

The RAINBOW REVEILLE

Rainbow Division Veterans



VOL. XXVII

SEPTEMBER, 1947

No. 1

From Your National President



JOHN J. BRENNER
President, National Association
Rainbow Division Veterans

Pennsylvania has been signally honored by the Reunion body at Des Moines, Iowa, in selecting one of her native sons to lead the National organization for the ensuing year.

The individual expresses his profound appreciation for the confidence you have in him, and with the aid of a fine, capable staff of officers will work to promote the welfare of Rainbow, thereby deserving that confidence and leading the Association on to greater and finer things.

The vice presidents have pledged themselves to promoting membership as a No. 1 objective. You will be hearing from them, through Reveille, at different times this year.

After hearing a few World War II Rainbowners speaking so fluently concerning their experiences, I feel there are certainly others, and they could do Reveille a service by jotting them down and sending them to Harold Rodier for publication so we all might enjoy them.

Needless to say, we rise or fall by membership. All presidents have referred to it at times. Wouldn't it be fine if we all took an active part in building up our local chapters, thereby strengthening the states as well as the National organization?

By doing all these humble tasks we make ourselves worthy of being called true Rainbowners and, as repeated many times, "The Rainbow Never Fails."

(Continued on page 2)

Rainbow Division Veterans



A national association of veterans of the Rainbow (42nd) Division, to perpetuate that spirit of comradeship which was the greatest single factor in the success of the Division and to keep alive the memory of departed comrades.

OFFICERS

Permanent Honorary President

Gen. Douglas MacArthur, United States.

Honorary President—Homer W. Gardner.

President—John J. Brenner, Lancaster, Pa.

Vice Presidents—Harold Browere, California; Everett Hale, Texas; Frank West, Minneapolis; C. Edwin Johnson, Illinois; Marvin D. Leff, Wyoming; Matthew Devlin, New York.

Secretary—R. Allen Gibbons, P. O. Box 342, Roanoke 3, Va.

Treasurer—George E. Seaman, 60 E. 42nd St., New York, N. Y.

Chaplain—Rev. John Callan.

Judge Advocate—Leland L. Whitney.

Sergeant-at-Arms—Walter Hamburg.

Historian—Marshall Andrews.

Master of Ceremonies—"THE CHAMPAGNE HOUR"—J. Monroe Johnson.

(Send Post Office form 3578-P to P. O. Box 342, Roanoke 3, Va.)

The
RAINBOW REVEILLE
Published Monthly
September to June

Subscription \$.50 per year

Entered as second-class matter September, 1946, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the act of March 3, 1879.

Reveille Committee—Edward C. Weitzel, Walker H. Colston, Dan I. Glossbrenner.

HAROLD B. RODIER, Editor
Room 205—928 5th St. N.W.
Washington 1, D. C.

Associate Editors

FRED CORNELIUS

EARL DENNIS

Vol. XXVII

September, 1947

No. 1

A SUPERLATIVE REUNION

Des Moines and Iowa put on a Reunion in the best tradition of Rainbow, of Iowa, and of the grand old regiment in which your Editor is so proud to have served.

Further praise than this is redundant, but permit us to amplify. It was a reunion that satisfied. Our Reunion-attending membership knows what it wants in a reunion and is capable of estimating wherein a reunion meets its wants and wherein it falls short. Des Moines gave to its Reunioners all they wanted and in heaping

measure. The entertainment was adequate, high in quality, and tailored to the tastes of Rainbow. Time was never permitted to hang heavy on the Reunioners' hands, nor was the entertainment stepped up to a tempo where it interfered with visiting with old buddies, which is the cream of a reunion. Every facility for the business of the Reunion was thoughtfully and adequately provided. *The Reveille* salutes Homer Gardner, General Grahl, his capable committee, the Des Moines Chapter, and Iowa generally for a Reunion never to be forgotten!

YOUR EDITOR CHANGES BOSSES

Your Editor has wound up a year of service under Homer Gardner—a gratifying and satisfying year. Homer was the kind of a President that we would expect an old line wheel-horse, grass-roots Rainbower to be. He knows Rainbow, and he knows Rainbowers. He knew what the job called for and how to deliver it. He was easy to work with and work for because he was always actuated by the oldtime Rainbow philosophy which is basically common to all real Rainbowers. He had a good and a successful year. Your Editor is pleased and proud to have been a part of his administration.

John Brenner heads up Rainbow's new administration and your Editor is happy to become a part of his administration. John has been our friend for lo these many years and we know him as an enthusiastic Rainbower, a capable executive and a grand guy personally. John has inherited an office which has been held by so many brilliant and able men that it will not be easy to live up to the standards of brilliant accomplishment which his predecessors have set. But John will live up to these standards and set new heights of attainment for his successors in turn to reach. He's that kind of a person. Rainbow has once more manifested its genius for picking the right leader for the times.

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

(Continued from page 1)

In closing, your National President and all officers of the organization accept this welcome opportunity to extend to all Rainbowers throughout the nation a hearty, personal greeting and good wishes for a successful year.

JOHN BRENNER

Reunion in Des Moines

The use of superlatives to describe "Reunion in Des Moines" would be superfluous and ineffective. It was just plain grand. Such lavish hospitality has seldom, if ever, been extended at any previous reunion. That hospitality, both food and graciousness, was easy, constant and of the finest in every respect. In every detail it was a splendid reunion and Rainbow will forever be indebted to Iowa for an unforgettable chapter in Rainbow history.

Friday, the day before the Reunion officially started, found so many gathered from far and near that it seemed like the second day. There were so many present on Saturday that it seemed like a last day. It was the biggest and bestest in years, and each reunion from now on should be larger because of the many younger members and

their wives who will attend. The Reunion started right out in high the day before and the pace never lessened right up to the Champagne Hour. Event after event followed in rapid succession. The only time left for "prowling" was after midnight. If the pace of events was a little too swift, there was a good dugout on the roof. How the old soldiers carried their packs in that march of seemingly endless events and still stayed on their feet is remarkable, indeed. Our sympathies to those who missed this memorable Reunion.

Notes taken while Reunioning: Chaplain Roscoe Conklin Hatch (Petrus) back after several years and with his own Iowa outfit again. The good Chaplain tried to shanghai two bodyguards to accompany him to church at 8 a.m. on Sunday. Ohio showed, but California failed to hear reveille. All three attended the official Rainbow service later, even Colston being present. Jim Rolph, Florida, whose lovely daughter detoured 400 miles on her honeymoon to be with Jim during the Reunion. Ray Wills of Independence, Mo., who carries on a correspondence with an old friend of 30 years, Harry Truman. Dr. Eugene Sullivan, down from Alaska to reunite with his buddies from New York. Billy Bears and wife, now retired from the Army, attending first reunion in ten years. We hear Bill Williamson (4911 Floristan, L. A.) is poorly lately—sorry, old top. One of the new members standing in the lobby a wee mite puzzled by all the hugging and kissing going on. "I like it," he says, "but how do you get started." We tell him to just pick one out and begin—they love it, especially the older ones. Les Langille, the sly clown, marching through the lobby, cigar askew and hat flopping, carrying a large pasteboard box on a string for his pretty wife—"Ain't this a helluva thing for a great he man to be carting through a hotel lobby?" Henry Bootz and Bill Gee up from Oklahoma and having a time—Henry did enjoy being with his Irish buddies from New York again. The T&P committee meeting in a very hot, stuffy room Sunday night for two hours and then finding the room next door empty and air-conditioned. Sober as of 9 a.m. Sunday: Hatch, Callan, Johnson, Thomas, Mason, Taylor. Absent without leave: Bill Johnson, Sam Hedrick, Walt Michel, Cooper Winn, Larry Gibbs, Roger Cutler, Henry Wood, Judge Renfro, John Winningham, Bob Hayward, Bill Screws and Walter Woods. (Editor's note: Walter Woods passed away in Florida and, was accorded a Rainbow funeral at Orrville, Ohio, on August 9, with the Akron Chapter participating and Al Hoyt acting as Chaplain.) Smart boys Weitzel, Rodier, Moquin and Colston shanghaiing Earl Dennis and his car for the trip to Camp Dodge for the stag barbecue. After driving 40 miles toward Ft. Dodge they discovered Camp Dodge was ten miles from Des Moines. The profusion of excellent food at Camp Dodge, the vaudeville acts (first sampled and approved by the girls at Country Club) and the miracle of the perfect rainbow over the camp in the evening without a cloud or a drop of rain. The prize crack of the Reunion (overheard at Dodge): "You know, they will keep on holding these Reunions

until somebody gets drunk." Rodier betting Hoyt one buck against two bits per victim that many would cool their tails in the lobby fountain. Rodier collected nil. Hazel Wright, Ruth Butts and Wealthy Hoyt being thrown out of a drug store by a tough, whistle-blowing cop—and not one veteran landing in the fountain! Mother Frew opinionioning that the boys are getting something or other—they don't kiss her anymore. Herb Plambeck, adopted Rainbower and farm editor of WHO, who put Lilymae Weitzel on the air twice with an account of the Gold Star Mothers' program. Once she was on the NBC chain for seven minutes, again proving that it is more blessed to give than to receive. The pleasure of meeting John Tabor, who wrote the Iowa History; also Walter Dick of Columbus, Texas—a splendid gentleman whom we should see more often. Ray Ramsey claiming he can lick anyone weighing over 310 pounds. One weighed just that, but Ray says he must be "over."

Noted as absent with leave: Harry Collins, Tommy Tucker and Manning Marcus. Hearing the laughable yarn of Chaplain Callan having his supper plate lifted (Camp Dodge) by a peripetetic inebriate—of all people! Beloved Matt Tinley and good wife enjoying another reunion; also Fletcher Ware and wife down from gopherland. Noting, sadly, the presence of Cassie Halpin without her Gene, whom we knew and loved. Listening with awe to Blumenthal's profound remarks in introducing General McLain, those remarks being so profoundly profound that an hour later the clowns were offering a code at two bits per copy. Those banquet highjinks: After stating his age as 72 and admitting that once he was a mess sergeant, George Leach ("Breathes there a man with soul so dead who never to himself hath said"—I wanna kiss Louise?) proceeded to plant a beautiful smacker on the cheek of Louise (Every Little Breeze) Carroll, who sat helplessly by the speakers' stand. You don't get it? Wait, there's more. Up steps Ruby Garrett, stating that he is only 65 and was also a mess sergeant. He also proceeds to help himself to a free osculation from the now confused Louise, and immediately thereafter, undoubtedly stimulated by the near presence of the lovely creature, burst forth with prodigal abandon into a torrential flow of scintillating, laudatory rhetoric that twisted his hearers into stitches and left him grinning but breathless. This was most certainly one occasion when Ruby was not "suffering from a linguistic stymie" as he was in Washington in 1935. Wait—we are not through yet. Next comes Monroe Johnson, the statesman and dignified gentleman. "Well," he said, "I'm 67," then noting the embarrassment of Louise, continued, "but have no fear, Mrs. Carroll; I never was a mess sergeant!"

Barre Blumenthal again being fined by the Reunion for talking out of turn with Marx Rosen-thaler and causing a pleasant and humorous rumpus. Some (undoubtedly with an eye on our depleting treasury) suggested the fine be made an annual custom. Bill Nevius missing his first "real" Reunion but sending a greeting. Garrett

(Continued on page 7)

Proceedings of Rainbow's 29th Reunion

Opening Session

The 29th Reunion opened on Saturday, July 12, at the Hotel Fort Des Moines, Des Moines, Iowa, at 2:20 p.m., President Homer Gardner presiding. Following the invocation delivered by Chaplain John A. Callan, President Gardner greeted the assembly briefly and introduced the first speaker, General Mat Tinley, who delivered the formal address of welcome. Mat distinctly declined to make it formal, saying that greeting Rainbowners was "a good deal like thanking your own children for coming home to visit you." General Tinley looked well and, needless to say, received the affectionate and enthusiastic acclaim of everyone present. Chet Akers, Auditor of the State of Iowa, spoke in behalf of Governor Blue, who was absent from the state. Mayor John MacVicar of Des Moines next spoke and made the customary offer of the keys to the city, extending a very sincere welcome. General George Leach responded to the address of welcome with witty and sincere thought. Louise Carroll, National President of the Auxiliary, then spoke briefly and introduced her Auxiliary officers. Brigadier General Charles H. Grahl gave a brief orientation on reunion activities. National officers present were then introduced, and telegrams from the following absent Rainbowners were read: Fred Cornelius, V. D. Flenckenstein, Catherine B. Coggins, John H. Wingham, Henry C. Woods, Bob Hayward, William P. Screws, and General Harry Collins. Chaplain Roscoe Conkling Hatch, formerly of the 168th Infantry, delivered the benediction, and the session adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Second Session

The second session convened on Sunday afternoon, July 13, at 2:25 p.m., President Gardner presiding, and Chaplain Callan delivering the invocation. At this time communications from the following Rainbowners were read: Wilber M. Brucker, M. Manning Marcus, and John Wintrobe.

National Secretary Allen Gibbons was then called upon to deliver his report. Upon the motion of Barre Blumenthal, Allen's report was received and accepted with acclaim—before being delivered. Following the acceptance of his report, it was duly rendered. It covered the broad scope of Rainbow activities for the year. He reported the sale of 906 lapel buttons, 1,570 Rainbow decals, and 490 Rainbow records, all of these sold through the Secretary's office. One chapter which had been active during the year 1945-46 was reported inactive during the past Rainbow year, the Crawford Z. Ables Chapter of Gadsden, Alabama. The five following chapters which had been inactive during the previous year became active during the year 1946-47: Jacksonville, Florida; Fort Dodge, Iowa; Southwest Iowa at Shenandoah; St. Louis, Missouri; and Toledo, Ohio (formerly the Sedan Chapter). The following new chapters were formed during the year: the Maurice L. Tyler, Jr., Chapter,

Richmond, Virginia; the Wyoming Chapter, Cheyenne, Wyoming; and the Omaha Chapter, Omaha, Nebraska. Allen reported progress in organization work in the following places: Rhode Island; Connecticut; Chattanooga, Tennessee; Little Rock, Arkansas; Madison, Wisconsin; and Salt Lake City, Utah. He reported 80 active chapters now chartered, of which 50 finished the year with increased membership. Special mention was made of the "world's largest Rainbow Chapter"—the Illinois Chapter—which achieved a membership of 1,001. He noted that the World War I membership failed to show an increase in 1946-47 for the first time in more than ten years.

National Treasurer George Seaman then submitted his report which follows:

Treasurer's Report for the Year 1946-47 OPERATING STATEMENT

Income	
Membership dues, \$7,710.00 less	
P/A 202	\$7,508.00
Donations	22.10
Bank Interest	31.35
Lapel Buttons 906 at .64736	586.51
Decals 1570 at .0788	123.72
Rainbow Histories 139 at .50	69.50
Rainbow Records	149.46
Rainbow Pictures	2.50
	7,567.29
Over accrual A/cs Payable	8.87
	\$8,502.01
Expenses	
Reveille	\$4,763.57
Secretary's Salary	2,400.00
President	435.21
Treasurer	300.00
Secretary	160.91
Steno and Printing	172.74
Office Supplies	35.86
Stationery and Cards	541.00
Postage, Telegraph and Telephone	476.75
Emergency	474.87
	\$9,760.91
Deficit	\$1,258.90

Our balance sheet is as follows:

Assets	
Cash in Chase National Bank	\$ 860.75
Cash in Roosevelt Savings Bank	1,591.35
Investments U.S. War Bonds	4,440.00
Inventories—	
211 Lapel Buttons at .35264	74.41
953 Decals at .0462	43.98
Liabilities	
Deferred Income P/A dues	202.00
Accounts Payable	160.08
Surplus to 7-31-46	8,464.11

Deficit Year 1946-47

His report was accepted with the thanks of the organization.

Walker Colston then reported for the Reveille Committee the publication of the magazine for the preceding year at a saving of approximately \$1,200.00 against its budget of \$6,000.00. He reported that 206,500 copies of the magazine had been put out despite the fact that approximately 5,000 names of non-paying members had been dropped from the mailing list early in the year. The report of the Reveille Committee was adopted.

At this point Colonel Monroe Johnson addressed the Reunion. He addressed himself largely to Rainbowers of World War II, saluted their accomplishments, and expressed the pride of Rainbow in that they had fully lived up to Rainbow traditions.

President Homer Gardner then rendered a report on his administration. He paid tribute to Secretary Allen Gibbons and Treasurer George Seaman for their faithful, arduous, and effective labors. He expressed regret that the World War II membership had fallen from some 12,000 in 1945-46 to about 2,000 in the year just ended. He called attention to the fact that this paralleled the situation of our Association at the close of World War I, when a membership of 12,571, achieved in Germany, dropped the following year to 1,670. He expressed confidence that as the World War I Rainbowers came back slowly but surely into the folds of our Association, so would the Rainbowers of World War II. He reported extensive activity in visiting Rainbow chapters, the following having been visited: Nebraska, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Dallas, Oklahoma City, Tulsa, the Mo-Kan Chapter at the Mid-Year Executive Committee Meeting, Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Chicago, St. Louis, and Cincinnati. He expressed regret that he had been unable to visit all of the chapters. He reported a successful mid-year broadcast on February 22 from Kansas City and concluded with a tribute to the chapter officers to whom he attributed the splendid success of our Association.

Colonel Ruby Garrett then spoke briefly. Speaking to the World War II Rainbowers, he said: "Rainbow must not die. You have an opportunity to transmit to your children a heritage that is as near sacred as any experience can be. Your children will realize the value that has come to them for your having been associated with this great organization. It stands out alone in all divisional experience. It is the only one that meets as we meet. We must keep it alive." He extended on behalf of the Reunion high praise and congratulation to President Gardner and the Reunion Committee for the magnificent job they were doing.

President Gardner then called upon Robert M. Snodell, World War II Rainbow from Chicago, to relate a personal experience in the late war in which he, with a small detachment of MP's, got slightly ahead of the Infantry and captured a town, including a considerable body of troops—with a little fast conversation. (Editor's Note: *The Reveille* hopes to publish this story in detail one day as well as many similar episodes experienced by our membership.)

Following an announcement of committee assignments, the Second Session adjourned after a benediction by Chaplain Hatch.

Third Session

The final session of the Reunion opened Monday morning, July 14, at 10:30 a.m., with invocation by Chaplain Callan. Al Hoyt at this point introduced Ohio's new state president, George Walters, a veteran of both wars, Ohio's state secretary-treasurer and editor of the Ohio *Reveille*, Carl Thimmes, and the secretary of the

Columbus Chapter, Melvin Horne. Iowa State Association President Bert Boots was introduced from the floor, and President Gardner then called upon other chapter presidents present at the session to stand. These included Jay Kriz, Nebraska; Tom Mason, "Best Chapter in Rainbow"; Charlie Williams, Kansas; Allen Edmondson, New Orleans; Everett G. Weart, "World's Greatest Chapter"; Wally Borseth, Minnesota; Joseph Jacoby, Wyoming; Leonard Hill, Oklahoma; Everette Hale, Texas; Horton Marks, Jr., Texas; Harold Browere, California; and Melvin N. Horne, Ohio. Herb Plambeck, Des Moines radio executive who had rendered much assistance to the Reunion Committee in radio publicity, then spoke briefly. He strongly urged that Rainbow make greater use of its outstanding position to command national publicity, believing that such national publicity would be helpful to the strength of the organization and a constructive influence upon its activities. Elmer Faatz of Minneapolis then called attention to the fact that General George Leach was 72 years old that day and presented him with a gift (in a pinch bottle) from the Minneapolis delegation. General Leach received an ovation from the Reunion. The reports of the various committees were then presented, beginning with the Memorial Committee.

Report of the Memorial Committee

Chaplain Callan, Chairman of the Memorial Committee, in his report, extended sympathy to the families of deceased Rainbowers and recommended that a committee be appointed to produce a suitable folder containing the comforting sentiments of Rainbow to be sent to the next of kin of departed Rainbowers. He urged the chapters to be more thorough in forwarding information to the Secretary concerning deceased Rainbowers. He approved the depositing of Rainbow flags at the Rainbow Shrine in Kansas City and recommended that all Rainbow company guide-ons be forwarded there for deposit, commended those chapters which marked Rainbow graves, and particularly commended the Ohio Chapter for its achievement in having Highway 42 named the Rainbow Highway. His report was approved.

Report of the Auditing Committee

Stanley S. Barrow, Chairman of the Auditing Committee, recommended that an audit be made subsequent to the Reunion when the records of the Association for the fiscal year would be completed and in suitable condition for an audit. The report was accepted.

Report of the Budget Committee

John J. Brenner, reporting for the Budget Committee, recommended the following budget for the fiscal year 1947-48:

Reveille (10 issues)	\$5,000.00
Secretary salary	2,400.00
President	400.00
Treasurer	200.00
Secretary	200.00
Stenographer and printing	100.00
Office supplies	100.00
Stationery and cards	300.00
Postage, telephone and telegraph	500.00
Emergency	500.00
Total	\$9,700.00

The budget submitted was adopted by the Reunion.

Report of the Committee on Resolutions

Colonel Garrett Olds, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, submitted a resolution expressing Rainbow's sorrow on the untimely death of Major General Robert H. Tyndall. The customary cablegram of greetings was transmitted to Permanent Honorary President Douglas A. MacArthur. A resolution warmly praising the work of Homer Gardner and his administration during the preceding year was submitted. A resolution lauding the 29th Annual Reunion in Des Moines was also submitted.

All of the above resolutions were unanimously adopted and the reports of the committees approved.

Report of the Membership Committee

Esfil Bjork, Membership Chairman, submitted the following recommendations on behalf of his committee: That the president of each state association and each Chapter be urged to appraise the organization and methods currently employed in membership solicitation in various other states and chapters, adapt and, if possible, improve upon them in setting up membership campaigns in local organizations; that qualified Rainbow II men be utilized in such membership campaigns; that the chapters establish reception committees who will greet, introduce, and make at home newcomers attending chapter meetings with a view to engaging their interest in Rainbow by the cordiality of their reception; and that the National Vice Presidents assume an especial function in promoting membership activities among the associations and chapters.

Increase in Dues

This committee recommended that steps be taken to increase the annual dues of members making payment directly to the National Association to \$2.00; that all persons paying dues directly to the National Association be assigned for membership to the state association of the state in which they reside or, if there is no chapter in the state, to another appropriate state association or chapter; and that \$1.00 of the \$2.00 thus collected be paid over to the state association or the chapter to which the member is assigned.

The report of the Membership Committee was adopted.

Committee on the Constitution and By-Laws

Chairman Leland L. Whitney submitted the following report of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee:

Registration Fee

The Committee recommended that Article 10 of the By-Laws be amended to read as follows: "A registration fee for a National Reunion, not to exceed ten dollars (\$10.00) per member, may be collected by the host city chapter to assist in defraying the cost of the Reunion." The proposed amendment was adopted.

Chairman Whitney then discussed a resolution passed by the Ohio State Association recommending certain changes in the composition of the Executive Committee, limiting the tenure of Past Presidents as ex officio members and rec-

ommending various changes relating to the method of electing the membership of the Committee. His committee recommended that the incoming President appoint a special committee to make a study of the whole question and bring in a recommendation to be passed upon by the next National Reunion. After considerable discussion this recommendation was adopted.

Report of the Committee on Time and Place

Robert R. Reno, Jr., Time and Place Chairman, reported that no valid invitation for the next Reunion had been placed before his committee for consideration. The committee recommended under these conditions that the incoming National President appoint a subcommittee of the National Executive Committee to examine possible invitations for the 1948 Reunion and transmit them to the National Executive Committee for its decision and action. It was further recommended that this action be secured within forty days, if possible, with a view to publishing the decision of the Executive Committee in the September issue of *The Reveille*. The report of the Committee was adopted.

Report of the Nominating Committee

Colonel Ruby Garrett, Nominating Committee Chairman, then reported that his committee, consisting of members from each state in the Association, had carefully considered the qualifications of various Rainbowners for the National offices to be filled by election at this Reunion and had selected the following slate for nomination to the respective offices indicated:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN (Term Expiring July 14, 1950): Vincent D. Fleckenstein, Pennsylvania; Tom C. Hanson, Michigan; Floyd L. Harper, Indiana; Garrett W. Olds, Indiana; James E. Thomas, Iowa; Henry C. Wood, Alabama; Tom Halpin, New York; Warner H. Grassell, California; Hiram B. Flowers, Minnesota; and Dave Ginter, Missouri-Kansas.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN (Term Expiring July 14, 1948): Melvin Horne, Ohio.

VICE PRESIDENTS: Harold Browere, California; Everett Hale, Texas; Frank West, Minnesota; C. Edwin Johnson, Illinois; Marvin D. Leff, Wyoming, and Matthew Devlin, New York.

CHAPLAIN: Rev. John Callan, Oklahoma.

JUDGE ADVOCATE: Leland L. Whitney, Ohio.

PRESIDENT: John J. Brenner, Pennsylvania.

HONORARY PRESIDENT: Homer Gardner, Iowa.

The above slate of officers was duly placed into nomination, seconded, and elected by acclaim.

Report of the Reveille Committee

Edward C. Weitzel, Reveille Committee Chairman, recommended the reappointment of Harold B. Rodier as Editor and the publication of ten issues of eight pages each. It was urged that the host chapter for 1948 assume the cost of the tenth issue, a custom revived by the Iowa State Association. The report of the Committee was adopted.

President-elect John Brenner was then properly escorted to the platform where he spoke briefly, pledging himself and his administration to labor unremittingly during the coming year

for the honor and glory of Rainbow.

Ladies' Auxiliary

At this point the Sergeant-at-Arms escorted Kitty Riekert, New York, to the rostrum and President Gardner announced her election by the Auxiliary session as the new National President. President Riekert spoke briefly and announced the newly-elected Auxiliary officers as follows:

First Vice President, Irene Colston; Second Vice President, Ethel Gardner; Secretary, Jean Seaman; Treasurer, Bernice B. Harper; Parliamentarian, Frances Wood; Chaplain, Ella Faatz; Welfare Chairman, Pearl Avery; Daughters of Rainbow Division Veterans, Ferne Thomas; Gold Star Mothers, Lilymae Weitzel; Editor of the National Rainbow Auxiliary Bulletin, Ruth Butts; Sergeant-at-Arms, Mrs. Harold Browere.

Following President-Elect Brenner's talk the other newly elected National officers were brought to the platform and introduced. Numerous Reunioners then spoke briefly in the customary brilliant closing moments of the Reunion, following which President Gardner declared the 29th Annual Reunion adjourned, and as the colors were retired Chaplain Callan delivered the benediction.

Appointive Officers

In the banquet session which preceded the Champagne Hour and the formal closing of the 29th Reunion (which is reported in some detail elsewhere in this issue), President-Elect John Brenner announced the following appointments for the ensuing Rainbow year: For National Secretary, the reappointment of Allen Gibbons, Virginia; and for National Treasurer, the reappointment of George Seaman, New York.

Reunion in Des Moines

(Continued from page 3)

Olds and his beautiful symphonic resolutions. Having banquet dinner with Earl Chaffee and William Coover, who sent greetings to their old Captain, Vernal Diggs. Jim Dent minus his teeth and looking like Dent, but not so much so. Joe Cardio back after an absence and now quite grey, but with the same smiling, handsome, young-looking face. Ray Cronin of Nebraska, as usual, quiet, pleasant and present. George Leach celebrating his 72nd birthday and publicly receiving a card signed by all his "boys" present in wonderful Rainbow spirit. His reply was touching and fine—"God make me worthy of my friends." Homer Gardner's dignity, understanding and gavel dexterity. The committee reports—all unanimous, as customary. John Brenner's first words after having the President's badge pinned on him—"I'm tired." Wonder what he will say one year from now. Many chapter officers present, including Presidents Walters of Ohio, Hale of Texas and Browere of Los Angeles. Lt. Gen. Raymond S. McLain, outstanding National Guard soldier (outranking our own Bob Beightler by one star), who was sent by the War Department to address us on the subject of universal military training and its importance if the guided missiles and bombs begin to drop—suddenly. The splendid buffet supper and dance

(complimentary) on Sunday evening, a most pleasant occasion. The cane presentation to the retiring President and its immediate disappearance. This year the cane had a large rubber tip—are we getting that old? Charlie Grah and Jim Thomas ever present on committee duty from early morning until late at night, always smiling, never missing a function, including church on Sunday, and really putting on an endurance contest that was good. Even when abrupt changes in schedule were required, these two did it with consummate ease. And here we pause to mark the splendid work of all committee members, both men and women. You gave us a time we shall never forget. And here also we pause to note the younger members, 50 or more strong, who apparently enjoyed themselves like all get out. We find them dignified, pleasant, courteous and rather better behaved than the old boys were at that age. Make it 100 next year, younger comrades—nay, make it 1,000!

The Girls: Had an excellent attendance, including the wives of a number of younger members. One afternoon they were entertained at the Hyperion Country Club, being transported by buses. From all reports it was an unusual and enjoyable affair. And each lady, upon registering, found a fountain pen in her envelope as a souvenir of the occasion. Louise Carroll was succeeded as President by Catherine Riekert (Eddie: "And I introduced her to Rainbow"), Irene Colston moved up to First Vice, and Ethel Gardner was chosen as Second. Jeanne Seaman will answer your letters and Bernice Harper will again bank your funds.

The Pilgrimage: The annual phone call to Fred Cornelius in El Paso, with Rodier clowning: "Of course, old top, you are reappointed Associate Editor for another year, but you understand we can't pay you the same wages." Several persons spoke to Fred, including Homer Gardner, John Brenner, Catherine Riekert, Colston, Gibbons, Seaman, Weitzel and a visiting soldier who introduced himself as "Ray McLain." Fred and Ray talked about Champagne and the Argonne, where Fred was wounded, and Ray said he had been all through these places as a corps commander in World War II and some of the old trenches were still visible but had fallen in from erosion. Someone remarked that last year a two star General spoke to Fred and this year a three star. Next year we will have to dig up a four star. Anybody wanna bet?

The Champagne Hour: Following a splendid banquet in a great hall filled to capacity, there was the address by General McLain, followed by several excellent vaudeville acts. Rainbow is thoroughly enjoying itself, is completely relaxed, oblivious of time. The clown guitar act takes its curtain call. The room is suddenly plunged into darkness. From out of the darkness comes the resonant voice of President Gardner: "Gentlemen, it is 11:45 p.m." Secretary Gibbons begins the last long roll call of Rainbow comrades departed the year. Monroe Johnson, only his face showing in the dim light, recalls the events of 29 years ago—"Until we meet again."

NUNC DIMITTIS THE RAINBOW GHOST.

From the Desk of the National Secretary

P. O. Box 342
Roanoke, Va.
August 20, 1947

With nearly 2,000 membership cards already sent out, the new Rainbow year of 1947-48 is well under way. The Tulsa Chapter has exceeded last year's membership with its first remittance, made at the Des Moines Reunion. (And what a grand Reunion!) It is hoped all chapters will be in that select class before another Reunion-time.

The proper season for the organization of new Rainbow chapters is now. It appears, while formal application has not been received, that Chattanooga, Tenn., under the leadership of Robert J. Bradshaw, Jr., will have the first new chapter of the 1947-48 year. Who will be next? Interest has been shown in organizing chapters in Arkansas at Little Rock, in Rhode Island, in Utah at Salt Lake City, and in Wisconsin at Madison. Ample material is available at many other places, notably Buffalo, Duluth, Hartford, Louisville and Portland, Ore., to name only a few. Every state in the Union has enough Rainbowners to support a chapter, with the possible exception of two, if only they will organize. Who will start the ball rolling?

Only 1,831 Rainbowners from the War II Division, out of nearly 12,000 who joined the Association during 1945-46, renewed their memberships by paying dues last year. The Association has continued to send all of them this publication; however, there is a limit to what the Association can do without financial support from the membership in the form of DUES. Once your name

is removed from the mailing list, the chances are that you will be lost track of, since your changes of address will not be reported by the Post Office Department as is now done if you furnish your post office with a forwarding address. You can prevent that from happening by paying 1947-48 dues to your chapter NOW. If you don't, there will come a day when you'll wish you had! If you don't know your nearest chapter's address, use the coupon at the bottom of this page.

All of the recordings of "There's a Rainbow in the Army" and "Mountain Dew" have been sold, therefore please do not send in any more orders for them. Lapel buttons at \$1 each and 3-inch windshield or window decals at 2 for 25 cents are still available from this office. It is also expected that by the time this reaches you there will be available a beautiful chain-type tie clasp, with a replica of the lapel button suspended in the center of the chain. It will be priced at \$2.50 and orders should be sent to the Secretary. All who have seen this handsome tie clasp are delighted with it. You will be, too! It will make especially attractive birthday and Christmas gifts for Rainbow men from mothers, wives, daughters and sweethearts.

Those chapter secretaries who have not reported to me their officers for 1947-48 are urged to do so at once. Please, this is important.

Your Secretary will be handicapped during the next few weeks by the necessity of moving his office and will appreciate your patience until all is again working smoothly. However, remittances of dues will have first priority—so keep 'em coming!

R. ALLEN GIBBONS.

If YOU do not belong to a chapter, use the following coupon:

R. ALLEN GIBBONS, National Secretary, Rainbow Division Veterans, 9/47
P. O. Box 342, Roanoke 3, Va.

Dear Allen: I am proud of being a Veteran of the Rainbow Division.



I served with the.....
(Name of Unit in 42nd Division)

and wish to join our Association. I enclose \$ 2 Please send me my membership card and send *The Reveille* to the following address:

Benjamin Cook,
380 E. 327th st.,
Willoughby, Ohio