army of the Republic continue to meet AS LONG AS ONE COMRADE LIVES" was offered and carried.

Commander in Chief John H. Grate.

The following Resolution was unanimously adopted at the Department Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War held in Grand Rapids, June 26, 1947.

"Whereas, the Grand Army of the Republic has designated the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War as Successors to the Grand Army of the Republic;

"And, whereas, the Grand Army has reached the point where its members determined the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War should carry on in its place and stead;

"Therefore be it resolved, that the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War of the Department of Michigan do assume their duties as Successors of the Grand Army of the Republic and from this, the 26th day of June, 1947, fix the date for any and all future Encampments of the Department of Michigan and determine the place of meeting of the same."

This resolution was presented to each Allied Order, taken under consideration and not approved—all expressing the wish to meet together while the Department of Michigan had a surviving member to carry out the National, and our Commander's request.

Comrade Le Valley withheld all comment, Michigan following the vote of National to carry on while one comrade remained in this Department. At a Special meeting of the Sons held in Ann Arbor Dec. 6, 1947, the Sons reconsidered the Resolution and voted to meet in Annual Encampments with the Grand Army and Allied Orders.

HOUSE BILL NO. 395

April 16, 1947, in the 64th session of the Michigan Legislature, a Bill "to amend the title and certain sections" of the Public Acts of 1897 was presented by Representative Bert Storey, ordered printed and referred to the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs.

The Act of 1897 had provided the Headquarters in the Capitol for the Grand Army of the Republic, held continuously by the Grand Army since March 12, 1897.

The new Bill provided the Headquarters room should become the Michigan Veterans Headquarters in charge of a Custodian appointed by the Governor—"who shall be a veteran of World War I or II, or both under appropriation of the state.

The wording so indefinite as to when the Grand Army of the Republic should be dislodged, started a flood of protests from our Allied Orders, Patriotic and Veteran Organizations and public officials from many states, other than Michigan.

Department Secretary Simpson was invited to meet with Senators, Representatives and Military Committees; these conferences resulted in two amendments being added.—

1. This Amendatory Act shall become effective when the Department of Michigan Grand Army of the Republic becomes disbanded and the final Journal of the activities of such organization shall have been filed by the Secretary thereof, in the office of the Governor.

2. Amend Sec. 1 by adding a new paragraph to read—

There shall be placed by the Superintendent of the Capitol, either in or in the vicinity of the Veterans Headquarters, a suitable plaque, commemorating the room in the name of the Grand Army of the Republic to which shall be attached the pictures of all Past Department Commanders, the Department Charter and the picture of Gen. Russell A. Alger, first Commander in Chief.

It had been hoped this tiny room could be held as a Memorial to the Grand Army; every protest carried the same thought as a tribute to the Michigan Department which has carried on its roll men who have made history in the Nation's capitol and our own. This may in time be accomplished.

The Bill in the amended form was signed by Governor Sigler who from the first had given us kind consideration. For the interest and courtesies of every member of the Senate and House and the time given Secretary Simpson in Committee conferences we express thanks.

ENCAMPMENTS

DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN, GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

| Year | Entertaining City | Presiding Commander. |
|------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1868 | Detroit | Russell A. Alger |
| 1869 | Lansing | William A. Throop |
| 1870 | Lansing | William Humphries |
| 1879 | Grand Rapids | C. V. R. Pond |
| 1880 | Grand Rapids | C. V. R. Pond |
| 1881 | Quincy | A. T. McReynolds |
| 1882 | Muskegon | Byron R. Pierce |
| 1883 | Battle Creek | Byron R. Pierce |
| 1884 | Detroit | Oscar A. Janes |
| 1885 | East Saginaw | Rush J. Shank |
| 1886 | Jackson | Charles D. Long |
| 1887 | Grand Rapids | John Northwood |
| 1888 | Lansing | L. G. Rutherford |
| 1889 | Bay City | Washington Gardner |
| 1890 | Adrian | Michael Brown |
| 1891 | Muskegon | Henry M. Duffield |
| 1892 | Ann Arbor | Charles L. Eaton |
| 1893 | Benton Harbor | Henry S. Dean |
| 1894 | Owosso | James H. Kidd |
| 1895 | Mt. Clemens | Louis Kanitz |
| 1896 | Saginaw | S. B. Daboll |
| 1897 | Greenville | William Shakespears |
| 1898 | Port Huron | Aaron T. Bliss |
| 1899 | Petoskey | Alex L. Patrick |
| 1900 | Grand Rapids | Russell R. Peeler |
| 1901 | Flint | E. M. Allen |
| 1902 | Pontiac | James Van Kleeck |
| 1903 | Muskegon | Edward C. Anthony |
| 1904 | Holland | D. B. K. VanRaalte |
| 1905 | Traverse City | George H. Hopkins |
| 1906 | Saginaw | E. C. Cannon |
| 1907 | Bay City | Joseph B. Griswold |
| 1908 | Detroit | Willim Jibb |
| 1909 | Kalamazoo | George L. Holmes |
| 1910 | Holland | James M. Greenfield |
| 1911 | Ypsilanti | Samuel J. Lawrence |
| 1912 | Port Huron | George W. Stone |
| 1913 | Lansing | John T. Spillane |
| 1914 | Jackson | Frank R. Chase |
| 1915 | Kalamazoo | Riley I. Jones |
| 1916 | Bay City | Eli Strong |
| 1917 | Battle Creek | Lucius H. Ives |
| 1918 | Saginaw | William O. Lee |
| 1919 | Traverse City | David S. Howard |
| 1920 | Port Huron | Edwin F. Lamb |
| 1921 | Flint | Henry Spaulding |
| 1922 | Detroit | J. J. Holmes |
| 1923 | Grand Rapids | William Mears |
| 1924 | Lansing | Lyman A. Gilbert |
| 1925 | Port Huron | M. C. Barney |
| 1926 | Jackson | John Seel |
| 1927 | Benton Harbor | James R. Stephenson |
| 1928 | Kalamazoo | Charles A. Bartlett |
| 1929 | Bay City | A. C. Estabrook |
| 1930 | Pontiac | A. C. Estabrook |
| 1931 | Grand Rapids | A. C. Estabrook |
| 1932 | Petoskey | Orestus Blake |
| 1933 | Saginaw | Orestus Blake |
| 1934 | Grand Rapids | John Killeen |

| Year | Entertaining City | Presiding Commander. |
|------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 1935 | Mt. Clemens | Frank D. Keeler |
| 1936 | Battle Creek | Ira M. Stewart |
| 1937 | Detroit | Ira M. Stewart |
| 1938 | Grand Rapids | S. H. Carlton |
| 1939 | Jackson | A. C. Estabrook |
| 1940 | Ann Arbor | A. F. Chappell |
| 1941 | Lansing | M. J. Warner |
| 1942 | Grand Rapids | Sr. Vice Orlando LeValley |
| 1943 | Lansing | Orlando Le Valley |
| 1944 | Bay City | W. H. Ferguson |
| 1945 | Grand Rapids | Orlando Le Valley |
| 1946 | Lansing | Orlando Le Valley |
| 1947 | Grand Rapids | Orlando Le Valley |

The following numbers show the gain and loss of Posts and members in the Department of Mich. after it was re-organized—year by year from Jan., 1879, to Jan., 1947:

| Year | Posts | Members | Year | Posts | Members |
|------|-------|---------|------|-------|---------|
| 1879 | 6 | 127 | 1913 | 279 | 8,226 |
| 1880 | 9 | 281 | 1914 | 271 | 7,821 |
| 1881 | 13 | 482 | 1915 | 267 | 7,452 |
| 1882 | 27 | 1,019 | 1916 | 263 | 6,995 |
| 1883 | 100 | 4,442 | 1917 | 252 | 6,257 |
| 1884 | 209 | 10,311 | 1918 | 240 | 5,553 |
| 1885 | 288 | 14,475 | 1919 | 238 | 5,115 |
| 1886 | 316 | 16,957 | 1920 | 227 | 4,667 |
| 1887 | 348 | 19,226 | 1921 | 212 | 4,000 |
| 1888 | 371 | 21,353 | 1922 | 197 | 3,386 |
| 1889 | 373 | 21,418 | 1923 | 193 | 3,105 |
| 1890 | 377 | 21,255 | 1924 | 190 | 2,836 |
| 1891 | 375 | 20,765 | 1925 | 149 | 2,377 |
| 1892 | 391 | 20,905 | 1926 | 125 | 1,882 |
| 1893 | 390 | 20,469 | 1927 | 119 | 1,563 |
| 1894 | 384 | 19,020 | 1928 | 112 | 1,212 |
| 1895 | 383 | 18,059 | 1929 | 109 | 991 |
| 1896 | 373 | 16,766 | 1930 | 102 | 817 |
| 1897 | 382 | 16,096 | 1931 | 97 | 656 |
| 1898 | 385 | 15,831 | 1932 | 89 | 550 |
| 1899 | 386 | 15,531 | 1933 | 81 | 418 |
| 1900 | 382 | 15,102 | 1934 | 78 | 314 |
| 1901 | 375 | 14,930 | 1935 | 68 | 244 |
| 1902 | 368 | 14,406 | 1936 | 66 | 198 |
| 1903 | 359 | 13,716 | 1937 | 45 | 120 |
| 1904 | 355 | 13,168 | 1938 | 35 | 78 |
| 1905 | 346 | 12,282 | 1939 | 31 | 59 |
| 1906 | 340 | 11,566 | 1940 | 26 | 50 |
| 1907 | 326 | 11,068 | 1941 | 21 | 35 |
| 1908 | 318 | 10,688 | 1942 | 16 | 47 |
| 1909 | 313 | 10,220 | 1943 | 10 | 33 |
| 1910 | 311 | 9,854 | 1944 | 6 | 21 |
| 1911 | 309 | 9,372 | 1945 | 4 | 8 |
| 1912 | 286 | 8,707 | 1946 | 2 | 7 |
| | 1947 | | 1 | 2 | |

**HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN, GRAND
ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC**

Lansing, Michigan, July 10, 1946.

General Orders No. 1.

Series 1946-1947

- I. The 68th Annual Encampment of the Michigan Department Grand Army of the Republic, held in Lansing June 27-29 was an outstanding success; our Allied Orders eager and happy to be together again in large delegations.

More than three hundred attended the Campfire Banquet held the first evening. Lt. Glenn Carpenter brought the inspiring letter from the Governor Harry F. Kelly; National Presidents of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War; the Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans with Department head of each Allied Order, the National Patriotic Instructor and Chairman of Executive Board of the National Women's Relief Corps together with representatives of the United Spanish War Veterans, the American Legion and World Wars extended greetings and paid tribute to the Grand Army. Music furnished by Mrs. Carolyn Mole and Mr. Marion Marshall. Our Secretary presided. Comrade Loop did not arrive in time to share these honors with me in this the highlight of the Encampment.

- II. To all who in any way added to the success of this Encampment and for the generous gifts to the Happiness Fund I am deeply grateful.
- III. The following officers elected or appointed will form my official staff:

Orlando Le Valley—Department Commander
Cyrus Perrigo—Sr. Vice Commander
Martin A. Loop—Jr. Vice Commander

Council of Administration

Cyrus Perrigo, Oscar Mott, Martin A. Loop
Oscar Mott—Asst. Adj. & Asst. QM. General
Leah M. Simpson—Department Secretary.

- IV. For the honor of again serving as Commander I express my thanks, the responsibilities rest with the Secretary in Headquarters. I ask the same loyal support so willingly given by our Allied Orders in past years.
- V. With exception of personal greetings please address all communications, reports and requests to Department Secretary at Headquarters, Leah M. Simpson, Box 433, Lansing 2, Mich.
- VI. The 80th National Encampment will be held in Indianapolis, Ind., Aug. 25-30, 1946. Headquarters of Grand Army of the Republic in Claypool Hotel.

Comrades, give this your consideration and make a special effort to attend. Address the Secretary for details and reservations. Let us stand by our National organization to the very last. It is a long journey from Caro, yet I plan to attend, as does Comrade Loop, our oldest comrade bearing easily his one hundred and three years. For the cooperation given through my years of service and with full confidence that this will continue I greet the new leaders in our patriotic family.

- VII. Anna Grosbeck, Women's Relief Corps, Marshall, Mich. Meryl Lintner, Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, Buchanan. Beatrice Hager, Daughters of Union Veterans, Saginaw. Violet Hinz, Auxiliary Sons of Union Veterans, South Haven, Thayne La Banta, Department Commander of Sons of Union Veterans, Jackson.

May success attend your every effort and when we no longer meet together, may the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic remain with you, always.

By command of

ORLANDO LE VALLEY,
Department Commander.

OSCAR MOTT,
Asst. Adjt. and QM. General.

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN, GRAND
ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

Lansing 2, Michigan, October, 1946.

General Orders No. 2,

Series 1946-1947.

- I. The 80th National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic was held in Indianapolis, Ind., the week of August 25-30, 1946, with headquarters of the Grand Army in the Claypool Hotel. The Michigan Department was represented by our Commander, Orlando Le Valley, also serving as National Patriotic Instructor; Miss Ivah Le Valley and Secretary Simpson were in attendance.
- II. Comrade John H. Grate of Atwater, Ohio, was elected Commander, in Chief; Theodore Penland, Portland, Oregon, Senior Vice Commander, and Orlando Le Valley, Caro, Michigan, Junior Vice Commander in Chief. For this single honor Michigan is justly proud.
- III. By vote of the Encampment the office of National Secretary was made permanent and Miss Cora E. Ellis, who has served since the death of Katharine R. A. Flood, was retained, with National Headquarters to be established in her home city—Jamestown, New York.
- IV. While only twelve Comrades were registered, every feature of a National Encampment was carried out as in past years. President Truman sent the United States Marine Band under direction of Capt. Wm. F. Santleman; the music furnished for every occasion was well worth the effort made to attend the Encampment. The delegations of our Allied Orders assumed the numbers as "before the war" and with throngs of citizens filled the Murat Theatre at all public meetings.
 Tuesday night hundreds gathered to greet our comrades at the reception given by the Governor and Mrs. Gates in the Capitol; Wednesday, always Parade Day, found every street lined with thousands in tribute to the veterans of the Civil War. The United States Marine band and more than one hundred Sons of Union Veterans formed the escort for the Commander in Chief and his entire delegation, as amid greetings, applause and waving Flags they rode slowly along to the reviewing stand.
- V. Commander in Chief Gale presided at every meeting and visited every Allied Order to express a personal greeting; Comrade Robert M. Rownd, our impromptu speaker, always in demand and always ready. A great Encampment long to be remembered.
- VI. Following the close of Encampment, Comrade Le Valley, with Comrades Gale and Bennett, were guests of the C.B.S. broadcasting in "We The People Hour," in interviews on Sunday, an experience greatly enjoyed. Notices had been sent to many newspapers and it is hoped many "listened in" to our Department Commander.

- VII. The Department mourns the sudden passing of Junior Vice Commander Martin A. Loop on September 16, after an illness of less than two weeks. The Department was represented at the service in Adrian by Secretary Simpson. Sincere sympathy is extended to the niece and his many friends.
- VIII. Again members or individuals holding the Charter or relics of a Disbanded Post are asked to confer with Secretary Simpson, Box 433, Lansing 2. No record of Post property or Charters has ever been made; it is the ambition of the Secretary to prepare such a record, but without your help this may be impossible. Our Commander's Post, No. 143, is the only one on our Roster. Too soon the day will come when the records of the five hundred Posts organized in Michigan will be invaluable.
- IX. A meeting of the Department heads was held in Battle Creek, August 6, and the decision made to accept the invitation of Manager Whitwam, Grand Rapids Convention Bureau and Hotel Pantlind, to hold the 1947 Encampment in Grand Rapids. The date chosen, June 25-26-27. Further details will be promulgated following a meeting to be held in Grand Rapids, October 26.
- X. Armistice Day; Memories of the cessation of hostilities of World War I and the thousands who gave their lives that never again should war touch us—now over-shadowed by death and destruction of World War II. God grant a lasting peace may come to the world. "That these dead shall not have died in vain."
- XI. November 16—Birthday greetings will be in order as our Adjutant General, Oscar Mott, reaches the age of 101 years. May health and happiness attend him. The Secretary will make her annual visit to his home in Benton Harbor to represent Department in festivities planned.
- XII. Thanksgiving Day; Live the name; rejoice and give thanks for the blessings and comfort of our AMERICA.
- XIII. CHRISTMAS: May it be the dawn of Peace and Good Will, for all men. To our Allied Orders a happy Holiday season and my thanks for the honors, gifts and good wishes you have showered on me. To my Adjutant General Mott and Senior Vice Commander Perrigo, may God's choicest blessings rest upon you as together we serve our Michigan Department.

By command of

ORLANDO LE VALLEY,
Department Commander.

OSCAR MOTT,
Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN, GRAND
ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

Lansing, February, 1947.

General Orders No. 3,

Series 1946-1947.

One by one my comrades are dropping from the ranks to join those who fell with their Country's full armor of battle on. In profound sorrow I receive the messages of the passing of two from my official staff; Assistant Adjutant General, Oscar Mott and my friend of many years; Senior Vice Commander, Cyrus Perrigo. With the Secretary, I visited him as he enjoyed his 101 birthday and in November our Secretary carried my greetings to Comrade Mott in Benton Harbor as he reached 101 years.

For more than forty years they had served the Grand Army in Department and local Posts, checking off the names till only their own remained on the roll and upon entering Department as Comrade at Large, gladly again put on the "Armor of Service" faithful service now crowned with victory over Death.

My sympathy goes out to those who mourn and while my heart is sad I would fail in gratitude did I not express my appreciation of the affection shown me by every member of our Allied Orders not only through these trying months but all the years we have served together. God grant the future holds greater opportunities for service and that in memory of those who have "Crossed the Bar" we too, shall

Work till the last day dawneth
Work till man works no more.

In F. C. and L.,

ORLANDO LE VALLEY,
Department Commander.

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN, GRAND
ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

Lansing, April, 1947.

General Orders No. 4,

Series 1946-1947.

- I. The "month of memories" is fast approaching; soon another year of patriotic activities will close as we meet in Annual Encampment. No longer is it my duty to call my Comrades to meet with me—the Angel of Death has called them Home; the once long roll of the Michigan Department carries but one name. I give thanks for the many years I have enjoyed the faithful service of our Auxiliary and the Affiliated Orders.
- II. The 69th Annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, together with the Allied Orders, will convene in Grand Rapids, June 25-27. Through the efforts of our Department Secretary, headquarters for all organizations were secured in the Pantlind Hotel, where all sessions and the Campfire Banquet will be held.
- III. During the recent visit of our Secretary in my home, all details were completed. I look forward with pleasure to the evening of June 25, 6:30 o'clock. God willing, I shall again be host to our great family at the Campfire Banquet.
Faces long dear to me will be missing. Let us gather with thankful hearts for the blessings we share in the freedom of our America.
- IV. Headquarters of the Grand Army of the Republic will be open Wednesday, June 25, at 10:00 A.M. Luncheon at 12:00 noon; 1:30 o'clock, afternoon session. Thursday the same hours will prevail until the "good-byes" are said.
- V. The 81st National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic will be held in Cleveland, Ohio, the week of August 10-14. Headquarters for the Grand Army and the Woman's Relief Corps will be established in the Hotel Cleveland.
- VI. Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11.
In 1908, Commander-in-Chief H. M. Nevius in a General Order, added Mother's Day to our calendar of Holy days, recalling the sacrifices of mothers during the war. Let us wear the white flower in memory of all mothers.

The bravest battle that ever was fought,
Shall I tell you where and when?
On the maps of the world, you will find it not
'Twas fought by the mothers of men.

- VII. Memorial Sunday, May 25.
My earnest wish that every Affiliated Order observe this day.
- VIII. Memorial Day, May 30.
The National Encampment has directed that General Logan's Memorial Day Order No. 11, and Lincoln's Gettysburg Address be read at all public exercises on Memorial Day.

No longer can comrades of the Michigan Department gather with flags and flowers at the resting places of our comrades; this duty now rests with the Allied Orders. "If other eyes grow dull and other hands slack and other hearts cold," I know you will not fail in this solemn trust.

O breezes, softly waft
 The fragrance of our flowers
 Upon the air, while thus we deck
 These honored graves of ours.

IX. FLAG DAY, June 14.

Appointed as a special day for remembering the story of the Stars and Stripes and applying that glorious history to our present patriotism. Our Flag, the visible emblem of our country.

Flag of the sturdy Fathers
 Flag of the loyal Sons
 Beneath its folds it gathers
 Earth's best and noblest ones.
 Boldly we wave its colors
 Our veins are thrilled anew
 For the steadfast bars and clustered stars
 The Red, the White, the Blue.

X. During the recent visit of our Secretary in my home we discussed every phase of House Bill No. 395, relative to closing our Headquarters room in the Capitol. I feel this deeply and owe it to the memory of my comrades, gone but not forgotten, to voice my conviction that this Headquarters room should remain UNDISTURBED until the Michigan Department is disbanded. I hope this may be so and that plans for a fitting memorial may be made. With this our Secretary is in full accord.

XI. In closing my last General Order for the year, words fail to express my thanks for the loyal support that has been mine. With my daughter, Ivah, we have returned to our home on the farm after spending three months of the winter in Caro. Here your gifts, good wishes and a visit from our Secretary have followed me. Truly I am grateful and appeal to every member to carry on the splendid service to our country when only the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic is your incentive.

By command of

ORLANDO LE VALLEY,
 Department Commander.

REMINISCENCES.

Russell A. Alger—The first Michigan soldier to become a member of the Grand Army of the Republic was mustered in at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, September, 1866. Organized the Grand Army of the Republic in Detroit in 1867; elected first Department Commander in 1868 and in 1889 became Michigan's first Commander in Chief with Headquarters in Detroit; the membership then 397,974 with Michigan claiming 21,418 on its Roll.

Governor of Michigan, 1885-86; approved legislation providing funds for a Michigan Soldiers' Home, dedicated by the Grand Army of the Republic. Twice wounded in the Civil War and taken prisoner; commissioned Colonel in 1863; commanded brigade 1864; Brevet Brigadier General U. S. Volunteers for gallant and meritorious service at battle of Trevillian Station, and in 1866, Brevet Major General for meritorious service during the war.

Washington Gardner—The second Commander in Chief from Michigan. Department Commander in 1888, Commander in Chief 1913, with the membership, 180,227; Michigan 8,226.

In 1894 appointed Secretary of State by the Governor to fill a vacancy and later was elected for two full terms; following this he represented his District in Congress twelve years. Mustered in company D, 65th Ohio Vol. Infantry in 1861, was severely wounded in battle at Reseca, Georgia, and mustered out on account of wounds in December 1864.

Aaron T. Bliss—Representative in 51st Congress from 8th District 1889-1900. Department Commander 1897; Governor of Michigan 1901-1904, successor to Hazen S. Pingree.

From the ranks of the Grand Army of the Republic, five members have been "President of the United States": General U. S. Grant, Rutherford Hayes, James A. Garfield, Benjamin Harrison and William McKinley.

At the close of the Civil War the Union Army had 1,000,516 men in the field; the Confederates, 174,223.

The Union Army lost 9,584 officers and 349,944 men. The Confederates, 4,626 officers and 129,195 men.

The name "Memorial Day" adopted by the Grand Army at National Encampment held in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1882.

Incorporation of the Grand Army approved in 1889.

Gettysburg Address given by President Lincoln at the dedication of the Gettysburg battle field, November 19, 1861. The day now Dedication Day.

Star Spangled Banner, written by Francis Scott Key in 1814 while the battle raged at Fort McHenry. In 1931 Congress passed the law making it the National Anthem.

Act of Legislature, giving Permanent Headquarters in Capitol to the Grand Army of the Republic, approved February 11, 1897. Possession taken March 27th with Department Commander Aaron T. Bliss and C. V. R. Pond as Assistant Adjutant General.

In 1895 the state appropriated 10,000 dollars for the statue of Governor Blair, erected at the main approach of the Capitol.

The Pledge of Allegiance was adopted at the 58th National Encampment in Boston in 1924.

REPORT OF DEPARTMENT SECRETARY
HEADQUARTERS MICHIGAN GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC
LANSING, MICHIGAN

JUNE 1947

The 68th Annual Encampment closed June 28th, 1946 with invitations from Bay City, Battle Creek and Grand Rapids; continuing the decision of the 1940 Encampment these are left to Secretary to complete all arrangements, after visiting the cities.

Commander Le Valley, Martin A. Loop, Senior Vice Commander, and Oscar Mott, Assistant Adjutant General, retained as officers. I return to Headquarters to mail all "thank you" letters, resolutions and notices before closing for July 4th in Jackson, returning on 5th, to attend sessions of the WRC, Daughters and Auxiliary to Sons, with thanks from Commander for the fine cooperation in making the 68th Encampment so outstanding and for the very generous contributions to his Happiness Fund. Compile General Orders No. 1 and while these at Estimate, make a trip to Battle Creek to confer with Secretary of Chamber of Commerce relative to holding 1947 Encampment; outlook favorable. The call for meeting of Department officers is issued.

Mail out National General Order No. 4; represent Department at two dinners; proof read General Order No. 1; attend session of Tent No. 14; motor to Jackson to attend co-operative dinner with Daughters and Camp Blair No. 7; clear four records and make application for headstone for grave of Civil War veteran.

August 5th, preside at meeting of Department officers and local committees called by Secretary of Battle Creek Chamber of Commerce and manager of Post Tavern Hotel. The unexpected explanation, "with regret" is made that no hotel or Session rooms could possibly be arranged for any time in 1947. Every difficulty was discussed, resulting in vote by Department officers that I contact Convention Bureau in Grand Rapids, get all details and notify the Department officers.

A vote of appreciation was extended to manager of Wenonah Hotel for the success of the Encampment held there when war time restrictions in number allowed in attendance, permitted us to meet in Bay City.

My trip to Grand Rapids for conference with Convention Bureau and hotel managers highly successful; assured a hearty welcome awaits us. I notify "heads" of Allied Orders upon receipt of the formal invitation and visit our Commander in Caro. Close all plans for his attendance at National Encampment in Indianapolis, Ind.

On 9th, guest at Preview of Pere Marquette Wonder Train—reception and inspection; mail 250 General Order No. 1; carry Commander's greetings to Auxiliary No. 5, dinner and session; accept invitation of Department President Meryl Lintner to accompany Commander as honor guests at the banquet of Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic at National Encampment in Indianapolis.

14th, designated as Victory Day; speak at a community gathering and review parade in Jackson as Capitol closes for the day.

22nd, leave for National Encampment, arriving in time to accompany Commander to Memorial service held in Murat Theater and through the week all social activities; C in C banquet; Semi Official; concert by U. S. Marine Band; Ladies of Grand Army banquet; Michigan reception. For the first time in the years I have been Secretary to Grand Army in Michigan and the years of service as Secretary to National Quartermaster General, has it been possible to attend any session of the Allied Orders. Commander attended every session of the National and was elected Junior Vice Commander in Chief. While he was so engaged I visit other sessions.

Return to Michigan to open Headquarters following Labor Day; clear all accumulated mail and spend one day in Grand Rapids; check plans and arrange for Preliminary meeting; Comrade Loop reported ill; I mail greetings and check from Happiness Fund.

September 12th, represent Department at reception and dinner honoring Mrs. Julia Van Burger, District President No. 3, held in First Presbyterian Church, over 100 in attendance.

Messages that Comrade Loop grows weaker each day and on the 17th, just as twilight fell, he peacefully closed his eyes at Death's call. I leave at once for Adrian to assist in plans for the services.

Commander had not been well since returning from Indianapolis; I had planned to spend his 98th birthday at his home but the day found the Department in sadness making this impossible; I send check for his Encampment expenses and include his birthday remembrance from the Happiness Fund, and on the 21st, with Department President Hammond of the Daughters, return to Adrian to represent Commander and pay last tribute to Comrade Loop. With all military honors accorded Comrade Loop by American Legion Post he was laid to rest in Oakwood Cemetery.

Open Headquarters on 23rd to find nine requests for Civil War records; invitations from seven Districts; reception for Department Commander La Banta and Department officers in Jackson and from Daughters in Detroit. I truly appreciate these remembrances and regret that so rarely official duties allow of my acceptance. Mail National General Order No. 1.

October—no spare time in this month; compile General Order No. 2 and Special Memoriam for Comrade Loop; address 450 envelopes; attend two WRC sessions; receive two great bags of old National Journals from Washington clearing 1942-45; many requests for these had been filed since '41, these are mailed, working after closing hours through the week to carry these heavy books to Post Office; three visits to Past Department President Thomas, ill in Sparrow Hospital; receive notice of appointment on Ingham County Community Chest Fund drive and on 22nd attend "kick off" dinner at Hotel Olds and endorse our Grand Army quota.

Close Headquarters on 24th for trip to Grand Rapids, happy to include a session of District 6 and evening meeting of Corps No. 62. The many greetings received from the Districts are truly messages from "old friends tried and true". I greatly appreciate them.

With Mr. Whitwam, preside at Preliminary meeting, all plans submitted, accepted and some committee appointments made. Return to Headquarters to proof read General Order No. 2 and Special Memoriam for Comrade Loop; begin typing 1946 Journal and order cuts made.

November—a letter from the Governor urging the importance of Election Day, that all should take advantage of the Capitol closing for the day and cast their vote. I leave on late bus for Jackson; return following day to begin mailing 450 General Order and Special Memoriam.

On 15th, leave for Benton Harbor to carry Commander's greetings and gifts to Assistant Adjutant Mott and attend the reception at Woman's City Club, sponsored by the Daughters of Tent No. 34, honoring Comrade Mott on his 101st birthday. A day long to be remembered, Comrade Mott enjoying every hour—the many gifts presented as he greets many city officials, veteran organizations and members of our Allied Orders who crowd the rooms.

The Past Presidents and members of Tent No. 34 welcomed me to the city at a dinner—beautiful favors and appointments in gorgeous Thanksgiving colors—with Past Department President Derby presenting a gift during the happy social hour following. My sincere thanks for these gracious courtesies during two happy days.

Dedication Day—the 19th, arrange for broadcast of Gettysburg Address and prepare four programs. One of the most outstanding in our state was presented in South Haven, sponsored by Auxiliary to Sons, with Miss Isla Dow, National Vice President, and Violet Hinz, Department President, directing.

We remember Past Commander in Chief Rownd on his 102nd birthday; for the month check 89 calls made by school pupils and attendants whom I assist with data for essay work and furnish six with records of their Grandfather's Civil War service, hours well spent.

Officially visit Detroit Auxiliary; receive honors as Charter Secretary.

Compile, type, and have ready for Estimate General Order No. 3 before closing for Thanksgiving Day.

December—

“Death beckons with absolute command
Nor love nor skill can stay the fatal shaft.”

On 5th, I attend the last service for Isabel Thomas, Past Department President WRC, in Williamston; disquieting message that our old friend Theodore Penland, National Junior Vice Commander, is hospitalized in Saginaw, send message and remembrance; Commander Le Valley quite ill, he also is remembered from Happiness Fund.

The Joy Month has not opened joyously for our Department. A message from a Saginaw member that Senior Vice Commander Perrigo had been ill and had passed suddenly in Saginaw hospital. With no knowledge or details I long distance Saginaw and telegraph Commander and Miss Ivah Le Valley in Caro to take care of flowers should they find serv-

ice would be held either in Caro or Vassar. This Miss Le Valley accomplished and later I was informed our floral offering was received and placed at head of casket as Comrade Perrigo lay in state in Vassar, preceding military service by American Legion, honoring the sole survivor of the First Michigan Sharpshooters.

Proof read 1946 Journal and address 250 envelopes while waiting second reading to page and make Index.

Re-check Courtesy list numbering 200 before beginning to address the Christmas greetings; prepare two gift boxes and checks for Commander and Assistant Adjutant General closing the Happiness Fund. Attend Christmas dinners and trees with Corps and Daughters. Close Headquarters on the 22nd for the Holidays, my only week of vacation in the year, at home.

A year, fraught with many changes, is over. For every dark day many more have been filled with the sunshine of God's loving care and of friendships, old and new.

If the Old Year taught us any thing,
It was a good OLD YEAR—
Whether its lessons came in sorrow or cheer,
We soon forget the price we paid,
As we count the precious gains;
For all that is left of the OLD YEAR,
Is the wisdom that remains.

For your continued interest, Commander Le Valley, in my service to the Grand Army of the Republic and the Allied Orders, and for your unbounded kindness, with glad heart I enter the NEW YEAR.

January is Installation month; my first with Auxiliary No. 5, followed with attendance at four others; begin mailing 1946 Journal; Commander improving but zero weather and uncertain bus travel delays my contemplated visit to Caro; I send check for delicacies.

Headquarters seems a rendezvous for Representatives, Senators and public officials interested in the possible closing of this room. With deep concern I read message of serious illness of Comrade Mott needing special care. I contact Col. Baker asking special favor in admittance to Veterans Facility. As always, Col. Baker assures us every attention will be given our comrade, but DEATH is Omnipotent and four days later Comrade Mott joined that great army on the other shore. I notify National and all Departments and on the 18th, with Commander Thayne La Banta of Sons, motor to Benton Harbor where Comrade Mott lay in state in the Methodist Church. A great concourse of citizens and church members with representatives of our five Allied Orders, by their presence, paid tribute. Military honors conducted at the grave by Post 1454 where I gave the last tribute of the Grand Army of the Republic.

I close the month with a record of 81 visitors interested in this proposed change in Headquarters room. All Journals mailed.

February brings blizzards and zero weather causing a falling off of visitors and allowing work delayed during January to be cleared. Atten-

tion must be given to callers while routine work waits. Make application for compensation or pension for World War I veteran. Complete General Order No. 3; order envelopes; attend Pot Luck with Camp in Jackson; find a motor trip to Bay City may be made with Past Department Commander and Past Department President Hammond of Daughters who plan to attend Installation of Tent in Bay City and weather and roads permitting will continue on to Caro. I gladly accept and enjoy the session with Daughters; no hotel available in Bay City, we motor back to Saginaw and early Sunday morning finds us enroute, through great snow banks, to Caro.

Our Commander much improved, we forget the blizzards and call this a happy Washington Birthday. I stop off in Lansing to avoid possible difficulty in travel by bus in morning. Routine work and callers close the month.

March 5th, meet all Committees in Grand Rapids; with Mrs. Thatcher of Corps No. 27, inspect and repack property left by Custer Post No. 5 in the Armory when disbanded.

Confer with Senator Quinlan; on 8th, officially represent Commander at Regional of Sons at Episcopal Church House in Jackson, 108 in attendance; 11th, meeting of Ways and Means Committee overhauling the 1947-49 Budget; mail 250 General Orders; visit Executive office with Red Cross quota; 17th, begins week-long celebration of Lansing Centennial, I attend special evening features. Wearing "something green", attend evening of Tent No. 14 as Department President Hager makes her official visit.

Motor to Concord to attend funeral of Harry Williamson, husband of Past Department President Alice Williamson.

Official business in Detroit 21st-22nd; making it possible to attend Past Presidents' Day with Corps No. 257 and in evening, session of Tent No. 3, my first visit in many years though a member since 1924.

April—Mail National General Order No. 3; bus trip to meet with No. 131 in Mason; make application for headstone for Civil War veteran buried in Cemetery near Muir; secure record of naturalization of Civil War veteran; mail two records to applicants living in Canada, one in Idaho, two in California, nine before the week closes.

Daily work in office interrupted by publicity given the proposed closing; every mail brings protests from states other than Michigan and such a steady stream of callers I discontinue the guest book record; speak in Jackson on the proposed change; visit Senator Nichols. On 8th, decline all invitations out of city because of illness of Commander and uncertainty here, for the first time, I must delay answering the call to Caro.

April 16th, House Bill No. 395 was introduced in House by Representative Storey, received second reading and referred to Committee on Veteran and Military Affairs, beginning for me conferences with Representatives and Committee; answer over 100 letters; present the G.A.R. viewpoint at Auxiliary dinner, clubs, corps, district assemblies, and Veteran organizations.

Attend sessions of the House; attend reception at Woman's City Club honoring Prudence Bowman, Department Inspector, present the Bill; endure daily interviews and pictures taken of old Headquarters and on 25th leave for Caro to explain all this to Commander Le Valley.

I welcome a two days' respite before opening for May which proves a repetition of the strenuous days of April. Representative Gillespie sponsored the Amendments; more callers; more protests; every mail all with the one thought, "this room to be held as a Memorial to Grand Army of the Republic, a proper place to house the most treasured relics of the Civil War." It would seem every effort was made but the Bill in amended form passed the Senate on the 26th, with not a dissenting vote, that the Grand Army should remain undisturbed in Headquarters while one Civil War Veteran lived in Michigan.

I issue General Order No. 4; close all details for Encampment, making no change in Camp Fire Banquet; with Department Commander La Banta proof read the programs of the Allied Orders; order badges and close for Memorial Day.

June 15th, represent the Department at the official Joint Assembly of the U.S.W.V. in Kalamazoo, the 44th Annual Encampment. Following my greeting, on motion of National Representative, we stand in silent tribute to the Grand Army of the Republic.

Pay tribute at the boulder presented by Comrade Holland Simmons, Company L, 6th Michigan Cavalry, on which is placed the tablet made from bronze taken from the Battleship Maine and dedicated by U.S.W.V. Attend Candle Light Memorial with Auxiliary in the evening. Visit Secretary Chamber of Commerce relative to Encampment invitation. Return to Lansing to attend a last dinner with Auxiliary No. 5; finish all reports and resolutions for Encampment with Commander's Address, pack Flag, Banner and needed supplies. Leave on the 24th to arrive in Grand Rapids in time for banquet at Colony Club with Daughters, Sons and Auxiliary.

Wednesday open Headquarters at 9:00, waiting arrival of Commander; respond to address of welcome extended by Mr. Frank Whitwam, manager of Convention Bureau, and in the absence of Commander accept the gifts from W.R.C., the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Daughters and the Auxiliary to Sons of Veterans, presented at the banquet.

Attend the meeting called by member of the Sons to present a Resolution for carrying on the Encampments as "Successors to the Grand Army of the Republic."

For the first time with no Commander, I am honor guest of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic at their annual dinner, so graciously presided over by Department President Lintner, that for the time my loneliness is forgotten. The arrival of Commander's daughter, Ivah, now Mrs. David Hutchinson on her wedding trip, convinces us our Commander is not attending his Encampment. At once newspapers and the radio carried the message that no session of the Grand Army would be held.

To our very great regret this did not reach Department Commander Witfoth, U.S.W.V., who, with Mrs. Witfoth and Department President Dickinson of the Auxiliary, called to pay their respects to Commander Le Valley. This he would have enjoyed and appreciated.

Give the tribute for Grand Army in the W.R.C. Memorial Hour and at the joint Memorial Service of Daughters, Sons and their Auxiliary. Visit session of each Allied Order; alone and depressed, remove the Flag from the wall of our temporary Headquarters, arrange for the flowers that had so beautified the room to be sent to hospital and close temporary Headquarters for the year 1947.

I visit last session of the Daughters to report the Woman's Relief Corps and Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic had not approved the Resolution presented by the Sons of Union Veterans as Successors of the Grand Army of the Republic though expressing the wish that the coming years find the Allied Orders working and meeting together.

I return to Capitol, mail necessary reports, greetings and checks; compile General Order No. 1; order stationery and leave for Caro in response to Commander Le Valley's request, preparatory to beginning a new administrative year.

MAILING REPORT.

| | |
|--|--------------|
| National and Department General Orders | 1,190 |
| Special Memoriams | 500 |
| Cards, All Kinds | 482 |
| Applications, Pensions, Home, Amendments and House Bill 395 .. | 72 |
| Service Records | 211 |
| Official Letters | 601 |
| Journals, National and Department | 310 |
| Total Pieces | 3,366 |

With only one Comrade to serve, it may seem the work at Headquarters would lessen—rather, it increases, especially in correspondence. While the past year may have been exceptional, more and more the general public asks for service record and history of regiment movements in which their ancestor may have participated.

In General Orders I have appealed to any who may have in their possession the Charter or Records of a Post long since disbanded to return these relics to me. Some look upon this subject lightly but future generations will be searching for the service records of the men of the Civil War.

Officially I represent our Commander and Department at the many and varied events sponsored by the Veteran organizations and our five Allied Orders; always my ambition to carry high the banner of the Grand Army of the Republic and conduct the work at Headquarters in the Capitol in a manner befitting the dignity and honor of an organization unique in the history of the world.

At best my service constitutes only a small payment on a debt none can pay in full.

"A debt we ne'er can pay
To them is justly due."

The lines of the Grand Army are steadily growing thinner, but always the memory of their service will bring the urge to Live my Americanism in Spirit and in Truth in our land of unbounded Freedom—preserved to us through sacrifice and loyalty to an ideal.

In memory of that once great army, the men of '61-'65, I renew my pledge of service.

Loyally yours,
LEAH M. SIMPSON,
Department Secretary,
Grand Army of the Republic.



COMPILED BY
LEAH SIMPSON MARSHALL
DEPARTMENT SECRETARY
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

FOR THE YEAR JUNE 1946 - JUNE 1947

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J86

"Heritage of the Grand Army of the Republic"

"The Grand Army of the Republic is a unique organization. No child can be born into it. No proclamation of President, edict of King or Czar can command admission. No university or institution of learning can issue a diploma authorizing its holder to entrance. No act of Parliament or Congress secures recognition. The wealth of a Vanderbilt cannot purchase the position. Its doors open only on the presentation of a bit of parchment, worn, torn, and begrimed as it may be, which certifies to an honorable discharge from the armies or navies of the Nation during the war against the rebellion, and, unlike any other organization, no new blood can come in. There are no growing ranks from which recruits can be drawn into the Grand Army of the Republic. With the consummation of peace through victory its ranks were closed forever; its lines are steadily growing thinner, and the ceaseless tramp of its columns is with ever-lessening tread. The gaps in the picket lines grow wider every day. Details are made for the reserve summoned into the shadowy regions until by and by only a solitary sentinel will stand guard, waiting until the bugle call from beyond shall muster out the last comrade of the Grand Army of the Republic."