

# CONVENTION NUMBER



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## THE GENERAL SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT

### TO THE MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN SECTION IN CONVENTION ASSEMBLED

As we close another year of devoted labor for the great cause that claims our deepest interest, we can again look back on a period of steady growth, in spite of the terrible war which obviously has affected human life and progress the world over.

#### MEMBERSHIP

Last year we closed with an active membership of 4,665. The annual increase has been—new members 974, transferred from other Sections 22, total 996, thus carrying the total membership up to 5,661. But from this figure had to be taken 45 who had died, 454 dropped, 14 transferred, and 211 resigned, leaving a total net balance of 4,937, which represents the total membership at the end of the year. Among these there are 417 members yet in arrears, the most of whom will doubtless pay their dues. The loss, although greater than last year by 246, was less than might have been expected because of various sentiments existing in respect of our President's attitude toward the war, especially in its relation to American and German national interests. That so few should have been sufficiently affected as to leave the Society is indeed a tribute to the cohering power of our philosophy. One other cause of the losses is the depressed financial condition of many members.

#### LODGES

Thirteen Lodge Charters were issued during the year, namely: Unity of Tacoma; Oak Park;

Olcott of Omaha; Richfield Springs; Wheeling; Indianapolis; Cincinnati; Wallace (revived); Nebraska of Lincoln; Dayton; Fort Wayne; Peoria; and Annie Besant of Louisville.

Eight Lodges were dissolved, namely: German Morning Star; Wallace; Danvers; Wilmington; White; Olcott of Orange; Muskegon; and Meadville; some of which have long been more or less inactive. One was re-chartered the next month after its dissolution.

The following were consolidated with other Lodges: Millenium with Calgary; Alcyone of Detroit with Unity; Lotus of Vancouver with Vancouver; Nebraska of Lincoln with Lincoln; making in all eleven Lodge Charters surrendered.

Thus the year ends with a total Lodge list of 157, or a net gain of one Lodge.

#### REPORTS OF BUREAUS

Mr. E. B. Catlin, Head of the Prison Reform Bureau, reports forty prisoners at Leavenworth interested, and a fortnightly class conducted by Dr. Lindbergh of Kansas City. Up to July 1 of this year 411 men have been supplied with correspondents, and many discharged prisoners have been helped to a better life.

Mr. Frank L. Reed, Head of the Music Correspondence Bureau, reports two years' devoted work by Mrs. J. W. Wright, Mrs. K. P. Gurley and Mrs. N. E. Young. They have put out a four-page leaflet monthly since last December; the receipts are 21.78 and expenses \$56.47;

eighty-six persons are reached; contributions are solicited.

Mrs. Blanche S. Hillyer, Head of the Correspondence Bureau, reports continued work with last year's correspondents, and work with prisoners at Leavenworth, Lansing and Jefferson City. "Golden Chains" have been placed in the Wichita schools, and ordered for Superior.

Miss Eugenie Honold, Head of the Correspondence Bureau for New Members, writes of an increase in membership and continuation of classes in MAN AND HIS BODIES, THE ANCIENT WISDOM, THE ASTRAL PLANE, and THE BHAGAVAD GITA.

Miss Julia E. Johnsen, Head of the Library Catalogue Bureau, reports continued revision and complete indexing of THE AMERICAN THEOSOPHIST. It is planned to transfer all finished work to Krotona. Members are invited to use this source of information.

Mrs. Viola Marshall-Watson, Head of the Mystic Drama League, writes of five plays and several selected scenes with great success at Besant Hall, Chicago. *Everyman and The Servant in the House* were included.

Mr. Norris Rakestraw, Head of the Round Table in America, reports great efficiency in the organization, with especial praise for Winnipeg. There are now seven active Tables with sixty members. A Correspondence Table has been established.

Miss Hazel G. Collins, Head of the Braille Literature for the Blind Bureau, reports the purchase of a new machine for \$194.30, and \$79.69 in the treasury. The only expense is heating the room in which the work is done. By this time THOUGHT POWER has been printed, and it is expected to put the whole library into running order shortly. Ill health on the part of several workers has delayed it thus far.

Miss Marjorie Tuttle, Head of the Lotus Circle, reports that there are now twelve active Circles in this country. Five were started this year, and five promise to start in the fall. The chief obstacle is the lack of teachers. Sometimes the children are eager to be taught, but can find no one to guide them. This country is very backward in Lotus work, but the Servants of the Star partially fill the gap.

Mr. J. C. Myers, Head of the Stereopticon Bureau, reports as follows: Twenty-one sets of slides (meaning our three-standard sets, *Reincarnation, The Constitution and Powers of Man and Great World-Teachers* being sent out that number of times) loaned during this period, to eleven cities; the same number of sets last year to twelve cities; 120 slides sold last year; 146 slides sold this year; making an increase of 26 slides over last year's sales. We have \$35.00 in the treasury, and 5.00 outstanding. Last year's report shows \$15.58 cash on hand, and 21.30 outstanding. The Bureau holds its own, as it were, and remains self-supporting. Good reports come in, in most cases, where slides have been used.

Mrs. Julia A. Myers, Head of the Lecture

Bureau, reports as follows: Total number of lectures circulated, 52. Last year, 67; a decrease of 15. The average of four lectures per month has been sent out in eleven months. She has a balance on hand to date of \$9.68. There were no new donations or new lectures sent to the Bureau this past year.

## FIELD WORKERS

Mr. Cooper visited 46 cities, 60 Lodges, and gave 352 lectures. Mr. Cooper's value to the Section as a lecturer is greatly felt wherever he goes. Aside from his growing ability, he bears a spirit of devotion, gentleness and steadfastness that means much, especially to the spiritual side of the work.

Mrs. Rogers's work covered a period of 11 months and 2 weeks; 35 cities in 18 States were visited. He confined his work in new territory to 13 cities. Classes were formed in all these, but only six Lodges were organized, the other centres being left to grow stronger before being chartered. Mrs. Rogers did valuable follow-up work in holding classes, and Mr. Charles Hampton able advance work. The cost of Mr. Rogers's activities in new territory was \$1,846.20. His report when read will show details.

As previously reported in THE MESSENGER, Mr. Unger had given three or four days every fortnight from a busy life to the lecture field, visiting many cities and creating a vital interest in Theosophy. It is indeed a matter of deep regret that this useful career should have been cut short by a mortal disease, and his departure means a great loss to the Section.

Miss McQueen visited 22 cities in a voluntary tour from Atlantic to Pacific, giving public lectures and forming classes. Her work has been found useful.

Dr. Mitchell lectured twice in New York, Cleveland and Memphis (which latter city is virgin soil, Theosophically speaking), and once each at Houston, Galveston, Fort Worth, Denver, Salt Lake City, Berkeley, Oakland, three times in San Francisco and six times in Dallas. Total audiences, 833.

Mrs. Bartlett spoke four times at Santa Rosa, three times at Sacramento, four times at Fresno, and spoke for the formation of Lodges at Sebastopol and Bakersfield. She also urged a non-affiliated band of Theosophists at Stockton, California, to unite with the T. S.

Mrs. Read covered a large territory during the year, lecturing on behalf of Krotona and Theosophy generally. Her work has met with much appreciation.

## DIVISIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Blum of Kansas City, Missouri, Divisional Representative for the Middle West, reports active work in his Division. A conference was held in Kansas City before the 1914 Convention. The field work of Mr. Cooper, Mr. Unger, Mr. Rogers, Miss Holbrook and Miss McQueen is highly praised. Mr. Blum visited St. Louis twice; Omaha, Lincoln, Denver and Colorado



Springs once each. He also visited Minneapolis, Duluth and Superior outside his Division.

Mr. Stowe of Brooklyn, N. Y., Divisional Representative for the East, mentions the success of the Washington Convention, as well as Mr. Rogers's lectures in New England and Mr. Cooper's in the entire Section. Mrs. Ramus directed an H. P. B. Training Class in Brooklyn; four stereopticon lectures were given in New York and Newark; and Mrs. A. Ross Read toured the Eastern Division with an appreciated lecture on Krotona. The chief drawback was the secession of Wilmington Lodge.

Mr. Ray Wardall, of Seattle, Washington, Divisional Representative for the Northwest, reports successful lectures given in Victoria, Vancouver, Spokane, Tacoma and Everett by Mrs. Josephine Wardall. All the Lodges are growing fast—Everett trebled. The Division now owns a printing-press at Vancouver, and publishes the magazine *ESOTERIC CHRISTIANITY*. It has just entertained Mr. Cooper at Lake Shawnigan, and looks forward to follow-up lectures by him, Miss McQueen and Mrs. Wardall.

Mr. Smith of Austin, Texas, Divisional Representative for the South, reports that the two Lodges in New Orleans work harmoniously and successfully. Miss McQueen's trip was most advantageous to the Texas Lodges, three of which are barely holding their own, while the rest (with Oklahoma City) are flourishing.

Mr. Unger, the late Divisional Representative for the Great Lakes Division, held his post up to the date of his untimely death, and labored in it until his disease struck him down. No successor has as yet been formally appointed to succeed him.

It has seemed fitting that the Division in which Krotona is located should be located at headquarters, and so Mr. Knudsen has succeeded Mr. Walters as Divisional Representative of the Southwest. Mr. Knudsen has been active in his Division. He has lectured in the greater part of his Division, and very many times in the South. He helped many of his Lodges to systematize their work, and especially in the matter of issuing programs regularly.

#### JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Judiciary Committee renders a report which can only be taken as the individual opinion of that particular member, as it lacked the necessary basis of a personal conference with the other members.

Here I wish to comment upon the impracticability of having the Judiciary Committee spread across the country, and I recommend that the Committee elected this year consist of two lawyers and one layman located within reasonable distance of each other.

#### THE BOOK CONCERN

Mrs. E. R. Broenniman has filled the post of Manager of the Book Concern with noteworthy ability. Due to her mastery of the business and her tireless attention to details, the business

has been brought to the point where for the first time in its history I feel it promises to become not only financially profitable to the Section but richly productive in propaganda results. I believe if this business could be left in her hands for a few years without the burden of other duties, she would develop it to proportions that would mark it as perhaps the most important arm of our Service. The Book Concern could not inaugurate methods for the extension of its sales without at the same time extending the propaganda activities of the Section. I have no doubt that a manager of Mrs. Broenniman's rare ability, her deep love for the spread of Theosophy and tireless energy, could in time succeed in placing some of our books in every public library in America, besides opening up other channels of book propaganda in connection with our Lodges and traveling lecturers. The prospect seems brilliant in possibilities.

#### THE MESSENGER

Our official magazine has performed its functions this year in the small scope of 32 pages. I have found this all too small and somewhat out of keeping with the dignity and importance of the American Section. I believe we should increase its size, but I would not be in favor of our having a gift magazine larger than 48 pages.

It also should be provided with a suitable cover. Although the American Section is almost, if not quite, the largest Section in the world, it has the only Sectional journal in the world that is without a cover.

#### THE AMERICAN THEOSOPHIST

I can at this time report conclusively upon the financial status of the late *AMERICAN THEOSOPHIST*. The public accountant employed to audit the books, after giving full consideration to the published claims with regard to this account, reported that the donated fund has been fully and legitimately used on behalf of the magazine, and that more has been spent besides. His statement shows a deficit of \$3,130.37 due to the Section by the magazine. All data upon which these figures are based are now and have at all times been open for inspection and verification.

#### PUBLICITY

I should like to add that the official financial records of all kinds are always open in all departments of the T. S. activities to the inspection of any and all members who may wish to get the facts at first hand, and the fullest examination of these is invited at all times.

#### LIBRARY

Since my previous annual report the Coffeen Library, which was announced as having been bequeathed to the Krotona Library, has been received. It consisted of about eight hundred volumes, the most of them more or less valuable to a properly equipped Theosophic library.

Books have been received throughout the year for review in our magazine, and these have all been placed in the American Section's department of the library. We hope in time to succeed in gathering a collection of books here which will be second to none in the country in their value along occult, mystical and Theosophical lines.

Mr. Frederick Spenceley, F. T. S., a man enjoying a wide reputation as a book-plate designer and engraver, has generously made for the library a most beautiful book-plate and presented it as an act of loving service.

### THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF RELIGIOUS PHILOSOPHIES

When the plans were made for the International Congress of Religious Philosophies, it was contemplated to have the T. S. sponsor it as an undertaking that would approach somewhat in dignity the famous Parliament of Religions of 1893. On that great occasion there were present such widely-known names as our President, Mrs. Annie Besant, the late Swami Vivekananda, William Q. Judge, and Messrs. Chatterji and Chakravarti. For the proposed occasion our President had promised to speak for Theosophy, and said she could probably find those who would represent Indian faiths, and promised to try. We relied on this and the reasonable certainty of inducing distinguished persons from Europe and America to be present. But when the war came on, and it was seen that neither our President nor anyone else from Asia or Europe would be able to come, it was deemed wise to abandon the undertaking altogether rather than make the T. S. responsible for what, under the circumstances, could not fail to fall below the ideals with which it started out.

### THE EXPOSITION BOOTH

The proposal for a booth at the Exposition came originally from Mr. Walters of San Francisco, and at his suggestion I invited the various General Secretaries to contribute their publications for exhibition. Mr. Power succeeded in securing an unusually good location for it in connection with the Buddhists. But there was a lack of unanimity in the Board as to the advisability of the proposal and so I offered the Bay Cities Lodges the work of carrying it out, and literature for them has been duly provided. Much credit is due Mr. Walters and those aiding him for making this useful propaganda venture a success.

### MRS. BESANT AND MR. LEADBEATER

Naturally much disappointment was felt about the inability of Mrs. Besant to come to America, as she had planned to do at the time of the Congress referred to, but, as she dramatically put it: "The War changes all . . . Everything is practically in the melting-pot here and in Europe, and our philosophies are being tested not by arguments but by life. It

is all very well." Although she has not been with us for six years, there is not a Section in the world that bears toward her a warmer affection and a more devoted loyalty.

Judging from a recent remark of the President's, it may be that Mr. Leadbeater is free to remain outside India for some time, and if so, I hope the Convention will do itself and the American Section the honor to send him an official invitation to make the Section an extended visit at its expense, although it would seem doubtful if at this time he could consider leaving Australia for very many months.

### KROTONA

The last annual report of the Krotona organization showed a healthy growth. The property is being steadily improved, the Institute courses are being normally attended by students from various States, the number of visitors is steadily increasing, and the interest in the centre and its great future possibilities is becoming more and more widespread. The debt on the property has been considerably cut down, and we shall burn at this Convention the oldest of the mortgages which Mr. Shutts has just paid off.

Mr. Knudsen and his mother have completed their beautiful home at the entrance of Krotona and have generously constructed for Krotona, at their own expense, a fine *escalier* leading up to the site reserved for the proposed future splendid Temple of Theosophy, to which I shall later refer. Mrs. Duff also has completed her beautiful home on the hills just above us and, with the aid of Mrs. Russak and Mr. Hotchner, has improved the surroundings most extensively. These and Mr. Hotchner's adjacent land developments of lots for members have added greatly to the beauty and value of our centre.

The little tract of land generously donated to Krotona last year, by a member who wished his name withheld from publication, has been partially improved. Mr. Arscott, our gardener, has extended winding paths through it, set up rustic benches and a little rest-house, and has planted innumerable trees and shrubs therein. This promises to be one of the most attractive features of the grounds.

When our President asked me to establish this centre, she drew a plan for a large structure to be erected in the form of a Greek Cross, the four wings to be used for various purposes. A recent visitor was so much impressed with the idea of such a Temple of Theosophy here, located on the brow of our hill, that she donated \$1,000.00 as a nucleus of a fund that some day soon is intended to grow large enough to accomplish what is planned. The donor believes, as do many others, that it would be most desirable if at least one of the wings were finished in time to receive the Personage whom our President has announced. Besides the wings to be used for T. S. lecture hall, library, ceremonials and esoteric purposes, there is a wing



planned to contain various fully equipped shrines dedicated to all of the great world-religions. To have here a religious centre of such universal extent is a striking idea, for it means the putting of the universality of Theosophy into enduring, visible form.

It must be borne in mind also that a site has been cleared for the use of a future building for the Section's official headquarters activities. The corner stone has been duly laid, bearing the inscription: "The American Section of the T. S." When the mortgages are fully paid I hope to see the money raised for this building. But for the present the need is not pressing, as the Section's offices are very comfortably located in the original building on the estate.

### EFFICIENCY

The practical efficiency side of the work has markedly improved this year under Mrs. Broenniman's able management of the T. S. and Book Concern offices. Mrs. Broenniman's talents are strongly developed in this respect, and it is due to her genius that the Section has been so economically managed.

While reasonable efficiency should always be expected from the workings of the Society, yet I doubt if the same frantic pressure and drive can ever be legitimately expected of us such as exists in the outside business world, where a desperate competition has produced an excellence of service that has somewhat spoiled people for anything less perfect. But the T. S. has not generally the same resources either in talents or capital, and may never have them. Moreover, the spirit of the Moloch of business has not yet found a place in our Society. Therefore if sometimes it became a question of pressing a willing but tired worker or delaying a little an order or a letter, I fear I should always be inclined to indulge the more brotherly and compassionate course, and hope for a bit of patience and understanding at the other end.

### POPULAR GOVERNMENT

The question of a more popular form of government in our Section seems to arise continually. The Convention of 1914 took the most definite step and instructed the Judiciary Committee to prepare and submit an amended set of By-Laws more in keeping with popular government. The Committee has been unable to bring in a joint report, owing to the inability of the members to meet in joint conference with one another. Not only in this case but in all future cases will the Judiciary Committee be impotent to act as they should, so long as we continue the absurdity of appointing members who live long distances from one another. Therefore, in order that the Convention may have a uniform and approximately complete basis of discussion before it, I shall myself submit to this Convention a set of amendments in the preparation of which I have been aided

by Mr. Carlos S. Hardy, an expert in the law of fraternal societies. I have also asked for expressions of opinion from other members.

As the members know, their Section is a corporation chartered under the Laws of the State of Illinois, with the usual President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Board of Directors as the officers intended to conduct the business of the corporation. But instead of being conducted along this line, as is the case in other corporations, we have allowed our old customs which were in effect prior to incorporation to rule, and therefore the General Secretary's office under the present By-Laws is practically doing the duties of the President, Secretary and Treasurer of the corporation.

Under the proposed amendments which I am submitting herewith, I am suggesting that the regular corporate officers as above mentioned shall normally conduct the affairs of the Section so that the President shall have only his proper executive duties to perform and the other officers their rightful administrative duties, according to the customs of such corporations. Under this arrangement your General Secretary would be your President, the chief executive officer; your Assistant General Secretary would be your Secretary, charged with all the clerical and detail duties; your Treasurer would be a check on the Secretary, and the Editorial, Propaganda and Book Concern duties would also be passed over to departmental heads. Thus your President would be free to supervise the entire workings of the Section, and sometimes to move throughout the Section and so come into touch with the Lodges and the members personally. The arrangement raises in dignity the position of Assistant General Secretary; it imposes the responsibility of the editorship of the magazine upon a special officer delegated for that duty, and widens the responsibility of the heads of the Book Concern and the Propaganda departments.

These officers are proposed to be elected as follows: The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, the Board of Trustees and the Judiciary Committee by the Convention; and the Secretary, the Editor, the Propaganda Manager, the Book Concern Manager and National Lecturers, being as they are functional and business departments, to be chosen by the Board of Trustees.

Other amendments are included, such as making the President only the temporary Chairman of the Convention, and giving to the Convention the power to appoint all committees. But the further changes will be seen when amendments are read section by section.

These proposals subserve the ends of popular government more fully than the present By-Laws, but it is a matter of serious importance that the Convention should carefully consider whether these or any similar proposals ought to be adopted at this Convention or whether they should first be published for the inspection of the full membership and referred to a prop-

erly constituted Judiciary Committee that can meet and confer over the various proposals and then report back to the following Convention in the form of a matured recommendation. I know that strong opinions are held by members in the Section contrary to the spirit that is embraced in these proposals, as well as strong opinions in their favor. I know also there are those who favor a year's consideration of any such new proposals. Let those be reminded, however, who would seek to deprive the Board of Trustees of the power to make By-Laws, that this power is granted to all corporations in the State of Illinois, and, so far as I know, to all in other States throughout the United States, and cannot be taken away. Moreover, the General Council—which is the Board of Trustees of the T. S., of which Mrs. Besant is President—has this same power, and I believe it is legitimate and necessary.

As to my opinion I seriously doubt whether governments based upon pure democracy will really live; likewise I doubt that a pure autocracy can live. My belief rather is that the future government will embrace these two principles with a third—that of social brotherhood—making a balanced trinitarian form of government rather than an unbalanced, one-sided form. In fact, I am in favor of any form of government that minimizes the pernicious tendency to

elevate politics above Theosophy. For the members to come together in Convention every year to wrangle over by-laws and officers as their chief activity, is subversive of the high principles and opportunities which ought to find expression in these annual meetings of our members. As I take it, there is nothing so important in our Section as the development of the spirit of brotherhood and co-operation, and if we could only look forward to our annual conventions with feelings of joy, and consider them a sacred opportunity for members living over vast areas to come together and learn to understand one another better, to increase the spirit of brotherhood and co-operation, and to exchange Theosophical ideas and plans, then these gatherings would be veritable blessings to us all and to the work in general. But if politics once becomes the chief end of these gatherings, fraught with all the repugnant practices inherent therein—practices that Theosophical theorists so much condemn in the outer world—then will our system of government need radical reformation.

I thank all the members for the strong co-operation given to the administration during the year, and hope our deliberations here in Convention will be so wisely ordered as to mean much to the future progress of the work of the Section.

## MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL CONVENTION of THE AMERICAN SECTION OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

Held in the Exposition Memorial Auditorium, Hall "I", Civic Centre,  
Monday and Tuesday, July 26 and 27, 1915

The Convention was called to order at 9:30 a. m., Monday, July 26, by Mr. Warrington, in the Chair.

MR. WARRINGTON: As this is a meeting for members only of the American Section, if by any possibility there should be any person present who is not a member of the Society, may I ask that such person will accept this explanation and withdraw from the meeting?

MRS. HOPE: My daughter was born and reared in the T. S., though she is not an actual member. Must she retire?

MR. WARRINGTON: I am very sorry, but I believe she must. Mrs. Broenniman suggests that we have application blanks, however. (Laughter.)

MRS. HOPE: Give me the blank. (Came forward and filled out application blank.)

The meeting opened with a musical number by Miss Goedhart, succeeded by a few moments of meditation, for which Mr. Warrington suggested the remembrance of the Great Ones in whose name the meeting was being held.

MR. WARRINGTON: The first business is to hear the report of the Credentials Committee.

MR. WALTON: The Committee has been steadily at work since Friday afternoon, with from ten to sixteen helpers at different times, considering, counting, checking and totalling the proxies. Up to midnight last night the report showed 1,833 valid proxies. After consultation with the proper officers of the General Secretary's office, the Committee reports, Mr. Chairman, that in person and represented by proxy there are over 1,900 members; so that there is a quorum present and the Convention may legally proceed to do business.

The Committee's record shows the proxies were held as follows:

Mrs. E. M. Amery, 7; Nils Arneson, 1; Mrs. Amelia Allen, 2; Darwin Allen, 2; Miss B. Banning, 4; Miss Anna Bloomquist, 6; Miss Annie Bird, 1; E. Y. Blum, 1; Mrs. E. R. Broenniman, 132; J. Harry Carnes, 1; Mrs. Elda Cardner, 1; Mrs. B. B. Cavan, 1; Edwin B. Catlin, 1; Mrs. Mae Criswell, 2; Mrs. A. Cox, 8; Irving S. Cooper, 63; O. W. Dahl, 3; Mrs. A. E. de Leeuw, 4; Mrs. Lillie M. Dick, 2; Mrs. Mary



T. Dunbar, 1; Mrs. Grace Shaw Duff, 13; Miss Eaton, 6; J. T. Eklund, 6; J. E. Ferris, 11; Olaf Folden, 2; Miss Mary Fouraker, 8; Miss Clara Ficken, 1; Mrs. H. W. Fisher, 1; E. Grant Garney, 1; Miss Anna Goedhart, 2; Mrs. Jennie Griffin, 5; George H. Hall, 1; Mrs. Hanchett, 1; Carlos S. Hardy, 3; Mrs. Nora Hoegelsberger, 1; C. V. Hickling, 1; Elliott Holbrook, 30; Mrs. Ada Hurd, 1; Miss Isabel B. Holbrook, 11; Miss Florence Hurd, 7; C. F. Holland, 67; Henry Hotchner, 15; Miss Ada Kershaw, 1; Miss Minna Kunz, 1; Mrs. Kuphal, 2; A. F. Knudsen, 77; Dr. Kuznik, 1; Mrs. Kyle, 1; Mrs. Land, 1; Mrs. Lang, 1; Dr. Lindberg, 8; J. W. Lovell, 1; Mrs. Mary C. McFarland, 11; Miss Annie C. McQueen, 3; Miss Margaret Miklau, 4; Burdell F. Miller, 1; H. F. Monro, 1; D. Mortimer, 1; Thore Netland, 1; Frank Passmore, 27; Capt. F. J. Primavesi, 1; Dr. Plumb, 1; Miss Marie Poutz, 433; Mrs. Clara N. Rakestraw, 2; Wentworth Rice, 2; Mrs. M. Robertson, 2; L. W. Rogers, 184; Mrs. Dora Rosner, 6; Mrs. May S. Rogers, 34; Mrs. Marie B. Russak, 31; Mrs. A. Ross Read, 20; Mrs. Aniser Schmidt, 1; H. C. Stowe, 39; Mrs. H. C. Stowe, 7; Miss Julia K. Sommer, 81; C. O. Scudder, 9; Mrs. C. O. Scudder, 7; Mrs. J. A. Shepard, 6; George H. Shibley, 9; Mrs. H. H. Shutts, 2; H. H. Shutts, 6; F. H. Smith, 1; Miss Jean Stovel, 20; Miss Helen J. Swain, 3; Mrs. A. H. Taffinder, 6; Thomas H. Talbot, 2; William S. Taylor, 13; Mrs. Agnes B. Thomas, 1; A. E. Thomas, 1; Mrs. Addie M. Tuttle, 1; Miss Marjorie Tuttle, 11; Mrs. Florence Ussher, 2; Dr. Weller Van Hook, 3; W. J. Walters, 9; Mrs. W. J. Walters, 1; Robert K. Walton, 1; Mrs. Elizabeth M. Wardall, 1; Miss Minnie Weirick, 3; Mrs. Amelia Weitman, 6; F. G. Wilhelm, 6; Mrs. Lucy H. Woods, 1; A. P. Warrington, 77; Dr. George H. Wright, 49; Max Wardall, 175; Ray Wardall, 6; Miss Cora Lillian Zemansky, 1. Total, 1,871.

Not listed, 21; paid less than six months, 5; defective, 35; not paid dues, 206; duplicates, 354. Total, 621.

MR. WARRINGTON: Under the By-Laws of the Section, the General Secretary is made the Chairman of its Annual Meetings. I am going to ask the Convention, as I have done for the past two years, to relieve me of that duty and, if a nomination is forthcoming, we will proceed to elect a permanent Chairman.

MR. MUNSON: I move that Mr. Max Wardall be nominated as permanent Chairman of this Convention. (Seconded, voted upon and carried.)

MR. WARDALL (in the chair): Fellow Theosophists, I deeply appreciate this testimony of your confidence in me, and ask you to accord me the same degree of patience and consideration during the transactions of the Convention that I will try to give to you. If you will do so, I think our business will be facilitated and we will make progress happily toward a successful conclusion.

The next order of business is the consideration of the Order of Business. That is one of

the provisions of the By-Laws, but it does not appear to have any great significance to me. I think we can move on to the consideration of the Minutes of the previous meeting. It has been the custom heretofore to have a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the previous Convention, inasmuch as those proceedings have been printed in THE MESSENGER.

MR. WALTERS: I move that the General Secretary, or whomsoever he may appoint, read the Minutes of the last Convention, in order that the whole matter taking place at that time may be made fresh in the minds of the delegates present at this Convention. (This motion was lost.)

It was moved by Mrs. Courtright that we dispense with the reading of the Minutes. (Seconded and carried.)

CHAIRMAN: The next order of business is the reading of the reports of the general officers.

MR. SCUDDER: I would like to inquire whether the Minutes of last year have been approved.

CHAIRMAN: They have not. Do you make a motion to that effect?

MRS. BROENNIMAN: If any one requests that the Minutes of the last meeting be read, have we any right to dispense with the reading?

CHAIRMAN: What will you do with the Minutes of the previous meeting?

MRS. COURTRIGHT: I move that the Minutes of the last meeting, at Washington, D. C., be approved as printed in the official organ of the Society, THE MESSENGER. (Seconded and carried.)

CHAIRMAN: We will now proceed to the reports of the general officers. The first report will be that of the General Secretary. (Followed the reading by Mr. Warrington of his report. On the reading of the suggestion therein of an invitation to Mr. Leadbeater to visit the Section, there was prolonged applause; also at the suggestion that any form of government is superior to that form now in force in the T. S. if it eliminate politics, there was applause.)

You have heard the reading of the Secretary's report. If there are no objections, it will be referred to the Resolutions Committee. That Committee has not yet been created, but it will be very shortly. We will now have the report of the Treasurer.

MR. HOLLAND: That report has already been printed in THE MESSENGER, and, as it consists mostly of figures which appear in the magazine, it seems hardly necessary to me that it should be read now.

Moved by MR. SHUTTS, and seconded, that the report of the Treasurer showing the financial statement be read. (Voted upon and carried.)

MR. HOLLAND: You will notice that the financial report is much more copious in this Convention than has formerly been the custom. It contains details that do not properly belong to the Treasurer. The part of it that belongs to the Treasurer is as follows: (Reading of

report.) The report of the assets and liabilities is not properly a part of the Treasurer's report, but, if any one would like to hear it, it may be read. (Some one called for it, and it was read.) You will also find the statement and conclusions of the expert accountant in THE MESSENGER. (Mr. Holland then explained the recommendations of Mr. Rose by Mr. Thomasson as a Certified Accountant, explaining that Mr. Thomasson is a member of the T. S.)

Los Angeles, Calif.,  
July 23, 1915.

Mr. A. P. WARRINGTON,  
General Secretary of the American Section T. S.  
Dear Mr. Warrington:

With reference to Mr. Harry J. Rose, who has audited the accounts of the Section this year, you will doubtless remember that on my recommendation he audited the Section accounts in 1914.

I understand Mr. Rose is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Quebec, Canada; that he was in business for himself in Vancouver, B. C., as a Public Accountant, undertaking much of the outside work there for the Bank of Montreal.

In Los Angeles he has worked for The Audit Company of Los Angeles, and the Mushet Audit Company (Mr. W. C. Mushet having been Auditor to the City of Los Angeles for two years), and Mr. W. C. Mushet told me personally that Mr. Rose was one of the best men he had ever had.

He is at present in business for himself as a Public Accountant, and is Auditor for the El Segundo Land & Improvement Company, one of the largest real estate companies in Los Angeles.

I think that you will find his work quite reliable and satisfactory.

I am, yours sincerely,  
(Signed)

T. W. THOMASSON.

CHAIRMAN: You have heard the reading of the Treasurer's report. What will you do with it?

MR. WALTERS: I do not wish to take up time, but I rise for a point of information from our Treasurer. On looking over this report there were certain things not quite clear to me, and they might not be clear to some of the delegates. On pages 89 and 90 the assets there shown are:

"Furniture and Fixtures.....	\$1,111.90
Library .....	250.00
Lantern Slides"	

and so on. It was the first two and a third items I was particularly interested in. These are included in the *Assets*. Turning to the other side, we find (under *Depreciation*):

"Furniture and Fixtures .....	\$752.03
Library .....	309.96"

whereas the Furniture and Fixtures are only appraised at \$1,111.90 and the Library at \$250.00. It seemed to me that a depreciation of \$752 from a valuation of \$1,111 was a mistake that might have crept in, in some way. Again, we find the Library posted as an asset at \$250 and we find a depreciation of \$309.96. The third point—which is the one I was most interested in—was the matter of investment. While I am on my feet, perhaps you could enlighten me as to what that "Special Investment" was. Was it in connection with the money contributed to the American Section for the Society?

CHAIRMAN: What page, Mr. Walters?

MR. WALTERS: Page 89, under *Liabilities of THE AMERICAN THEOSOPHIST*. (Reading) "Special Investment by Theosophical Section, \$1,535.37," and again it occurs under *Assets of The American Section*, \$1,535.37. What does that investment consist of?

CHAIRMAN: Are you able to explain that, Mr. Holland?

MR. HOLLAND: Mr. Chairman, this report goes a long way beyond the province of Treasurer. The Treasurer is supposed to have nothing to do with anything except the cash. (Laughter.) Your report includes the assets and liabilities, and all those things that are not necessarily a part of the Treasurer's report, and has nothing to do with the valuing of those assets. I have no doubt that all the questions that pertain to these things could properly be explained by Mrs. Broenniman. Mrs. Broenniman can enlighten the Convention more than I could on these points.

CHAIRMAN: This report, together with the affidavits and statements, will be submitted to the Auditing Committee, and any one may appear before that Committee. I think that will facilitate our progress this morning. If there are any objections, they will be heard when the report of the Treasurer is referred to the Auditing Committee.

MR. HOLLAND: I think Mrs. Broenniman could answer those questions now.

CHAIRMAN: Mrs. Broenniman?

MRS. BROENNIMAN: With regard to the Furniture and Fixtures, that is a matter that is fresh from the hands of the Auditors. We are rather helpless when it comes to appraising these values. All I did was to hand in the properties as I saw them in the office. Of course, they always mark off a decided depreciation.

With regard to the Library, I took that up also because I thought that rather remarkable. It seems that the Library consists largely of books that are sent in by authors and publishers for review, and they are largely in the nature of novels or light literature, which, I understand, does depreciate about three-fourths in value in the course of a year, so that the Library last year was appraised much higher; although Mr. van Vliet, the Librarian, in whose care the books are kept, handed us the figures this year as very much lower, the Section actually contributing fewer books as to real value this year than last, and the depreciation being very materially increased.

I did not get Mr. Walter's point on the third item.

MR. WALTERS: It is immaterial, except that I asked for enlightenment on the point of investment—Exhibit No. 3, page 89—of \$1,535.37.

MRS. BROENNIMAN: That has to do with THE AMERICAN THEOSOPHIST. In June of last year—you remember last year in Washington it was told that in June, 1913, there was a complete division, as far as the books were concerned, between the properties of THE AMERICAN THEOSOPHIST and those of the American Section,



and that all has to do with that. It seems to me it is peculiarly one of those book accounts that is very difficult for the layman to grasp. You see it is carried on both sets of books—on THE AMERICAN THEOSOPHIST as a liability and on the American Section of the T. S. as an asset, so it is as broad as it is long.

MR. WALTERS: That would seem to indicate a case of being *in statu quo*.

MRS. BROENNIMAN: The bookkeeper is here and can readily explain it.

CHAIRMAN: I suppose that might come before the Auditing Committee.

MR. SCUDDER: I feel that the splendid financial showing of the Section has been largely due to the excellent management of the Assistant General Secretary, Mrs. Broenniman, and I would like to make a motion that she receive the cordial thanks of this Convention for her splendid work along this line during the past year.

MRS. BROENNIMAN: I should like to say that I appreciate this very much indeed, but I feel that any success of this administration has been due chiefly to the wonderful patience of the members of the American Section, who have been so tolerant and so long-suffering.

CHAIRMAN: I will now receive that motion. (Seconded and unanimously carried.)

At this point telegrams were read from the following:

BROTHERHOOD LODGE OF ST. LOUIS, hoping to welcome the Convention to their city next year.

DULUTH LODGE, containing a Resolution of confidence in Mr. Warrington.

CLEVELAND, from the Mayor of the city, inviting the American Section to hold its next Convention there.

SAN JOSE, from the Chamber of Commerce, inviting the members to visit that city.

The Convention then received greetings from different Lodges through representative members: MR. DAHL of Huntington Lodge, Boston; MRS. COURTRIGHT of the Annie Besant Lodge, Louisville. (This Lodge owns the building where its rooms are located, and some beautiful photographs were shown illustrating the building, rooms and auditorium.) Mrs. Courtright said, in part: "Our auditorium would seat the Convention, and there are plenty of other rooms, so that the Convention could be held right in our own building, at no expense to the Section; and the building is so centrally located that no one would need to pay car fare to attend the meetings."

MRS. PHILLIPS presented greetings from the Cleveland Lodge and their Federation, and extended an invitation to the Convention to hold its next meeting there. She said: "While Louisville claims to be the geographical centre, I am sure that Cleveland is the magnetic centre of our Section."

MRS. BROENNIMAN: Mr. Chairman, I see that we shall have to hold a progressive Convention next year.

MRS. WEITMAN brought greetings from the

Oakland Lodge, which she said was the *spiritual* centre, but she couldn't guarantee free car fares, and the only way to avoid paying them would be to use the jitney.

MR. ROBERT FLEMING brought greetings from St. Louis, and expressed the earnest wish that the Convention would meet there next year.

MR. SCUDDER: I am quite sure that Mr. Holland and Mr. Warrington will unite with me in saying that the highest vibrations in this country will be found in the neighborhood of Los Angeles. It does seem to me that the members of this Convention couldn't have their vibrations raised better than by meeting next year in the city of Los Angeles.

MR. SIMPSON of New York (Unity Lodge): New York seems so far away from all these other places that I don't know what to say, except that we have had Billy Sunday, who has just been in Paterson—and Paterson is near by—and probably we have "vibrations" to compare with any. Coming from New York, however, I do not dare usurp the prerogative of the Paterson members.

CHAIRMAN: We have here on file an invitation from the Paterson (New Jersey) Lodge to hold our next Convention there, supported by apparently excellent reasons.

MR. COOPER: I think it would be well to appoint a Neutrality Board on this matter, probably some of the most muscular men in the Society.

CHAIRMAN: Among the communications there are a number of official invitations which probably had better be referred to at this time; one from the Secretary and members of the St. Louis Convention and Publicity Bureau, in which they extend a cordial invitation to us to hold our next Convention there, and that is reinforced by the Mayor of the City, the Associated Retailers, the Merchants' Exchange and the Missouri Botanical Garden. Also, here is an official invitation from the Kansas City Lodge to meet there next year, including invitations from different headquarters there and promising us practically free accommodations. (Laughter and applause.) This will be kept on file! We have also a letter from Mr. Charles Hampton concerning the invitation from Louisville; also a letter from Albany Lodge, inviting us to meet in New York, suggesting that the cause of Theosophy would be much vitalized by meeting in the most important city in the United States.

MISS SOMMER: I bring greetings from the Chicago Theosophical Association of Lodges, and also bring an invitation to you to hold the next Convention in Chicago.

MR. H. H. SHEPARD: Greetings from the far-away Edmonton Lodge. You know they say distance lends enchantment to the view, but I must say that this nearer inspection confirms the Edmonton members in the high opinion they have always had of our Sectional Conventions. There is also present from Canada a lady from Regina.

CHAIRMAN: May we see the "lady from Regina"?

MRS. E. M. AMERY arose and brought greetings from that Lodge.

MR. RICE of Salt Lake brought greetings from Salt Lake Lodge and said, while he didn't expect to have the Convention there, they did hope and expect us all when we came East to stop on our way through and visit them.

MR. DAVIS (from Waco, Texas—a member-at-large): I do not bring any Lodge greetings, but understand from the Traveling Representative, Mr. Dawkins, that the Lodges are doing very well down there in Texas.

MISS MARY FOURAKER of Dallas (Texas) Lodge, said their Lodge had been formed a year ago by Mr. Rogers, and the interest had been steadily maintained; that they had fifteen members, had harmonious meetings and expected to build up a strong centre.

Greetings from Genesee Lodge of Rochester, New York, were offered through Miss UPRON; also from Birmingham (Alabama) and San Antonio (Texas) Lodges, Miss WETHERBEE of the latter city expressing the hope that the Convention might sometime meet in San Antonio, as it is such a beautiful city.

MR. TAYLOR, of St. Paul (Minnesota) Lodge, enjoyed the distinction of not inviting us for the 1916 Convention, but spoke for holding it there in 1917.

MISS CORA ZEMLOCK brought greetings from the Wisconsin State Federation, as did MR. MEYERS from Minneapolis (Minnesota).

DR. WRIGHT, from Washington, D. C., reported an extremely healthy Theosophical year after the Convention held there last year, mentioning the fact that, while the members of the Washington Federation had gone down into their pockets to entertain the Convention, they had been more than repaid by the subsequent Theosophical activities in their centre, and suggested that it was well to remember that the Lord loveth cheerful givers.

MISS EATON, from Pittsburgh (Pennsylvania), MISS PARKER, from Reno (Nevada) Lodge, and MISS FAIN, from Oklahoma City (Oklahoma) were next heard from.

MR. ALLEN, of the San Francisco Lodge, expressed the appreciation of his Lodge for the courtesy and co-operation of the Bay City Lodges which had enabled San Francisco to invite and hold the Convention here. He said that while ordinarily Oakland and Berkeley and adjacent cities weren't noted for co-operating exactly with San Francisco—perhaps because they might be jealous of her desire to extend her city limits—that in this instance Oakland, Berkeley and Golden Gate Lodges had certainly co-operated most heartily and, on behalf of them all, he wished to confirm Mrs. Weitman's statement about Oakland being the spiritual centre.

DR. MITCHELL, from the Louisville (Kentucky) Lodge, said he certainly hoped it would be Louisville's good fortune to entertain the Convention next year, as suggested by Mrs.

Courtright of the Annie Besant Lodge in that city.

MISS FLORENCE HURD, president of Berkeley (California) Lodge, responded to Mr. Allen, and brought greetings to the Convention from the "intellectual centre."

MISS MARJORIE TUTTLE suggested that, in discussing future Conventions of the American Section, it might be well to come back to the present one, and she proposed a vote of thanks to the Bay City Lodges for their kindly courtesy and hospitality, which vote was seconded and unanimously carried.

CHAIRMAN: We will now proceed to the introduction of Resolutions.

MR. WARRINGTON: As an Appendix to my Annual Report, I wish to offer as a Resolution (A) an amended set of By-Laws which have been quickly thrown into print, and suggest that they need not be read before the Convention because I have had enough copies printed to give each member here one to read for himself. They will be distributed by Mr. Cooper at the end of this morning's session and, of course, will be disposed of according to the wish of the Convention in respect to a Resolutions Committee or otherwise. (He spoke of a few printer's errors in the rough proof, which were not to be interpreted literally, as the text had been taken partly from the old By-Laws and partly from fresh typewritten matter and had been done in great haste for Convention.)

CHAIRMAN: The Resolution will now be received.

MR. SCUDDER: As the Resolutions Committee will very likely be overworked, I would like to make a motion that the By-Laws, as proposed on this sheet, be referred to a special committee of three members for the purpose of consideration, and emendation if necessary, and report back to Convention. (Seconded.)

CHAIRMAN: You have heard the motion, which has been properly seconded—that, instead of referring these proposed By-Laws to the regular Resolutions Committee, they be referred to a special committee of three, to be appointed by the Chair.

MRS. BROENNIMAN: I should like to amend the Resolution so that the Judiciary Board, if present, constitute that Committee and, if they are not present, that a committee of three or five members be appointed.

CHAIRMAN: As I happen to be the only member of that Committee present, and have other important work pressing, I am afraid that would be impracticable, Mrs. Broenniman. Mr. Knudsen?

MR. KNUDSEN: Mrs. Broenniman has expressed my sentiments.

MR. ROGERS: I am heartily in favor of referring that important matter to a special committee, because the regular Resolutions Committee has its hands so full of business. Sound By-Laws are just as necessary to the future success and prosperity and happiness of the T. S. as sound health is to the individual. I am



in hearty agreement with Mr. Warrington in presenting this sort of a set of By-Laws and believe it is the big thing before this Convention, so it seems to me we should make no mistake in appointing a special committee to act upon and report back to this Convention.

MR. HOTCHNER: I wish to say that I am heartily in sympathy with the sentiments just expressed by Mr. Rogers and with the general tendency of the amendments proposed. I am heartily in favor of the sentiment that this is the one big thing before the Convention, and needs the most careful and weighty consideration.

MRS. BROENNIMAN: I should like to ask if this is to be passed over to a committee with the idea that it is to be reported back and acted upon by this Convention? I, too, think that it is a most important matter, and if we are considering amending the By-Laws, the greatest wisdom should be brought to bear upon it; but it would seem to me remarkable that, if this is a move for popular government, our Convention now assembled should assume the responsibility of passing upon such an important thing.

CHAIRMAN: There was nothing in the motion made that would suggest the idea that the Committee should report back to this Convention.

MR. ROGERS: It doesn't make any difference what the report of the Committee is; the Convention can accept any part of it or reject it all.

MRS. BROENNIMAN: The reason that I made that point, Mr. Chairman, was because if we are unanimous in feeling that it was an important matter, it must be sufficiently important to share with every member of the American Section, and the Judiciary Committee for the coming year would be the natural one to refer such a Resolution to for consideration. I believe that when the last By-Laws were made they were printed in the early fall, for the benefit of every member of the Section, and the opportunity was given every member to send in any suggestions or corrections he might deem desirable. They were printed again before the Annual Meeting, and so due time and consideration were given before any motion was made as to their acceptance.

CHAIRMAN: May the Chair make this suggestion: That this Committee be appointed, and let it recommend to the Convention the action that it wishes to be taken. By the appointing of this Committee we do not commit ourselves to adopt the By-Laws at this time. We may deem best to refer them to the next Convention and give the members time to deliberate, but the motion before the house is to the appointment of this Committee and, unless we have some other motion or remarks bearing directly upon that, I shall put the motion.

DR. LINDBERGH: I should like to know how much we have the right to do according to our Illinois charter—

MR. ROGERS: I rise to a point of order.

DR. LINDBERGH: —as to whether we can

upon those proposed By-Laws, or if it has to be done by a board which is part of our governing body.

CHAIRMAN: You mean the Board of Trustees? I think this Convention has full power to adopt.

MR. SCUDDER: Was that committee to be a committee of three or five?

MISS SOMMER: I ask for a point of information. Was it Mr. Scudder's idea that the Committee was to report back to this Convention and the Convention pass upon it then?

MR. SCUDDER: Yes; that was the idea.

MISS SOMMER: Mr. Chairman, then I feel that these By-Laws are too radical a change from the previous ones, and that every member of the Section has a right to know what is being done and to be heard—

MR. ROGERS: Point of order. The discussion of that matter must come after the appointment of the Committee. This Committee has not the power to determine whether the members shall hear about the By-Laws or not; but after the Committee has presented its report, then is the proper time for discussion.

CHAIRMAN: I think the point of order is not well taken; the point arises upon the motion to appoint a Committee to review these By-Laws, and Miss Sommer's question was as to the advisability of appointing a committee.

MR. ROGERS: But that Committee is to act simply in an advisory capacity. After the Committee has reported back to the Convention, the question will come up of what we shall do with that report. If that Committee recommends, as it may, that this be deferred and put before the membership, then is the time that we will debate that. It is not in debate now.

CHAIRMAN (to Miss Sommer): You may proceed.

MISS SOMMER: I feel, therefore, that instead of referring these By-Laws to a special committee, we ought to give our Judiciary Committee something to do and allow the members of the Section to have these through THE MESSENGER before next Convention; and, therefore, I move, as a substitute motion, that these By-Laws be referred to the new Judiciary Committee for the year and a report made to the next Convention. (Seconded.)

CHAIRMAN: It has been moved and seconded, as a substitute motion, that the proposed By-Laws be referred to the Judiciary Committee to be elected for the ensuing year—two members to be hold-overs and one to be elected—to report at the next Annual Convention. Are there any remarks on that substitute motion?

MR. ROGERS: The effect of that motion would be simply to apply the gag rule and take the whole matter out of this Convention. I move that the substitute motion be laid upon the table. (Seconded.)

MR. POWER: Mr. Chairman, for the benefit of some of us who may not understand parliamentary terms, will you explain just what it means to lay a motion on the table?

CHAIRMAN: Well, it practically disposes of it; it is equivalent to killing it. If the motion to lay on the table carries, then that will place Mr. Scudder's original motion before the house to give us a committee. It has been moved and seconded that this substitute motion be laid upon the table. (Carried.)

MISS SOMMER moved to lay Mr. Scudder's motion on the table. (Quashed.)

MR. WALTON moved the previous question.

CHAIRMAN: The motion now is to refer these By-Laws to a special committee of five, who will report back to this Convention. Are you ready for the question?

MRS. BROENNIMAN: It would seem to me that if our General Secretary has recommended them—and it is quite obvious from some of the remarks made here today that there are many familiar with them—I should like to ask if that isn't sufficient for any work that a committee might do at this time?

CHAIRMAN: The "ayes" have it. The Chair will appoint the following members for that special committee: Mr. Scudder, Mr. Rogers, Mrs. Broenniman, Mr. T. H. Talbot and Miss Stovel (of Seattle).

DE. WRIGHT: May I present a Resolution at this time?

(B) *Resolved*: That the General Secretary have prepared a series of several graded courses of study at Krotona, as a basis, to send out to Lodges for their class work.

CHAIRMAN: Any one has the right to offer Resolutions at this time from the floor. If your Resolutions are not ready now, you will have an opportunity to turn them in later, so you don't need to explain or elaborate your Resolutions.

MR. SCUDDER: I shall probably be misunderstood in presenting these Resolutions, but I believe that I am presenting them for the best interests of the T. S.:

(C-1) *Whereas*, the natural, proper and logical place for the locating of the Theosophical Headquarters of America is where the other Theosophical activities are located; and

*Whereas*, ground has been tendered the Society for the location of the National Headquarters' Building at Krotona; Therefore,

*Resolved*: That the Headquarters of the Society shall be permanently located at Krotona so long as Allied Theosophical Activities shall be so located.

(C-2) *Whereas*, the present system of a body corporate under which the Theosophical Society in America is working has been found to be unsuitable to a democratic form of government for the Society; Therefore,

*Resolved*: That the Board of Trustees is requested and is hereby directed to surrender the charter of this Society, and our Judiciary Committee is requested to formulate a plan for the government of the Society as a democracy, and present same in time for said plan to be in working operation at next Convention.

(I would say that this has been partly covered by the new set of By-Laws.)

(C-3) *Whereas*, this Convention is deeply interested in the success of Krotona, therefore this Convention desires information as to the amount of T. S. Building Fund, to which large sums of money have been donated, and this Convention also desires information as to the disposition of those funds.

(C-4) *Whereas*, past experience has shown that the

occupancy of the offices of the E. S. Head in America and that of the General Secretary of the American Section are incompatible and should not be centred in one person, for the following reasons:

(1) That the duties of either office furnish sufficient responsibility and duties for one person to fulfil; and

(2) For the further reason that there is constant temptation to use the power of one office to gain influence in the other; Therefore

*Resolved*: That it is the opinion of the Convention that henceforth the office of General Secretary shall not be held by the American E. S. Representative.

(C-5) *Whereas*, it appears that there is some difference of opinion upon the question of THE AMERICAN THEOSOPHIST and the claims of Mr. Elliott Holbrook thereunder; Therefore,

*Resolved*: That this Convention recommends that, with the view of settling this matter definitely, the question be referred to a special committee, to report back to this Convention during its present session.

(C-6) *Whereas*, the modern theory of government appears to be founded upon experience, divides the functions of government into the departments of Executive, Legislative and Judicial; and

*Whereas*, the T. S. believes in this principle, as evidenced by its Board of Trustees being the Legislative branch; the Judiciary Committee its Judicial branch; and its General Secretary as its Executive Officer; and

*Whereas*, it appears that the Executive branch has at various times usurped the prerogatives of the Legislative branch by representing the opinions of the Section without consultation with the Legislative branch, the Board of Trustees, who can alone represent the opinion of the Section between Conventions; Therefore,

*Resolved*: That this Convention take action to more fully interpret and define the duties of the Executive in this respect; and further

*Resolved*: That in all questions involving the opinions of the American Section the Board of Trustees is the sole representative of the Section in all matters involving legislation, and cannot delegate them to others.

(You are probably familiar—some of you, at least—with the circulars which I have sent out in reference to a certain matter.)

(C-7) *Whereas*, in THE THEOSOPHIST for June, 1915, our beloved President, Mrs. Besant, writes as follows: "Neither as President nor as Head of the E. S. will I advise in favor of any candidate for any elective office"; and again, "A Section is autonomous, and autonomy would be a farce if a President should throw his weight on one side or the other in a contested election"; and

*Whereas*, the General Secretary has within the last few weeks stated to a National Lecturer and to the present Treasurer, and to many others, as he admits, that he possessed a letter advising his election as General Secretary; and

*Whereas*, this Convention being loyal to our President, would welcome any expression of opinion from her on this subject; and

*Whereas*, the General Secretary has shown to the undersigned a letter which he claims expresses her preference for his re-election; and

*Whereas*, said letter is dated August 19, 1913, and, in my opinion, expresses no preference for the re-election of the General Secretary and has no bearing whatsoever on the present situation; Now, therefore,

*Resolved*: That this Convention requests the General Secretary to produce this letter and read the same, that the Convention may defend our President's neutrality as outlined by her in THE THEOSOPHIST above quoted.

CHAIRMAN: These Resolutions will be referred to the Resolutions Committee. The one that I suggest being set aside is the one where you ask for immediate action on THE AMERICAN THEOSOPHIST matter. Are there any further resolutions to be presented at this time?

MRS. BROENNIMAN: My Resolutions are mostly "shop," but, as it is necessary to go



through a certain form before certain things can be done, I will present them to you:

(D-1) *Whereas*, THE AMERICAN THEOSOPHIST no longer exists, it is recommended that at the settlement of the differences with Mr. Elliot Holbrook the accounts be closed, and the assets and liabilities of the said AMERICAN THEOSOPHIST be assumed by the American Section T. S.

(This one was suggested by Mr. Røse, and was only prepared with the idea of simplifying the bookkeeping.)

(D-2) *Whereas*, the propaganda literature, originally held as an asset upon the books of the Book Concern, has been transferred to those of the T. S.; Be it

*Resolved*: That this asset be returned to the Book Concern, with the understanding that the Section be granted the privilege of purchasing the same at cost prices for free propaganda purposes.

(D-3) *Whereas*, the Theosophical Publishing House today exists in name only, no longer acting as an agency or publishing house; Be it therefore

*Resolved*: That the debt of \$305.79 appearing on the books of the Section, and a like debt for different amount shown on the books of the Book Concern, be written off and all book stock revert to the ownership of the Book Concern, which is the only medium which could change it into a commodity of commercial value.

(D-4) *Whereas*, without the assistance and wonderfully self-sacrificing spirit of the workers this year the present statements would have been impossible; be it

*Resolved*: That this Convention convey its love and appreciation to Miss Saizan, Mr. Voce, Mrs. Walker, Miss Warren, Miss Boughton, Miss Wilder, Mr. Galindo, Mr. Folden, Miss Kershaw, Miss Zemlock, and the many who have contributed a ready hand whenever voluntary help was requested.

MISS TUTTLE: (E) *Resolved*: That the American

Section in Convention assembled hereby heartily invites Mr. C. W. Leadbeater to make an extended visit to America, and that a letter to that effect be sent him as soon as possible. (Applause.)

MR. HOTCHNER: Mr. Chairman, have the usual Resolutions of love and loyalty to our leaders been offered, and, if not, then may I present them?

(F-1) *Resolved*: That this Convention sends its warmest expressions of gratitude, loyalty and confidence to Mrs. Besant, Mr. Leadbeater, Mr. C. Jinarajadasa, Mr. Krishnamurti, Mr. Arundale and Mr. Nityanada; and

(F-2) *Resolved*: That we send our love and sympathy to all Theosophical brethren involved in the war.

CHAIRMAN: We also have a Resolution over the untimely death of Mr. Unger. I will now name the following Committees:

*Rules and Order of Business*—Mr. Holland, Mr. Rakestraw, Mr. Knudsen.

*Auditing Committee*—Mr. Walters, Mr. R. W. Davis, Mr. Robert C. Fleming.

*Resolutions*—Mr. Ray Wardall, Mrs. Marie Russak, Mr. H. C. Stowe.

*Nominating Committee*—Dr. Wright, Mrs. Courtright, Mr. Passmore.

Announcement was made of the Post-Convention activities under charge of Mr. Knudsen, and the report of Field Workers at 2 p. m. in charge of Mr. Rogers. The Convention then adjourned, after meditation in memory of Mr. Unger, until 9:30 o'clock Tuesday morning.

## TUESDAY SESSIONS

Mr. Max Wardall in the Chair.

The meeting was opened by a cello rendition by Mr. Charles A. Frisbie, accompanied by his mother.

CHAIRMAN: I am in receipt of a letter from the Director of the Congress of Religions here, desiring to meet the Convention at the Exposition grounds, to present us with a little fitting recognition of the co-operation that we have given the Congress in holding our Convention here. They want to have some sort of exercises. (Reading the letter.) What is your pleasure?

MR. WARRINGTON: I would suggest that we set an hour now, that all the members who can possibly attend may be there at a certain place and time. We want as large a number as possible. I wish to say this: That I hope some one will present a Resolution here thanking the various Exposition officials for their untiring courtesy during the whole of these proceedings. They have had to exercise some patience. Then this hall and the hall down stairs have not cost us one single cent. They have been given to us by the Exposition for our use.

MR. SCUDDER: I move that we pass such a Resolution at this time. (Carried.)

MR. RAKESTRAW: I have attended several conventions that have met in this building, and they have all received the same courtesy. Each

has had this invitation to go to the Exposition and has usually gone to one of the State buildings. Some have had quite elaborate ceremonies.

MR. WALTERS: I have made a tentative arrangement, subject to the approval of the Convention, that a certain time be allowed the Theosophical Society in the Palace of Education, and I have been allowed the use of Theatre No. 1 in that building, where the Society as a body could be represented. It comes under the head of the Department of Education, and has nothing to do with Theosophy. But the Theosophical Society has an interest in the Exposition to the extent that it has a Booth that did considerable propaganda work, and it would be nice if the members could go out there and dedicate the Booth. The hour would have to be between 12 and 1:30, because the theatre is to be used other hours by other organizations.

CHAIRMAN: I will entertain a motion to appoint Mr. Walters a Committee of one to set the time and make the preparation, and frame up an appropriate Resolution of thanks to the Director of Congresses. We will now hear the report of the Chairman of the Auditing Committee.

MR. WALTERS: The work of the Auditing Committee has been very small simply because, after you have a certified accountant go over

the books of the Society and certify that they are correct, the only thing your Committee could do was to take these statements as handed in by the Auditor, the Chartered Accountant, and compare them with the statements published in *THE MESSENGER*. We find that the two sets of statements are in accord. There is, however, one statement not included in *THE MESSENGER*; that is the report of the Book Concern. As to the details represented in these statements, the Auditing Committee has nothing to do with them except, of course, the verification. As the original books are not in their possession whereby they could verify the report, there is nothing to do but to report to you that the summary of the accounts of the Book Concern have been submitted to us and should go to the members of the Theosophical Society in the same way as the reports of other matters.

(Report of Committee voted upon and accepted. See another column for the report.)

Report of Resolutions Committee was read by Chairman, Mr. Ray Wardall:

Another Resolution was received this morning in the form of a motion concerning the attitude of the Society towards the war. It seemed to be the opinion of the Committee that, as an organization, the American and Canadian Section could not take any action on such a Resolution and, consequently, no action was taken by us towards putting the Society as a whole on record, and it did not seem to us to be a matter for national action. I want to say here that the Resolutions Committee is often one where there is considerable acrimony, but this time there existed perfect harmony and the work went forward rapidly.

*Resolution No. 1* (concerning Mr. Holbrook's claim). We made a substitute Resolution, as follows:

*Whereas*, a misunderstanding exists between Mr. Elliott Holbrook and the American Section T. S. over transactions concerning *THE AMERICAN THEOSOPHIST*; and

*Whereas*, the Society is especially anxious to do full justice to such a valuable and consecrated worker as Mr. Holbrook; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*: That the American Section T. S. hereby offers to submit, and requests Mr. Holbrook's co-operation in submitting, all differences to arbitration; the decision of such arbitrators to be final and binding, the Trustees to be authorized and directed to do everything in their power to accomplish such final adjustment.

Since the submission of this substitute motion we have been advised that it was not Mr. Holbrook's desire to take the matter up in the way submitted in our substitute Resolution, it being his desire, if possible (as I understand it), to keep the matter entirely within the organization. In arbitrations ordinarily each side chooses two members and these four choose a fifth, or each side one member and these two a third. However, I move the adoption of the substitute Resolution.

MR. SCUDDER: If what the Chairman of the Resolutions Committee states be true—that Mr. Holbrook desires that no arbitration committee be appointed—I think we ought to do what Mr.

Holbrook desires. I think it might be better to adopt the original Resolution.

CHAIRMAN: You will please consider that we have not yet voted on this.

MR. HOLLAND: I second that.

CHAIRMAN: Moved and seconded.

MR. RAY WARDALL: Let me say it was the desire of the Committee—and it is the earnest desire, I am sure, of every member present—that this matter be amicably settled. Now it would be practically impossible for this matter to be definitely settled and reported back to Convention if there was a lot of detail before it. By preparing this substitute Resolution we thought we would be settling the matter once for all.

MR. HOLLAND: I don't believe that a committee appointed at this time could make that report to this Convention. The books are not here, and it is not so much a question of figures as it is a question of a scheme of settlement between them, the manner in which the settlement should be made between them, a question of equitable adjustment, and I doubt very much if that committee could make such a report to this Convention.

CHAIRMAN: Then you are in favor of the substitute motion of Mr. Scudder's? The substitute motion takes us back to the first motion.

MR. SCUDDER: Why could not the matter be referred to this committee and then the result of their conclusions published in *THE MESSENGER* later?

CHAIRMAN: As I understand it, then, Mr. Scudder, the only difference is that you would prefer to have a special committee instead of an arbitration committee?

MR. SCUDDER: In view of Mr. Holbrook's expressed wishes, I feel that we can not have an arbitration committee.

CHAIRMAN: You feel that that would not meet with Mr. Holbrook's wishes? Then are you in favor of the substitute motion of Mr. Scudder's, which would require the original motion?

MR. WALTON: Perhaps it would be proper for me to give the reasons why I suggested that it be a board of arbitration instead of a committee to be appointed by the Chairman. I gather that there has been some feeling that an injustice has been done, and that there is a distinct misunderstanding. It seems to me that perhaps it would be kinder and fairer for us to go further than to offer Mr. Holbrook the chance to have a committee deliberate upon it. A committee might be accused of being partial or incapable. In the business world, when it is desirable to avoid complications, it is quite customary to have a committee of arbitration. In that way, it seemed to me, we would be going further than even Mr. Scudder wished us to go. We would be giving Mr. Holbrook a chance to have outsiders, business acquaintances, personal friends of his, who would not be open to charges of injustice or partiality. Personally, I feel very strongly on the matter. As a member of the Section, I feel it would be a most regrettable



thing if this Section does not pay its just debts. I do not want any claim to go into history that there has been any injustice, any question concerning it whatever. Therefore, I want to go further than Mr. Scudder.

MR. SCUDDER: With the consent of my second, I will withdraw the substitute motion, if that is the sentiment of the meeting.

MR. HOLLAND: There can be no arbitration unless there are two sides to it. I consulted Mr. Holbrook this morning, and he said: "I am going to leave this to the honor of the Theosophical Society, and I will have nothing more to do with it; it is in their hands." There can be no arbitration unless there are two sides, and it does seem to me that a committee ought to be appointed to look into the equitable settlement of this. To do actual justice between the parties would be the proper thing, because, if Mr. Holbrook does not care to arbitrate, if he wants to leave it to the honor of the Section, I think we should comply with his wishes.

MR. WALTON: May I ask that Mr. Holbrook himself be heard in this matter?

CHAIRMAN: I have not called upon him to do so, because I think he is a little reticent about this matter; he must surely feel that he is quite at liberty to speak, or not.

MR. MUNSON: I should think a safe and reliable way would be to appoint two of a committee living close to Krotona who could, after Convention, elect a third from the outside, where they could go over the books and records and make their report through THE MESSENGER.

CHAIRMAN: That would be a matter for the Chair. The Chair would try to appoint two members, or three members, who could endeavor or be able to collaborate.

MR. HOTCHNER: As we seem to be on the horns of a dilemma, and as every one is agreed as to the sentiment, may we ask, through you, as Chairman, whether Mr. Holbrook would be content to abide by the decision of that committee of three or five, wherein he shall have the privilege (if he so desires to exercise it) of nominating half of that committee? Would he be satisfied to abide by the decision of such a committee, as representing the sentiment of the Section? If he answers that question in the affirmative, then we should be able to act. If he declines that, then we have no alternative but to go on record, as a Convention, as doing our part by offering the arbitration plan. If we form it, and Mr. Holbrook declines his part, we, at least, have done our duty and placed ourselves on record as willing to go forward to meet him. It seems to me that is the situation, and Mr. Holbrook, or some one authorized to speak for him, should be satisfied forever.

MR. WALTON: May I add that, in the new light shed upon the situation by Mr. Holland, I wish to have the matter please Mr. Holbrook and have him feel that whatever we do is with the wish to satisfy and please him?

CHAIRMAN: I understand that Mr. Holland's statement is authoritative, as coming from Mr.

Holbrook, having just come from an interview with him and expressing that same desire.

MR. HOLLAND: His statement to me was that he would be content to leave it to the T. S.

CHAIRMAN: The substitute motion was that we should pass the original Resolution, which called for the appointment of a committee of three to report back to the Chair.

MR. MUNSON: But they could not possibly report back to this Convention under the circumstances, could they?

CHAIRMAN: I understand that you are willing to amend that by allowing it to be reported through THE MESSENGER.

MRS. BROENNIMAN: I should like to ask how the members of the T. S. could stand by the report of any committee any more than they could stand by the officials appointed now? Are not the members of the organization, temporarily, at least, bound to stand to support their officials? Those officials have already made their report. Could any committee of members be more authoritative than the T. S. membership, or more satisfying? It seems to me that our organization is bound to stand by its officers; if they are not satisfied with these officers, it is their opportunity to replace them; but we are no kind of an army if we cannot stand by those we have appointed, or those we look to as our leaders.

CHAIRMAN: I understand that the Convention wishes to take this step because it wishes to do complete justice.

MRS. BROENNIMAN: My point, Mr. Chairman, was that people outside, quite disinterested, should be the ones to sit upon this, if there should be any question about it.

MR. FOLDEN: It seems to me that the Resolution, as reported by the Committee, covers all the points that have been brought up. It is said that Mr. Holbrook leaves it to the honor of the American Section to settle the matter according to its best judgment. Now it is quite clear that our honor depends on our knowledge and understanding of the matter, and that was just the function of the committee that that report recommends to appoint—to investigate the matter thoroughly, get all the knowledge that they can to bear upon it, and then report on what is the legal settlement, the honorable settlement and the just settlement. Now, that is all that comes under the American Section, and that all concerns the honor of the American Section, and it seems to me that just as it is reported by the committee it should be passed.

CHAIRMAN: You are speaking, then, in favor of the Committee's report?

MR. FOLDEN: There is a motion, I believe, to that effect.

CHAIRMAN: There is a motion to adopt the original Resolution. As many as favor the Committee's report, please say "Aye."

MRS. BROENNIMAN: Read it, please.

Chairman of Resolutions Committee read Resolution again. (Voted upon and carried.)

Resolution No. 2—Mrs. Broenniman's D-4,

thanks to helpers. (Approved and adopted.)

*Resolution No. 3*—Mrs. Broenniman's D-3. *Re T. P. H.* \$305.79 to Book Concern. (Adopted.)

*Resolution No. 4. Resolved:* That the Section Book Concern at Krotona allow the Lodges a discount of 25% instead of 20%, as it does now.

Moved that this Resolution be indefinitely postponed. (Carried.)

*Resolution No. 5*—Mrs. Broenniman's D-1.

Moved for adoption. (Carried.)

*Resolution No. 6*—Mrs. Broenniman's D-2.

MR. RAY WARDALL: It was moved to adopt this Resolution, after adding the clause "in 5,000 lots as estimated by two reputable printers" after the words "at cost prices."

MRS. BROENNIMAN: Would that mean that the Section could not buy in anything less than 5,000 lots, then?

CHAIRMAN: No. That would be to obtain the cost price.

MRS. BROENNIMAN: There are some pamphlets that it would not be advisable to have printed in such vast quantities.

MR. RAY WARDALL: Mr. Talbot of the Los Angeles Lodge contended that the present prices were too high on propaganda literature, and we felt, in order to avoid any confusion over it in future, we should see what the cost price in 5,000 lots would be, estimated.

MRS. BROENNIMAN: My point is that if we shouldn't buy in 5,000 lots, we couldn't get the price so low.

MR. COOPER: There are two points I should like information upon. If I remember rightly, the pamphlets were bought with the Book Concern's money and later transferred to the Section and a corresponding credit made to the Book Concern—

MRS. BROENNIMAN: Unfortunately, there was no credit made to the Book Concern. The old T. S. statement is here, and it was on the advice of the Auditor that that statement was made.

MR. COOPER: The whole lot were bought from Dr. Van Hook for \$150.

MRS. BROENNIMAN: The Book Concern books showed 550, and not \$150, for the propaganda taken over. There was nothing shown as a credit when they were taken over by the T. S. On the last page of the stock statement that item is shown, with the remark: "No instructions to credit." I am sorry.

MR. COOPER: The question of transferring all that should be gone into most carefully.

CHAIRMAN: Mr. Cooper, are you supporting the Resolution?

MR. COOPER: I feel most keenly in this matter. I think it should be referred back to the Committee for further action.

CHAIRMAN: A substitute motion has been made to refer this back to the Trustees for further action. What is your pleasure? (Seconded and carried.)

*Resolution No. 7*—Dr. Wright's (B). *Re T. S. Study Course at Krotona.* Recommended to be

indefinitely postponed, for the reason that the material already exists and may be had at this time. (Adopted.)

*Resolution No. 8*—Regarding location of next Convention. Your Committee found it very difficult to choose. The advantages and charm of the many cities recommended by visiting delegates seemed almost equally alluring. However, remembering that for many years our Conventions were held in the central North, at Chicago, that we met last year in the extreme East, in Washington, D. C., and are now meeting in the extreme West, your Committee believes that the next Convention should be held at a point equally distant from the East, North, West and South, and yet be perfectly accessible from all points. Your Committee therefore recommends that St. Louis be chosen for the next Convention.

MR. ROGERS: I should like to learn whether we are to get free car fare and hotels. (Laughter.)

MR. FLEMING: Let me say that Brotherhood Lodge has already raised a fund of \$250 to defray the expenses of the Convention. (Applause.)

*Resolution No. 9*—Miss Tuttle's (E), amended: "That the American Section in Convention assembled hereby heartily invites Mr. C. W. Leadbeater to make an extended visit to America."

MR. MUNSON: Wouldn't it be well to add there, "as early as possible"?

MR. HOTCHNER: And that a cablegram inviting him be sent tonight?

MR. NETLAND: I would like to add in there, "at the expense of the American Section." There is nothing said about that in the Resolution.

MR. POWER: It seems to me that this financial phrase should not be incorporated. I think that the Section should not commit itself as a whole. It may be that there are some individual members who would, out of their fuller resources, be glad to share in defraying these expenses.

MRS. BROENNIMAN: Wouldn't it be better that the entire Section do this thing and the private members make up the deficit to the Section? (Applause.)

MR. NETLAND: I feel that the Section should have the honor.

CHAIRMAN: Then the Resolution as amended will read:

*Resolved:* That the American Section in Convention assembled invite Mr. C. W. Leadbeater to make an extended visit to the American Section, to take place as soon as possible, at the expense of the American Section, and that a cablegram to this effect be sent to him tonight.

I will appoint Mr. Munson a Committee of one to send that cablegram, and make it as succinct and concise as possible.

*Resolution No. 10*—Mr. Hotchner's (F-1). (Approved and adopted, and ordered sent by cablegram tonight.)

MR. MUNSON: Mr. Chairman, then will you



attend to the sending of the one to Mr. Leader at the same time?

CHAIRMAN: I will see that it is done.

*Resolution No. 11*—Mr. Hotchner's (F-2). "That we send our love and sympathy to all Theosophical brethren involved in the war."

MISS SOMMER: How are they going to send that?

CHAIRMAN: Probably on the mental plane. (No action.)

*Resolution No. 12*—Mrs. Duff's.

*Whereas*, much confusion exists in the minds of many, and constant inquiries are being made by both old and new members, as to the relationship, financial and executive, between the T. S. and Krotona;

*Resolved*: That a concise statement of such relationship be formulated and published in THE MESSENGER.

(Voted upon and adopted.)

*Resolution No. 13*—Mr. Scudder's (C-1). (Carried.)

*Resolution No. 14*—Mr. Scudder's (C-2). Moved to lay on the table, for the reason that the proposed By-Laws will obviate this necessity. (Carried.)

*Resolution No. 15*—Mr. Scudder's (C-4). Moved to reject, as Committee feels it is outside its jurisdiction. (Carried.)

*Resolution No. 16*—Mr. Scudder's (C-6). Moved to reject, for the reason that same should come before Convention as an amendment to By-Laws.

MR. SHUTTS: I move that that Resolution be laid on the table. Seconded by Mrs. Broenniman. (Carried.)

*Resolution No. 17.*

*Resolved*: That this Convention place on record, in a heartfelt vote of deep appreciation, its gratitude for the consecrated and efficient services rendered to Theosophy for so many years by its esteemed brother, the late David S. M. Unger.

(Passed by a unanimous rising vote.)

*Resolution No. 18*—Mr. Cooper's.

*Whereas*, from figures given in the report of the General Secretary, over 450 members were dropped last year for non-payment of dues; and

*Whereas*, the Assistant General Secretary has publicly expressed an opinion that a much larger number will be dropped for the same cause next year; and

*Whereas*, it is known that many worthy members, because of the financial stringency of this time of war, are unable to pay the annual dues; Therefore, be it

*Resolved*: That this Convention emphatically declare that it values members more than dollars, and if it becomes a question of members or a fine financial showing at the end of the year, the Convention prefers the members; and be it further

*Resolved*: That the General Secretary be authorized to make full use of the power given him in the By-Laws to remit the annual dues of worthy members, and that the Board of Trustees be authorized either to raise or set aside a sum of money from which the MESSENGER subscriptions and Adyar percentage of such members may be taken; and be it further

*Resolved*: That the General Secretary in person be asked to correspond with the president of the branch where members were dropped last year, or with the members themselves, in order to ascertain if they cannot be reclaimed as members, and that hereafter no member shall be dropped for non-payment of dues without the authorization of the General Secretary.

MRS. BROENNIMAN: I shall have to say that I have been drastically misquoted there. I never said such things. I cannot understand by

what authority Mr. Cooper has put those words into my mouth. I wish to say that I never said such things as are conveyed in that second paragraph, and I wish also to say that every member who has been behind with his dues has received at least two letters this year requesting and urging and offering him every opportunity to remain in the Society.

MR. COOPER: The only change was the suggestion that Headquarters correspond with the presidents of the branches to which such members belong. The member might feel some hesitancy about corresponding with the central office.

MRS. BROENNIMAN: I would say that has not generally been the effect. As a matter of fact, I think that people would rather express themselves in an impersonal way than to an individual whom they know. There is also a drastic mis-statement there with regard to the Adyar percentages; the Adyar percentages are paid only for active members, and members who do not pay their dues are not.

MR. COOPER: I wish to be absolutely fair to Mrs. Broenniman. The statement I had in mind was made yesterday in my hearing in a committee meeting.

MRS. BROENNIMAN: I did not say that any members would ever be dropped from the American Section for non-payment of dues. I believe I did state that there would, in my opinion, be a number who would resign, who would drop out because of the financial depression, but that is a very different thing.

MR. COOPER: The second point is that there is a privilege given to the General Secretary, under the By-Laws, to remit the dues of worthy members. When their dues have been remitted I cannot see why they should not be valid members of the Society. I think the percentage to Adyar in several cases has not gone in because they are not considered active members.

MISS SOMMER: Who is to pay this percentage if the members do not, or if their Lodges do not?

MR. COOPER: Now, if the percentage to Adyar does not go in, they are not considered members in good standing at Headquarters. Though they are financially embarrassed, temporarily, I think they are yet good members. I believe it is a wrong if we shut them out from membership in the Society for a few dollars.

Now with regard to the presidents of Lodges. I have had a little experience in that line; I was Assistant General Secretary for a time, and I know that everything depends upon the tone of a letter that is sent out to members. They do not like to speak of the fact that they haven't got the money; they will say, "Oh, just let me drop my membership." But if you write them a letter and they feel that there is something of a brotherly spirit back of it, and let them know that we want them back hard, and if they feel that there is one they can trust, they will often come back. I have met so many cases

where just a little touch made all the difference in the world.

Mrs. BROENNIMAN: We can only invite Mr. Cooper to investigate the files for the past year and see the copies of letters that have been written.

Mr. COOPER: I should like to add, with regard to Lodge presidents—

CHAIRMAN: Mr. Cooper, are you speaking for or against the Resolution?

Mr. COOPER: I would ask an amendment—that the second paragraph, with regard to the statement I understood Mrs. Broenniman to make, be withdrawn; otherwise I favor the Resolution without the amendment made by the Committee. Excise the part that the Committee put in.

Mr. Cooper's Resolution was then read, omitting the second paragraph and the clause in the sixth paragraph, "president of the branch where."

Mr. ROGERS: As Mr. Cooper has so gracefully retired, I wish to say that I understood precisely what he says is so. I understood Mrs. Broenniman to say that two thousand members would be dropped, and that part of the reason would be financial.

Mr. COOPER: Let the General Secretary use his own discretion.

Miss SOMMER: It seems to me that the officers of the Lodge ought to exercise their privilege as to keeping members in the Lodge. As ex-president of a Chicago Lodge I can speak with some experience, and I know I always made every effort to keep such members as were not able to pay their dues and who showed any interest in the work.

Mr. FOLDEN: I think that is a good idea. I would like to say that Mr. Cooper's suggestion there was unfair in more ways than one, because it indicated that the touch that had been extended from Headquarters was not the proper one nor a friendly one. Now that is not so. I have been very closely in touch with the policy of the administration during the past year and I know how the work has been done. You know how the dues slips are sent out at the beginning of the year; after a while we get them back, whether with the money or without. When they come back without, they probably will have a remark saying that they are dropped because of non-payment of dues or for some other reason. Once in a while we get one which says that the Lodge secretary recommends that the Section dues be remitted, which has always been complied with by this administration. You know, also, that if a Lodge has dropped a member for non-payment of dues, then he is bound to be dropped by Headquarters.

Miss KERSHAW: There is one slight mistake in what Mr. Folden has said—that if a Lodge has dropped a member for non-payment of dues, then he is bound to be dropped by Headquarters; and in correcting this, may I suggest that Mr. Cooper's Resolution seems really entirely unnecessary, because what he suggests is al-

ready being done. Whenever we get those dues slips back stating that certain members are unable to pay, Mrs. Broenniman has dictated letters to them invariably urging them to remain in the Society. When the Lodge secretaries have written in advising that members be dropped we have written to the secretaries and suggested that the members be held, if they are active and worthy Theosophical members.

With regard to that second paragraph from which Mr. Cooper has so "gracefully retired," I understood the statement in question to mean that many members would resign from the American Section during the coming year because they were sick and tired of so much contention, so many pamphlets being sent them from different factions, and so forth, and Mrs. Broenniman corrected me and said that it would probably be the war and so much financial depression throughout the country which would cause the number to drop out. I too was present at the Committee meeting yesterday and heard the remark, but there was never the slightest intimation intended that any members were going to be dropped by Headquarters.

Mrs. THOMAS: It isn't a question of how the work has been done, because it has been done superbly; I'm sure we all know that; but there are some who, if they receive a personal touch from our beloved General Secretary, would make the effort to remain in the Society.

Mr. HOLLAND: I still believe that a more liberal construction of these By-Laws should be adopted. For instance, we have members who are behind in their dues and they want to come back into the Lodge. We invariably remit all past dues and commence the payment again. When we send down to the General Secretary, stating that we have remitted the Lodge dues, it seems to be against the ruling of the General Secretary's office to remit the annual dues, and our Lodge has been obliged to pay the annual dues in order to reinstate the members. It seems to me that the Section should also remit those dues.

Miss SOMMER:..Why cannot the Lodge bear the extra expense? Who is to shoulder the financial expense? The Lodges have the members, and they usually have some members who can bear the extra burden. The Section cannot bear it; the Section, we must remember, is dependent for its income upon the annual dues of the members.

(Resolution seconded and carried, as amended.)

#### Resolution No. 19.

New York Lodge requests a *verbatim* report of Convention proceedings to be printed in THE MESSENGER.

Amended to read "a full report" instead of "*verbatim* report" and adopted.

#### Resolution No. 20, by Mr. Warrington.

Resolved: That the thanks of the American Section be tendered to Mr. W. J. Walters and his associates for the useful propaganda service rendered the cause of Theosophy through the medium of the Booth which they have established at the Exposition.

(Unanimously carried.)



MISS SOMMER: Is it possible to introduce a Resolution that had to be thought over during the night?

CHAIRMAN: Granted.

MISS SOMMER: It will be very short, friends. I have just come up from Krotona, and I cannot tell you how much I have enjoyed my visit there. There was just one note that made me feel sad, and that was the immense amount of work that the workers, both paid and voluntary, had to do. They had to work till all hours of the night, and I feel, after talking about it with the General Secretary and others involved, that the Section ought at its Annual Meeting to give the Board of Trustees the power to engage sufficient help to perform its work within reasonable hours and to establish, let us say, a minimum wage of \$12.50 a week, and I offer this as a Resolution (No. 21) that the Board of Trustees be allowed the privilege of engaging sufficient help to carry on the work without overworking its paid workers. We ought to be an example, and hold up the ideal of true brotherhood at Krotona.

MRS. RUSSAK: As a member of the Resolutions Committee, I would like to ask for a little more detail. What amount is now being paid, and what is the minimum?

ANSWER: Ten dollars is now the maximum.

CHAIRMAN: I did not realize that Miss Sommer was going to bring up such an important Resolution.

MRS. CRISWELL: I would like to say that she include in that Resolution that they comply with the laws of the State of California and work only eight hours a day.

MISS KERSHAW: May I, as one of those workers, be granted the privilege of speaking?

CHAIRMAN: You are out of order, but you may proceed.

MISS KERSHAW: I know the last week and part of the last month we did work till all hours of the night, as Miss Sommer says, but you must all remember that this Convention has followed close upon the heels of the closing of the books of both the Section and the Book Concern at the end of the fiscal year, and that this is the earliest Convention that has been held for years, so that it would have been impossible to have prepared the necessary reports and papers for Convention in addition to the regular routine work without crowding somewhat toward the end. But I should like to add that this has been done as a labor of love. We have all been glad to do it, and it would not be fair to judge the whole year by these past few weeks' late hours. If any one has been subject to strain, I should think it must be Mrs. Broenniman, who has worked so untiringly both for the Section and the Book Concern in support of the leaders and for the American Section, and some of the intimations I have listened to and reported here today would seem to me most unfair—that some one has been crowding some one for the sake of a few

dollars, or that worthy members have been dropped or would be dropped because of the lack of dollars. There is a lack of information which must have prompted them, but I think the Section ought to know that is quite untrue. I have heard much about "efficiency," as if it had been at the expense of the true Theosophical spirit; I know that is not the truth.

MR. WARRINGTON: I want to add a word in support of Miss Kershaw's remarks. The substance of what she has said is true, and there has been no reflection intended on any one, I am sure, least of all on our exceedingly capable and beloved Assistant General Secretary.

CHAIRMAN: I think we ought to give more time and consideration, Miss Sommer, to your Resolution.

MISS SOMMER: Perhaps I'd better bring it in as New Business, later.

*Resolution No. 22*—Mr. Scudder's C-7 was rejected.

The Chair then announced that the Trustees' meeting would be held at 9:30 Wednesday morning in the same building, and those who had other Resolutions to offer or suggestions to lay before the Board should do so at that time.

The Committee on By-Laws was then called for, and its Chairman, Mr. Scudder, reported the Committee's recommendation of the proposed By-Laws, with certain deletions and amendments.

CHAIRMAN: First let me make an announcement. Under the existing By-Laws, amendments may be made as follows: (Reading from old By-Laws.)

By-Laws can be amended or altered at a regular Annual Meeting of the Section, and to do so shall require a two-thirds vote of those present.

Now you understand that two-thirds of you must approve these By-Laws that have been proposed by the Committee. The law is that notice of the proposed changes shall be given not less than thirty days prior to the date of the Convention, either in the official organ or by consent of a four-fifths vote waiving this requirement. It would seem to the Chair that we might be in danger of wasting a considerable amount of time and, as we have a number of people here who are opposed to any change in the By-Laws because of not having given timely notice of the change, four-fifths of the members present must agree upon the consideration of the change.

MR. COOPER: By members present, Mr. Chairman, you mean—

MR. ROGERS: Members are legally present in person and by proxy.

MR. SCUDDER: Were not these By-Laws adopted when we were acting under the old system? In that case the proxies were counted.

MISS SOMMER: Do I understand that this Convention must waive the thirty-day notice by a four-fifths vote of the members present?

MRS. BROENNIMAN: Would that include proxies?

MR. SCUDDER: I make the motion.

MR. POWER: Do I understand the ruling of the Chair to be that four-fifths of the members of the Section, represented by proxy, are to decide this issue?

CHAIRMAN: That is the existing motion.

MR. POWER: In view of the urgency of the occasion, when the members who are here only by proxy cannot actually consider the changes in these By-Laws, it seems to me that four-fifths of those present should actively consider them; it seems to me it would be very much fairer to consult only those present, because many members may have individual opinions and could not be represented by proxy in such a matter.

MR. SCUDDER: There was no second.

MR. ROGERS: I second it. I want to say that a year ago, in Washington, D. C., notice was given that the By-Laws were to be changed. I introduced a Resolution at the Washington Convention, and that raised this whole question; so it has not been merely thirty days, it has been a year's notice.

MR. POWER: I wish to appeal from the ruling of the Chair. It may happen that since these changes have not been brought before the members of the Section as a whole, many members who knew what sort of matters were going to be brought up gave their proxies to people whose opinions they more or less knew but couldn't know the opinions of those members on such things as changes in the By-Laws. I therefore appeal from the ruling of the Chair for a vote of the Convention that four-fifths of those present shall include proxies to decide this question. (Seconded.)

MR. SCUDDER: I move that the motion to appeal be laid on the table. (Seconded.)

CHAIRMAN: It has been moved and seconded that the motion to appeal be laid on the table. What is your pleasure?

MR. STOWE: Mr. Chairman—

CHAIRMAN: Just one moment. (To Mr. Scudder) You moved to lay on the table; then Mr. Power moves to appeal from the Chair's ruling.

MRS. RAKESTRAW: I rise to a point of order. The first motion, which Mr. Scudder made—

CHAIRMAN: The motion is an appeal from the decision of the Chair, in which the Chair decided that four-fifths of the persons present and by proxy should waive the construction of the By-Laws before we consider them. Then the question is, shall the ruling of the Chair stand as the decision of the Convention?

MR. SCUDDER: Mr. Chairman, you have already decided that matter. My motion to lay on the table is in order, and that is all that we are now voting on.

MR. POWER: I rise to inquire whether it is possible to refuse an appeal to a congress assembled from the ruling of the Chair. That would put the Chair in a position to rule in-

dependently of the wishes of the Convention assembled.

CHAIRMAN: No, the motion is to lay your motion on the table, Mr. Power.

MR. POWER: It seems to me manifestly unfair, if we have to have four-fifths of the people to vote on this thing, that whether this should be voted upon or not should be decided by a majority vote.

MRS. CRISWELL: An appeal from the decision of the Chair cannot be.

Moved that the appeal be laid on the table. (Seconded and carried.)

CHAIRMAN: The Chair has ruled that we waive the regulation of thirty days' notice. Shall we waive the provision of the By-Laws that requires four-fifths to vote favorably?

MRS. SHUTTS: I wish to ask why we are troubling ourselves in this way when four or five or six people in this Convention have enough proxies to count for the whole thing. I would suggest that the half-dozen people who hold all the proxies, and are familiar with the suggested By-Laws, should get together and decide this matter for us and save our trouble.

MRS. THOMAS: We must remember that the members who hold proxies have the full confidence of those whom they represent.

MR. BURTON HALL: When I came to Convention I was asked if I had sent in a proxy. I replied that my conscience would not allow me to send in a proxy, and that is the way I wrote to Headquarters. I do not believe any one human being can actually vote for another. I think this is a question of grave injustice.

CHAIRMAN: Are you supporting the motion to waive the provision?

MR. HALL: I believe every member should have the opportunity to discuss these By-Laws.

MR. STOWE: It seems to me it would be very unwise for us to waive this provision and pass these By-Laws at this session. As you know, there are only a handful of us to go over them. The Committee spent about two hours yesterday going over them, and I personally wasn't able to be present because I was acting on another Committee, and a great many others here were in like position; and, furthermore, the members throughout the Section had no chance whatever to know what these changes were to be. As Mr. Rogers has said, we have had notice that some changes would be made, but we had no formal notice and no means of knowing what such changes would be and, as I look at this matter from a business standpoint, I think there are grave objections against these By-Laws, and I am sure we ought to have a longer time to consider them. I think they ought to go over to the next Convention.

MRS. RAKESTRAW: I heartily agree with what the last speaker said. Some of us have not had the opportunity to study these By-Laws. We may have had an opportunity to read them through, but that is not enough. I do not believe they ought to be rushed through at this time. I believe they should be held over for



another meeting, in order to give every member an opportunity to go into them. I do not think we ought to waive this ruling. They should be given to some competent committee, and we should all have the opportunity to study them and know what our organization is to be. The Constitution and By-Laws bear the same relationship to that body corporate that our bony structure does to our human body. We are all interested in that. We are not legislating alone for ourselves but for those who are not here as well, and it seems to me only fair and just all around that we should give them a chance to do their duty, and if we are forced to put them through at this time, it is not an opportunity to do our best. We cannot, it seems to me, consider them at the present time.

CHAIRMAN: In support of what Mr. Rogers said last year at Convention, the Judiciary Committee was instructed to prepare new By-Laws along this line. The Judiciary Committee did not do it; we got into a wrangle and couldn't get anywhere, so that the Convention at that time did offer notice. But I have ruled the way I have because I had to do it. I consider it an absolute duty to do it for the rest of the Section because, while the legal—the technical legal—requirements have not been met, what Mr. Rogers has said is absolutely true.

MR. POWER: It seems to me that a four-fifths vote of Convention would still only be a four-fifths vote of those present; they cannot represent a four-fifths vote of the Section. I want to ask you to reconsider the ruling.

CHAIRMAN (re-reading the By-Law in question): I feel that the ruling of the Chair is correct.

MR. CHRISTIAN: I believe the members of the American Section would like to have the new By-Laws. They do not care to wait another year for them, nor do they care that this body should decide just what these By-Laws are to be, and I would suggest to this body that there is another way out of it. You have an initiative and a referendum. It has taken you a whole year to decide to correct these By-Laws, and you have just been able to get a proof struck off. Now you have the proof. I suggest that your Board of Trustees be instructed by this body to send a referendum to every member of the American Section of this Society.

CHAIRMAN: Are you in favor of waiving that provision?

MR. CHRISTIAN: I am not in favor of this Convention going on record and adopting By-Laws with proxies in their pockets.

CHAIRMAN: We are not adopting By-Laws at this time, just waiving the Regulation.

MR. COOPER: If you will turn to By-Law XII, Section 1, it states there that: "The Annual Meeting known as the Convention shall be composed exclusively of members of the Section in good standing and members whose dues are paid to July 1st last preceding." Also By-Law

VIII, Section 3—under *Quorum*—"These may be present in person or by proxy."

MR. SCUDDER: Mr. Chairman, in order to get to business, I move that we vote on this question. (Seconded and carried.)

CHAIRMAN: Shall we waive the four-fifths vote provision under the By-Laws, and proceed to consideration of the new By-Laws?

QUESTION: Are we waiving the publication of thirty days' notice?

CHAIRMAN: The question before the house is the original motion made by Mr. Scudder that we waive the publication of notice of changes in the By-Laws, and proceed with the consideration of the Committee's report.

MR. SCUDDER: I think it would be a very good motion to put right now, that we find it absolutely physically impossible to carry out the requirement of sufficient notice, and that we now proceed to vote on the basis of those present. (Motion voted upon and carried.)

MR. SCUDDER (as Chairman of Committee on By-Laws): The first amendment was to By-Law VII—*Powers and Duties*.

MRS. RAKESTRAW: Wouldn't it be the better way, as we are now considering the changes made, to simply make notes of each one as we come to it and then at the end we shall have an opportunity of revising and voting upon all these?

CHAIRMAN: You understand the provisions of this Convention are mostly tentative. But I would suggest that we move as quickly as possible through each amendment, because there will be a considerable number to be heard and when you get through there will be an opportunity to vote for or against the whole thing.

MR. POWER: I would also like to know how many of our members present have carefully read over the various sections that are now to be considered.

CHAIRMAN: The Chair will have to rule you out of order, Mr. Power.

MR. STOWE: Will the Convention have an opportunity to offer amendments to this By-Law VII hereafter, or are we adopting By-Law VII at this time?

CHAIRMAN: We are leaving By-Law VII at this time. Now when you get through the Convention may amend By-Law VII.

MR. STOWE: I had an amendment to offer to By-Law VI, Section 4, and it would also include an amendment to By-Law VII as it now reads.

CHAIRMAN: Let us hear it.

MR. STOWE: The amendment is to By-Law VI, Section 4, second paragraph, which now reads:

The Editor, the Manager of the Book Concern, the Propaganda Manager, the Secretary, and the National Lecturers shall be selected by the Board of Trustees, subject to the right of removal by the Board.

I would move to amend that to read: "The Editor and the Manager of the Book Concern shall be appointed by the Secretary." (Seconded by Mr. Shutts.)

MR. MUNSON: That is taken care of in

another place. It is inconsistent in that provision.

Mrs. THOMAS: The General Secretary, if these By-Laws are adopted, will become our President; will this not conflict with his ideas?

Mr. STOWE: My idea is this—that if you have those three officers each independent, each one will want his own stenographer or assistant, and so on, and you will be going back to the same situation you were in a year or two ago, when the salaries and expenses of the officers ran away up out of all proportion to the business that was done. Now if you have the appointment of those two officers by the Secretary, and keep the three departments—the Secretary, the Editor and the Manager of the Book Concern—under the one head, the tendency will be to eliminate this danger. As it is, we are managing the affairs of the Section much more economically, and if you continue the present management, or adopt my amendment—

Mrs. THOMAS: The General Secretary has approved these By-Laws.

Mr. STOWE: —you will obviate that trouble. But if you create all these departments you will find that the expense of the business will run up just as it did two or three years ago. Now this year we have got things in proper shape, so that we are temporarily on our feet; the affairs of the Section today are in a satisfactory, or at least in a healthy, condition, and it is foolish to go back to something that we tried before and found expensive.

Mrs. THOMAS: The idea is to relieve the work and strain of the General Secretary and the possibility of any doubt as to his duties and his powers. Is it fair to our General Secretary, or the head of this organization, to be put in such a position by us that he is open to all attacks? He is not only responsible for his own acts but for those of all his workers, all his officers. Is it not far better to make every officer responsible for his office and not throw it all back on the General Secretary.

CHAIRMAN: You understand elsewhere in the By-Laws it provides that the President shall nominate the Secretary; he is to be appointed by the Trustees. That throws back the responsibility of the President, and yet this Secretary under Mr. Stowe's amendment would appoint these other two important officers, the Editor of THE MESSENGER and the Manager of the Book Concern.

Mr. COOPER: The essence of the By-Laws is to bring out the departmental idea. The Board of Trustees should have the right of appointing. I think it most important that the Board of Trustees should have the control, that we may have the proper people in and that these people may be brought to work together. Mr. Warrington has been the author of these By-Laws. I would appreciate it, personally, and think the Convention would, to have him give us his ideas. May I call for Mr. Warrington?

Mr. WARRINGTON: I think the point that is under discussion is the kernel of the whole

problem, and it is perhaps well that we should discuss it right here. The adoption of these By-Laws is my idea absolutely. After finding out, as I believe, the sentiment of the Section, and after going through the conditions which I have gone through for the past two years, I am absolutely convinced that it would be wise for the Section to adopt these By-Laws as they are, either at this Convention or after due publication of them, to give the members a chance to mull them over for a year. One or the other of those two methods should be adopted here today.

I shall not conceal my preference as to which of these two methods is best. I believe that we should adopt them today, and I believe that we have a legitimate power to do it. In the State of California, or any other state, wherever legislation is conducted, it is conducted by the legislators who are present; that is their power and their duty and, no matter whether their legislation be radical or not, it is their duty to do what, according to their best consideration, is for the best interest of the people whom they represent.

Now this thing of the initiative and referendum is under experiment still; it is in a baby stage in the world of democracy; the question of referring laws back to the people for their approval is on trial still. Democracy, if you look at it from the standpoint that every single person has the right to vote, is an absolute impossibility. When democracy first arose it was among the guilds, a small body of men all of whom could be represented. When those bodies grew, and were no longer a small body of men, they then began appointing their delegates to come together in convention to represent them and express the will of the people, and therefore in these legislatures, in Congress, and all bodies where there is representation, it is the construction of the law—and the greatest courts in the world have so held—that the democracy is present; that is to say, the last man in the country is present in person through his representative with power to act for him.

Now your Section is growing. Ahead of you are big things. You are probably going to become in the course of the years that lie just before us one of the most important, if not the most important of the Sections of the T. S. I think the time is approaching when we are to take larger and larger numbers into the Society, and no two thousand or any such numbers are going to drop out, in my judgment. I think the time is fast approaching when it has been said that members will be coming into our Society so fast that we won't have the teachers in large enough numbers to take care of them and instruct them. We must get our corporate mechanism built up upon the most proficient and up-to-date methods of the day. I know from experience that there is too much centralization of the work in the Section. You are chartered under the laws of the State of Illinois, and under that charter you have a President, a Vice-



President, a Secretary and a Treasurer but, instead of acting squarely according to those laws, you have got a mongrel set of By-Laws here that group those officers under practically one head, and you call him the General Secretary and hold him responsible for everything that goes on at Headquarters and throughout the Section.

Now I am not proposing any radical changes here; that is an exaggeration. There are no radical changes proposed, in the sense that I am speaking, because I am speaking for harmony of action under the laws under which you are chartered. Under these, let your Secretary perform the duties that the secretary of any other incorporated body has in this country, and the President and the Treasurer likewise.

Now we will go to another question, the one that Mr. Stowe has brought up. Your Editor and your Manager of the Book Concern, your Propaganda Manager and National Lecturers—these are officers outside the phases ordinarily recognized by corporations, because they pertain particularly to our own specific business. Now here is the point: I believe, with Mr. Cooper, that under the Board and the officers of the Section we should have as many departmental heads as may be legitimate. We will divide the duties in such way, we will put them on responsible shoulders of people holding those departments, and will give more of our workers the chance to share in the burdens of this great work, to develop their powers, and, as a result, we will get greater brilliance of effort combined with greater harmony, which spells greater strength and power for your organization.

Now these By-Laws have contemplated the existence of an Advisory Board composed of those very officers, headed by the President, and that Advisory Board, if it does its function perfectly, will come together at frequent periods and talk over the work of the organization to see how these various officers can co-operate with one another. Take the Book Concern, for instance. That is one of the biggest, most important features of our Section. Instead of conducting a small business with the Lodges of the Section, if properly organized and conducted, it can become a real book business on a par with any other concern in the publishing world. Under Mrs. Broenniman's capable and efficient leadership, it can be developed into the strong right arm of the whole Section; there would be no limit to its future.

We want to get many of our workers at work and get them to express themselves in the world. Our T. S. does not belong to me and it does not belong to any of our workers; we must arm every one possible to help in the running of this organization in the way that will give the greatest power to our propaganda and our work. I don't think there is to be any real increase in the various workers, but those are details—minor details—and what we are trying to settle here today are principles of government. Do you people wish that the burden of the administration of your Section shall be

borne by as many capable and willing people as possible who want to work, who want to co-operate, who do not want to be side-tracked? I believe it is the right thing to do. I would say here that I would not myself be willing to take the General Secretaryship again under the conditions of last year. Those conditions were not favorable in many respects. Do not misunderstand me; this is no reflection in any possible way on my most capable assistant and loyal friend, Mrs. Broenniman, who has been simply magnificent in the way she has helped me in working out in detail many problems, and she has helped the Section therefore in a measure few can estimate. I cannot praise her services and her devotion too highly; so that anything I have said here today is no criticism of this able worker and warm personal friend. But I am trying to discuss principles of government. I am trying to look at this thing as if I were going to leave your Section for good next week and expected to go into the presence of Mrs. Besant and say to her frankly that I had helped to leave a piece of mechanism here which, as it appealed to my judgment, could run itself.

You are not going to be able to get men who are able to assume all these duties and responsibilities which your General Secretary has assumed in the past. It is not right; it is not fair to him. I came out of the business world where I won some business success. I started as a boy and made my way, and I did that perhaps through business ability. I did not know when I came into this organization, into this brotherhood, that I should meet the conditions I did. I never expected that my devoted service would meet with the character of criticism it has. I am not blaming anybody for aiming it at me, but I should be very sorry if my successor, whoever he may be in the future, should be exposed to those unjust attacks that may possibly be aimed at him as they have been at me. Therefore, if your President should really be an executive, and not an office boy and a bookkeeper and a clerk, and all the various things that he is now expected to be, he will be free to direct and to get out into the Section; he can go among his people; his hands will not be tied by a mass of petty routine and office detail.

Now to come back to the question of Mr. Stowe's amendment. Your Secretary shouldn't have too much responsibility. According to the way these new By-Laws are drawn, your Secretary is called the chief clerical officer, and so forth. Now, then, by including the management of the Book Concern and the editorship of THE MESSENGER under the Secretary's jurisdiction, you would increase those duties and I fear take away all the dignity of the managership of the Book Concern. I feel that that office should be appointed by the Board, and I believe that the Editor and the Propaganda Manager should also, and that each of these important posts should have some dignity of standing. Suppose,

for example, that some person is appointed as Secretary who might not be favorable to the appointment of Mrs. Broenniman as Manager of the Book Concern. I believe the Section would lose one of the most powerful arms for the spreading of Theosophical teachings that it could possibly have. I believe, if Mrs. Bronniman is appointed as Manager of the Book Concern, that a propaganda power will be in her hands for the circulation of literature through every possible channel which will cause you some day to wake up and realize that the Book Concern is one of the most powerful vehicles for getting our literature not only before the Theosophical public but before the world. Now you do not want to hamper the head of that Concern, you do not want to put a straw in her way; and these posts of editorship, and so on, I look to the Chief Executive to nominate, with the sanction and approval of the Board of Trustees.

I have studied these By-Laws; I have gone over them very carefully. I believe there are a great many contrary views about them, but the right to differ represents the fundamental principles of your organization. These By-Laws as suggested represent my best judgment, and I am going to put myself behind the carrying of them out.

But here I want to bring a word of caution. Don't let anybody be deceived and think he is expected to vote with me if his conscience is against it. No two people could have worked together more devotedly and loyally than Mrs. Broenniman and myself, but she differs from me on this matter and she must vote according to her conscience, and so must every one of you. I am only speaking as an individual. I believe if these By-Laws are put through, it means more power for your Section; if it is not done, it means fiddling over a big proposition, holding it over for a year's time to give each member an opportunity to go over it again. We cannot be filling our MESSENGER with political documents, and you have your initiative and referendum; if these things are passed and are not liked, a referendum vote should correct it. After all, it is most largely a psychological thing that is being worked out here. I believe in every way it is advisable to put these By-Laws through, and I shall vote for the Resolution.

CHAIRMAN: There is a motion before the house that we lay the amendment on the table. What is your pleasure? The "ayes" have it. So ordered. By-Law VI is adopted.

MR. ALLEN: In By-Law VII, Section 1, third paragraph, it says:

No person holding any office . . . elective or appointive, in the Section, except the President, shall be eligible for membership on the Board of Trustees.

Will you please explain that sentence?

CHAIRMAN: This is a totally unnecessary thing. You will see elsewhere that the Judiciary Committee is elected for three years. Now that suggestion is a fine way for turning

off a valuable worker and losing him for three years!

By-Law VII, Section 7—*Duties of Secretary*—twenty-eighth line, "other than the records of Minutes" was deleted, so that the sentence reads, corrected:

He shall officiate as Secretary to the Annual and other meetings of the Section and to the Board of Trustees, keep records of the meetings of the Section and of the Board of Trustees," etc.

(Carried.)

Section 12—*Duties of Trustees*, last line at the foot of the third column:

This report shall contain a tabulated statement of moneys of the Section received and disbursed during the preceding year, so arranged that their source and disposition can be readily seen.

Moved to cut this out, as it is covered by the preceding paragraph. (Carried.)

Section 13—*Duties of Judiciary Committee*, last sentence of paragraph:

No member of the Judiciary Committee shall during his term of office hold any other office or membership on any other committee in the Section.

Moved to cancel, as being covered by Mr. Wardall's criticism of By-Laws, Section 1, as above.

CHAIRMAN: This Judiciary Committee is a totally unnecessary sort of thing, in my opinion. It might be that if all three members were together they might be able to agree upon and accomplish something, but that provision in there is another instance of the shutting off of a perfectly good worker and losing him for three years because you cannot use him in any other way while he is serving there. Suppose we were to elect a valuable man like Mr. Stowe or Mr. Warrington to the Judiciary Committee for three years; you couldn't use him in the Book Concern or anywhere else, simply because he was on that fool committee. I happen to have been a member of it myself, but I don't aspire to such a dignity again. I hope you will agree with me and excise all that about no member of the Committee holding any other office. (Voted upon and carried.)

By-Law IX, Section 6. *Good Standing of Members*.

A member in good standing is one whose annual dues have been paid, as shown by the books of the Secretary of the Section.

Moved to omit the word "annual," as the preceding paragraph provides that members may pay their dues semi-annually if desired. (Carried.)

Section 10. *Demit*.

A member of a Lodge, if in good standing, may obtain a demit from the secretary of his Lodge. The form of the demit shall be as follows:

"This is to certify that . . . , a member in good standing of the . . . Lodge, is hereby demitted.

(Signed) . . . Secretary of the Lodge."

Moved to add "to . . . Lodge or membership-at-large." (Carried.)

MR. PASSMORE (San Diego Lodge): I do not think this a good amendment, because you have members going away frequently without knowing what city they are going to locate in.



MR. STOWE: I would like to ask if it wouldn't be well to add in there to what time his dues are paid.

Changed to read:

This is to certify that..... a member in good standing of the..... Lodge, with dues paid to....., is hereby demitted to..... Lodge or membership-at-large.

DR. MITCHELL moved to cancel the last sentence of this paragraph under *Demit*, reading: "No demit shall be valid after three months." (Seconded and carried.)

By-Law X, Section I. *Application for Charter*. Moved to amend the sentence, "This application must be in writing on the form provided by the Board of Trustees and accompanied by a charter fee of \$5.00." Moved to cancel the last phrase, "and accompanied by a charter fee of \$5.00."

MR. ROGERS: The reason for that is that very often going into new territory where no Lodges exist we may work to get a small centre established, and sometimes it happens that of the seven or eight members who come in, two or three may belong to one family, and the expense is very excessive and may sometimes keep people from joining when they otherwise would do so if, in addition to their membership fees, they find they must all pay their share of the charter fee as well. Of course we don't mean to say that we shall abolish the thing, but simply leave it to the discretion of the Board of Trustees to waive it in cases where Lodges have a chance for life if they do not press them too hard in the beginning.

Moved to amend as follows:

This application must be in writing on the form provided by the Board of Trustees and accompanied by a charter fee of \$5.00. In the case of Lodges organized in new territory (places where no Lodges exist), the Trustees may waive the charter fee.

(Seconded and carried.)

By-Law XII, Section 4. *Committees*. Moved to amend by substituting "The Permanent Chairman shall appoint" instead of "The Convention shall elect." (Carried.)

By-Law XII, Section 8. *Introduction of Nominations*.

Nominations for the offices of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, the Board of Trustees, and the vacancies on the Judiciary Committee, may be introduced in open meeting, the same as resolutions. All nominations shall be in writing and shall be handed to the Nominating Committee for consideration and recommendation. The Nominations Committee may hear arguments for or against the various nominees. After the Committee on Nominations has finally reported, no new nominations shall be submitted, except by a two-thirds' vote of the Convention.

Moved to strike out the last sentence—"After the Committee," etc.

CHAIRMAN: You have heard the motion that all that last sentence shall be cut out. That will give the opportunity for nominations from the floor.

MR. ROGERS: There is a question as to whether the Nominating Committee put in before the Convention all the names that are placed before them for the various officers, or

whether they will simply select a list of names and present them. I wish you would enlighten the Convention as a whole.

MR. WARRINGTON: If I may be permitted to say, it seems to me that the function of a Nominating Committee is only a function of convenience to the Convention. I do not understand that they have any power at all to act. In the discussion of candidates many names may come before the Committee and be voted down, and the Committee thus saves the Convention considerable time and needless discussion. If, for example, there are a number of candidates for the various offices and these candidates are proposed in open meeting, there can be no talk about a private slate, and everything is open and aboveboard. But the Convention can save a considerable amount of time by appointing this Nominating Committee to receive all such names, and then report to us and say, "We think favorably of the following names," and then the Convention may decide. But if any one felt that a radical wrong had been committed, then he could go behind the Nominating Committee and speak from the floor.

DR. WRIGHT: I think there should be a little legislation on that. After the Committee on Nominations has taken the time to hear a little talk and bring in a slate according to its best judgment, I do not think the Convention ought to be open to everybody, promiscuously, to put in any name. I think a majority vote should be sufficient. I move that, instead of the two-thirds called for, we make it a majority vote. (Seconded.)

MR. POWERS May I ask whether that two-thirds or majority, or whatever it may be, refers to the members present or to proxies?

DR. WRIGHT: I had in mind those present.

MRS. RAKESTRAW: I think a nominating committee anyway is an abomination; but if we are to have a nominating committee at all, then let us have one that is operating according to what we are talking about here—that is, a democratic idea—and not allow the Nominating Committee to bring in any slate at all, if we are going to be fair to the members and have popular government. In an organization each member has the right to name any other person for office that any other one has, and if those names are brought here, the Nominating Committee intend they should be favorably acted upon by the Section. It seems to me only right that the Nominating Committee should bring in all the names that are submitted to it, with only this provision: that where one person's name is brought to it for two offices, then it shall use its own judgment.

CHAIRMAN: You understand that, under this provision, after the Nominating Committee has brought in the names any one can get up and, by leave of a majority, nominate anyone else.

MRS. RAKESTRAW: "By leave of a majority," yes; but I have found it to be true that where a nominating committee brought in a slate, it

was really a slate, and a hard and fixed thing, and it was usually a very difficult thing for a person from the floor to bring in the name of any candidate unless the injustice was so great that the body corporate could not stand it any longer, and then the people would demand a hearing.

MR. COOPER: I will make a motion that the last sentence in Section 8 of By-Law XII—"After the Committee on Nominations has finally reported, no new nominations shall be submitted except by a two-thirds vote of the Convention" be struck out. (Seconded and carried. So ordered.)

MR. SCUDDER: It has been moved and seconded that the report of the Committee on By-Laws be accepted.

MRS. RAKESTRAW: I move that this motion be laid on the table. (Seconded and carried.)

MR. STOWE: For a point of information. In By-Law VII, Section 1, third paragraph, it says:

No person holding an office, elective or appointive, in the Society or Section, except the President, shall be eligible for membership on the Board of Trustees.

Does that mean that the president and secretary of local Lodges would not be eligible to Trusteeship, for example?

MR. WARRINGTON: No; it refers to general or to national officers.

MR. STOWE: I would suggest:

No Trustee shall hold any of the offices mentioned in By-Law VI, Section 2, Numbers 1 to 7 inclusive, except the President," etc.

Amended to read:

No person holding any office mentioned in By-Law VI, Section 2, Numbers 1 to 7 inclusive, except the President," etc.

MRS. RAKESTRAW: I have one more amendment which I should like to offer. By-Law XII, Section 8, under *Nominations*:

All nominations shall be in writing, and shall be handed to the Nominating Committee for consideration and recommendation.

That means that all names given to the Nominating Committee shall be given to the Convention, and these shall be recommended to the Convention.

CHAIRMAN: You want them to put in every name that is suggested to them?

MR. SCUDDER: I would suggest that "report" would be better than "recommend".

MR. WARRINGTON: I move that the words "and recommendation" be stricken out. (Seconded and carried.)

MR. WALTON: Does Mr. Warrington interpret that as meaning, then, that the Committee shall simply receive all names and submit all names to the Convention? In that case, what is the purpose of the Nominating Committee? Would it be a good suggestion to say there "and report their choice back to Convention"?

(Seconded and carried to amend this Section by the words "and report of its choice".)

MRS. RAKESTRAW: I think when the Convention has considered the question to report its choice is too much like throwing our respon-

sibility on the Nominating Committee, which would never do. It is a technical parliamentary point which should be made as clear as possible.

DR. MITCHELL: The original question was whether we should have all nominations in writing or not.

MR. NETLAND: Does that mean before they are accepted by the Nominating Committee? It says, "All nominations shall be in writing and shall be handed to the Nominating Committee." Now if they are to consider all nominations, and in writing, then we are unable to make any from the floor.

MR. ROGERS: After the Committee has finally reported, and its report accepted, then we are not able to offer any further nominations to the Committee, but acting under ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER we should always have the right. No man can be excluded from the right of nominations from the floor.

MRS. RAKESTRAW: Simply say, "Nominations to the Committee shall be in writing," and leave out the word "all"; that makes it perfectly clear.

CHAIRMAN: The previous question has been moved that the report of the Committee on By-Laws be adopted as a whole.

MR. ROGERS: The previous question stands that we wished them adopted. That means, if it passes, we have to put the original question. The original question is the adoption of the By-Laws as a whole.

CHAIRMAN: I stand corrected, Mr. Rogers.

MR. ROGERS: My only purpose was this: I know there are those here who are opposed to these By-Laws and to their adoption at this time. Now remember this is their last chance. If there are people here who are opposed to this, my only object was to give them every possible chance, and if we vote the previous question, we must either adopt or reject these By-Laws.

CHAIRMAN: There is a question before the house. The question is to call for the previous question. As many as favor the previous question will say "aye"; contrary, "no". The "no's" have it.

MR. POWER: I would make a motion to the effect that the final decision as to their adoption or not be held over till tomorrow's session, so that every member may consider them carefully. (Seconded.)

MR. ROGERS: It seems to me that we have given them every opportunity now. There is nothing to be gained by laying it over; the matter is fresh in everybody's mind right now.

MR. POWER: It seems to me that all these matters are of such considerable importance to this Section that it is only fair that the members here present with their proxies, for whom they are responsible, should have a full day at least to mull these things over in their minds. At present we are at the end of our session, yet at the same time, seeing that they are such tremendous changes—at least to some points of



view—I would suggest that we hold off action on them until tomorrow.

(Motion lost.)

MR. STEARNS: I move to strike out the last sentence in By-Law XIV: "in the three successive issues of the official magazine of the Section." I think that would nullify the idea of the By-Laws as adopted. I bring this up merely that the members may realize that they are giving the Trustees power to act as they see fit.

CHAIRMAN: That phrase is really a limitation of their power, so that they could not do so without notice.

MR. HALL: In By-Law VIII, Section 3, under *Quorum*, the last sentence reads: "These may be present in person or by proxy." Now if anybody is here with ninety-nine proxies in his pocket, it seems to me he is not a representative of those ninety-nine, because on the questions we vote upon we decide according to the discretion of the voters present, and that person is in no way voting for those other ninety-nine; he is simply voting his own opinion one hundred times. I move that the phrase "or by proxy" be omitted.

MR. SCUDDER: I think that was fully covered in Mr. Warrington's talk, when he spoke on the subject of legislators who are sent to Congress. They are bound to use their own best judgment, and that is bound to be affected by whatever transpires at the Convention or at the body which they are attending, and if they have a Convention, when they want to vote a certain way they have simply one hundred votes when they hold ninety-nine proxies in their pocket, and every one who has gone up to Convention with a proxy has gone there with that idea—that they are to use their best judgment on any question that may come up.

MR. HOLLAND: I do not feel satisfied with Section 8 of By-Law XII (*re* Nominating Committee). The reason of it especially as applying to a Theosophical Convention is this: The most worthy of our members for such high offices are usually of a retiring disposition and would not care to go into a contest, or have their names brought before a Convention after a Nominating Committee has made its report. When that Committee comes in and makes its report, few of the prominent Theosophists that I know would allow their names to be used and come before the Convention, but would abide by the Committee's report. We had some experience of this sort in my Lodge in Los Angeles—and I wish to say that I believe it is the largest Lodge in the Section—and we found that to make nominations from the floor was the most satisfactory. I move to strike out in Section 8 all that refers to the Nominating Committee's report.

DR. MITCHELL: Seconded. It seems to me we should be able to get the most worthy candidates for office, the most worthy Theosophists for the places, if we put it right square up to a

democratic Convention, where each could cast his own vote.

MR. SCUDDER: Your idea is that those names would be handed to the Nominating Committee, and have them report back to Convention?

MR. HOLLAND: That amendment was killed.

MR. KNUDSEN: It seems to me that by abolishing the Nominating Committee we would put ourselves back into a state of chaos. We do not know every one in the Section, necessarily, but we can know every member of a Lodge. Take Mr. Holland's Lodge, for example—of which I am proud to be a member; the Nominating Committee is an essential there, and I do not think it is possible to carry on a Convention without it.

MRS. RAKESTRAW: If we want to keep out of the political arena, we must have nominations by informal ballot.

CHAIRMAN: The motion is lost.

MR. HOLLAND: I would suggest that the Nominating Committee should be elected from the floor instead of being appointed by the Permanent Chairman, which leaves the power in the one man, and we might have delegates from all over the world.

The motion to adopt the By-Laws as amended was then put, after being duly seconded and carried, and the By-Laws ordered adopted.

MR. WARRINGTON: I would like if some one would make a motion to thank Mr. Carlos S. Hardy for the long time he took to help me with these By-Laws.

Moved and seconded, and duly carried, that a vote of thanks be tendered Mr. Hardy for his services in the matter.

CHAIRMAN: We will now hear from the Committee on Nominations.

DR. WRIGHT (Chairman of the Committee on Nominations): The Committee is in doubt as to which By-Laws it is working under.

Ruled by the Chair that they must now work under the new By-Laws.

DR. WRIGHT: The Committee had made no ticket, and was open to all who wished to present names. After consideration—there being a strong backing for two candidates—we have agreed on two tickets. We knew in case of the election of either of the candidates suggested whom they would probably like for the Trustees and other officers, those who are their intimate friends. Strange as it may seem, both these candidates handed in practically the same list of assistants in the way of Board of Trustees, Vice-President and Treasurer, so that the Committee now presents the two following tickets:

*First:* For President, Mr. Warrington; Vice-President, Mrs. Russak; Treasurer, Mr. Scudder. For Board of Directors: Mr. Stowe, Mrs. A. Ross Read, Mr. Ray Wardall, Mr. Robert K. Walton. For Judiciary Committee: (Under these By-Laws I believe there is a whole new Board—the first one of which is elected for three years, the second for two, and the third for one.) Mr. C. F. Holland of Los Angeles,



California; Mr. George H. Wilson of Louisville, Kentucky; and Mr. E. Y. Blum of Kansas City, Missouri.

The *second* ticket is headed by Mr. L. W. Rogers—

MR. ROGERS: Mr. Chairman, this is something that comes as a surprise to me, and is entirely without my approval or consent. I am not a candidate, and so must decline in advance.

DR. WRIGHT: There were a great many calls for Mr. Warrington as a candidate, and a great many calls for Mr. Rogers. They were sincere in each case. We thought it only right to have the two tickets, or any other they might see fit to bring, as you have a right to do. This second ticket consisted of:

For President, Mr. Rogers; Vice-President, Mrs. Russak; Treasurer, Mr. Scudder. The Board the same—Mr. Stowe, Mrs. Ross Read, Mr. Ray Wardall, Mr. Walton; and the Judiciary Committee the same—Messrs. Holland, Wilson and Blum.

CHAIRMAN: You have heard the report of the Nominating Committee.

MR. ROGERS: I move that the report as read be adopted. (Seconded and carried.)

DR. WRIGHT: What does that involve?

CHAIRMAN: That the Convention nominates Mr. Warrington for President, Mrs. Russak for Vice-President, Mr. Scudder for Treasurer, and the Board of Trustees and Judiciary Board as read.

DR. WRIGHT: I suppose it is lawful now to invite nominations from the floor of the Convention. I have a great many personal proxies in my possession in which I have been instructed to cast my vote for Mr. Rogers as General Secretary. I wish to state that at once, because I think it incumbent upon me to cast my vote as those proxies dictate. So I must present the name of Mr. L. W. Rogers.

MR. ROGERS: This is a peculiar position, when I have already made it as clear as I can that I am not a candidate and would not be a candidate. You may think it is a little personal pride on my part, but you see I consider my job more important than the General Secretaryship. I would not consent to take a little thing like that. I don't really want it. I don't want you to think that I don't appreciate the high compliment—I understand there are between four and five hundred proxies sent here instructing the bearers to vote for me as General Secretary. Well, I am not standing for that office, and I don't believe it is necessary for me to take up more time to make it any plainer.

MR. STOWE: I also have some proxies; but if Mr. Rogers withdraws from the field, then I shan't feel obliged to vote them in any such way.

MRS. RAKESTRAW: I move that the secretary be instructed to cast one vote as for the entire Convention for the first ticket as read. (Carried and so ordered, and the ticket with Mr.

Warrington as President of the American Section T. S. duly declared elected.

CHAIRMAN: Is there any new business?

MISS SOMMER: Friends, I would like to offer the Resolution proposed earlier in the day regarding more pay and shorter hours for the Krotona workers. I am only offering this as a suggestion, and I assure you that I know the workers have overworked voluntarily this year, but it should not be.

MR. ROGERS: I move the adoption of this Resolution, and want to say that, while the Board of Trustees must undoubtedly have the power to do this, yet a recommendation of Convention would probably encourage them, and I know something of the workers at Krotona and know that some of them get down ill. I know they are not getting money enough, and that when they pay their rent and their meals they haven't anything to buy clothes with, and I think a wage of \$12.50 should be a minimum wage.

MR. MUNSON: I have been at Krotona for two years, and have been in a position where I have had to hire a great deal of help myself in all departments, and I believe that such a rule would be unwise because a number of the people who come there are not worth \$10 and such a rule would compel all departments to adhere to it, which would be unreasonable. And another point is that the people going there for a brief visit do not understand all the conditions. You can live at Krotona a great deal cheaper than in the usual surroundings; the rent of the bungalows is low, the price of food in the cafeteria is as low as possible, and so on.

MISS POUTZ: Friends, I am also one of those workers, and I myself get on very comfortably on the small amount which I have, but I want to add this: Most of our visitors come during the summer, just before Convention, when there is always a rush of work, and they receive the impression that this stress of work continues all the time, which is not quite correct. We are not always overworked, but we are all willing to be so at Convention time in order to do the work properly.

Seconded and carried, that this Convention authorize the Board of Trustees to engage sufficient efficient help at a minimum wage of \$12.50 a week, and the Resolution amended to express that it is the sense of this Convention that that part which refers to the laws of the State of California be eliminated.

MR. FOLDEN: Just before closing let me say that if you adopt this Resolution, don't come back a year from now and complain because the expenses are too high.

Notices of the movements of the National Lecturers were then given; also notice of Donations. Under the latter heading should come the amount raised by Mrs. Shutts at the Krotona Mortgage Burning ceremony Monday afternoon, the amount subscribed by Miss Upton, and so forth.

Notice was given that Mr. Burton Hall had



written a play along Theosophical lines, the scenario of which he would be glad to submit to any reputable theatrical manager.

MR. WARRINGTON: Friends, I have very little to say; I have spoken already more than my share. I only wish to say that I am glad to have this opportunity to express to you my warm appreciation of your confidence shown. I feel it deeply, and shall guard it and preserve it as one of the treasures of my life.

I want to say a further word—a thing I couldn't say when I was standing for these By-Laws, but I can say it now—and that is that I believe you have made an organic mechanism here which insures the possibility that in future, whether it be far or near, you can have one of the big people to occupy the executive office which you have now created. You have

prepared the way to invite to your executive office some of those people who, we have been told, will be working with us in the future.

I should now like to propose a vote of thanks to Mr. Max Wardall for his patient and exceedingly efficient labors as Chairman of this Convention. (Seconded and unanimously carried.)

Mr. Walters then reported that the members should meet at 12 o'clock on Thursday at the T. S. Headquarters, and from there proceed to the Palace of Education for the ceremony of being presented with a medal by the Exposition representatives, to which Mr. Warrington consented to make reply.

After playing by Mr. Van der Linden, and a few moments' meditation, the Twenty-ninth Annual Convention then adjourned.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

A regular meeting of the newly elected Trustees of The American Section of The Theosophical Society was called to order at 9 a. m., July 28, 1915, in Room 43, Chancellor Hotel, San Francisco, California, and continued in session July 29 and 30. The meeting was called to order by Mr. A. P. Warrington. The members present were A. P. Warrington, H. C. Stowe, Robert K. Walton, Mrs. A. Ross Read and Ray M. Wardall.

On motion duly made and carried, Mr. Warrington was elected Chairman for this meeting and Ray M. Wardall Secretary, *pro tem*.

On motion duly made and carried, the Board proceeded to its organization with the following unanimous result: *President*, A. P. Warrington; *Vice-President*, Mrs. Marie B. Russak; *Treasurer*, C. O. Scudder.

The following Resolutions were presented and unanimously adopted:

No. 1. That the following be, and hereby are, chosen and elected to fill the following offices: *Propaganda Manager*, L. W. Rogers; *Editor*, Mrs. May S. Rogers; *Manager Theosophical Book Concern*, Mrs. Eleanor R. Broenniman; *Secretary*, Miss Isabel B. Holbrook; *National Lecturers*, Mrs. Marie B. Russak, Miss Isabel B. Holbrook, L. W. Rogers, Irving S. Cooper, Max Wardall. *Purchasing Agent* for all Theosophical supplies at Headquarters, Mrs. Eleanor R. Broenniman.

No. 2. That the title *National Lecturer* be used only by those approved by the Trustees, and that these National Lecturers shall in the performance of their duties and tours consult with and be subject to the supervision of the Propaganda Manager.

No. 3. That the policy of THE MESSENGER shall be to emphasize the message of Theosophy, the activities of the Section, sugges-

tions concerning Lodge work and general propaganda, with a view to having everything therein of a constructive nature, and nothing destructive or separative to be admitted.

No. 4. That the Propaganda Manager have set aside for his use during the current year \$1200.00, to be used in such manner as he may see fit; \$300.00 thereof to be available to him September 1, 1915, and the balance payable in nine equal monthly installments.

No. 5. That the Propaganda Manager have authority to appoint an assistant, designated as the *Assistant Propaganda Manager*, who shall be located at Krotona, and that \$10.00 per week be available and is hereby authorized if needed.

No. 6. That it shall be the duty of each Lodge Secretary to co-operate with the Propaganda Manager by sending to him at least once a month the names and permanent addresses of all persons found to be interested in Theosophy, a copy to be retained by local Lodge Secretaries.

No. 7. That the propaganda literature originally held as an asset of the Book Concern and now in the possession of the Section be placed in the hands of the Book Concern on the following basis: \$550.00 worth at inventory prices shall be sold for the benefit of the Book Concern; the balance shall be held subject to the order of the Propaganda Department for free distribution only, until the present stock is exhausted. At such times as the Book Concern reprints any such leaflets, it shall furnish them at cost price to the Section as required.

No. 8. That the Secretary *pro tem*. be authorized and directed to forthwith confer with Elliot Holbrook concerning the matter of differences between himself and the Section and request Mr. Holbrook to meet in arbitration, as per resolution passed at the Annual Conven-

tion, with the end in view of securing a complete adjustment between the Section and Mr. Holbrook.

No. 9. That the officers of the Section be authorized and directed to pay any and all bills incurred in the three public lectures of Messrs. Cooper and Rogers and Mrs. Marie B. Russak at the end of Convention.

No. 10. That the President be given authority to print the new By-Laws adopted at the Convention and distribute them in the best manner possible.

No. 11. That the Secretary, Treasurer and Manager of the Book Concern be each placed under one thousand dollar bonds.

No. 12. That \$500.00 be available for the President for traveling expenses and miscellaneous disbursements in the performance of his official duties.

No. 13. That the following sums be appropriated for the various departments as follows, to wit: Rent, light, heat and janitor services, \$850.00; MESSENGER salaries \$540.00; MESSENGER publication, \$1800.00; Adyar proportion of dues, \$800.00; Furniture and fixtures, \$200.00; Postage, extras, supplies, etc., \$500.00; Propaganda Manager, \$1200.00; Assistant Propaganda Manager (estimate as per Resolution No. 5), \$500.00; President (as per Resolution No. 12), \$500.00; Secretary's Assistant (estimate as per Resolution No. 15), \$600.00.

No. 14. That the Hollywood National Bank be, and hereby is, designated as the depository of the funds of the Theosophical Book Concern, and, until further action taken by the Trustees, said depository is authorized to honor the checks on said account when signed in the name of the Theosophical Book Concern by the Manager thereof.

No. 15. That the Hollywood National Bank be, and hereby is, designated as the depository of the funds of The American Section of The Theosophical Society and, pending further action of the Board, said depository is authorized to honor checks on said account when signed in the name of The American Section of The Theosophical Society by the Secretary and by the Treasurer.

No. 16. That the Secretary be, and hereby is, authorized to employ such additional help as may be required in the performance of her duties, with the understanding that, in accordance with her stipulation at the time of her election as Secretary, she be permitted to resign at such time as she can be conveniently released to take up work on a wider scope.

Mr. Wardall reported that, in accordance with Resolution No. 14, he had answered Mr. Holbrook's letter directed to Mr. Warrington, which Holbrook letter is in words as follows:

A. P. WARRINGTON, Esq.,  
General Secretary.

Dear Sir:

Accepting the statement made at the recent Board meeting, I am enclosing my check for \$176.41.

Hoping that this may be sufficient to meet all the

outstanding obligations that I am adjudged responsible for,

Sincerely,  
(Signed) E. HOLBROOK.

Said answer being as follows:

July 29, 1915.

MR. ELLIOT HOLBROOK,  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mr. Holbrook:

Mr. A. P. Warrington has referred to the Board of Trustees of the American Section T. S. your letter to him of the 26th instant, enclosing your check for \$176.41. We appreciate your motive and generosity in sending the check. But it was not the thought of the Board, nor its intention, that you be held responsible for, or pay this amount, and we therefore feel in honor bound to return the check which is enclosed herewith.

As you know, a resolution was passed at the Convention, asking that any differences that might exist between yourself and the Section be submitted to arbitration. In order to fulfil our duties and have the matter cleared up on our records, we formally request at this time that you confer with us over the choosing of a Board of Arbitration. If, as you have indicated to the undersigned, Secretary *pro tem.*, all matters are adjusted, if you will please so state in writing, our records will be clear.

In the absence of arbitration this is to advise you that you are relieved of any and all obligations and further responsibilities from any and all sources in connection with THE AMERICAN THEOSOPHIST.

Cordially and fraternally yours,

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE AMERICAN  
SECTION T. S.

By RAY M. WARDALL,  
Secretary *pro tem.*

Mr. Wardall further reported that he delivered the letter personally, and Mr. Holbrook stated that he would forthwith write a letter to the Board of Trustees releasing the Section from any and all claims whatsoever which he may have heretofore asserted. He further stated that he desired the Section to keep the remittance of \$176.41. The said check was then delivered by the Secretary to the President.

On motion duly made and carried, the report was accepted and the Secretary directed to place on file the original letter from Mr. Holbrook and the answer thereto.

There being no further business that could come before the meeting before consulting the Krotona records, the meeting adjourned to meet at the office of the President at Krotona, Hollywood, Los Angeles, California, on Monday, August 9, 1915, at 10:30 a. m.

RAY M. WARDALL,  
Secretary, *pro tem.*

A. P. WARRINGTON,  
Chairman.

Following is the letter referred to by Mr. Wardall:

San Francisco, Calif., July 30, 1915.  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,  
The American Section of The Theosophical Society  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Gentlemen:

This is to acknowledge receipt of a letter from you under date of July 29, 1915, signed by R. M. Wardall, Secretary *pro tem.*

So far as matters of the past are concerned, they are no longer of interest to me and are closed, so far as I am concerned.

I have no claim to make.

Respectfully,  
(Signed) E. HOLBROOK.



Monday, August 9, 1915.

An adjourned meeting of the Board of Trustees of the American Section T. S. met on this day at the office of the President at Krotona, Hollywood, Los Angeles, California, at 10:30 a. m. Present: A. P. Warrington, H. C. Stowe, Mrs. A. Ross Read and Robert K. Walton; Isabel B. Holbrook acting as Secretary.

The following Resolutions were moved, seconded and unanimously adopted:

1. That the Sectional Officers be officially designated as National President, National Vice-President, National Secretary, National Treasurer, and that the use of such terms be encouraged and less accurate ones discouraged.

2. That Mr. A. F. Knudsen be added to the list of National Lecturers.

3. That THE MESSENGER be authorized to sell space to the Krotona Mortgage Raising Bureau, provided the adequate reference be made in each insertion to the legal status of the organization and the disposition of the funds.

4. That a *verbatim* report of the proceedings of the Convention as submitted to the Board be published in the next issue of THE MESSENGER,

and that the sum of \$40.00 be paid to the stenographers for their services in preparing this report.

5. That the Book Concern act as publisher of THE MESSENGER and as such shall receive subscriptions and attend to the mailing and distribution thereof.

6. That the usual certificate required by the laws of Illinois, showing the officers and resident agent of the Society be prepared and filed, and that Miss Julia K. Sommer be appointed as such Resident Agent.

7. That a standing committee of three is hereby appointed, to consist of Elliott Holbrook, C. F. Holland and Henry Hotchner, to inquire into the possibilities of growth and increased usefulness of the Book Concern and to make recommendations to the Manager thereof, and to work with the Manager in an advisory capacity in the conduct of the business of the Concern.

Adjourned *sine die*.

ISABEL B. HOLBROOK,  
National Secretary.

A. P. WARRINGTON,  
Chairman.

## CONVENTION NOTES

### BY THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT

The Convention has come and gone, and, as usual, its work being completed, the members have turned in the direction of their homes to carry with them whatever they found there that was good and useful for their work.

It was a notable Convention in many respects, but especially so because of the strong spirit of brotherhood that pervaded it. All lines of separation seemed for the time obliterated, and peace, harmony and fraternal unity pervaded the entire gathering. Well will it be for Theosophy as this spirit spreads outward and animates every phase of our activities.

Immediately preceding the Convention there was a Co-Masonic Conference lasting for several days. I did not have the privilege of attending the meetings, being busy throughout the time with Convention preparations, but all who were present spoke enthusiastically of the wonderful spirit of brotherhood manifested. Surely Masonry is doing its great part in the work of Universal Brotherhood.

The Pre-Convention public lectures of Mrs. Russak and Mr. Vance Thompson were well received, the one speaking on *The Occultism of War*, and the other on the title *In the War Zone*.

On the day before Convention there was a general E. S. meeting in the morning, at which I spoke, and a Conclave of the Knights of the Rosy Cross in the afternoon. Following this there was a reception given by the local Lodges,

and in the evening Mr. Cooper gave a public lecture on *Theosophy—the Master Key*.

The Post-Convention lectures arranged by the Krotona Institute were an interesting feature, and a brief report of them appears in another place. Immediately following this was the International Conference of the Order of the Star in the East, at both of which I had the pleasure of speaking, with many others.

The whole period covered by these activities extended from July 22 to August 4, and constituted a very delightful occasion throughout. It was good that the associated activities could have had their meetings both before and after ours, thus enabling the members having all these interests in common to attend them at the same time. The general spirit of them all showed strongly the note of brotherhood and co-operation, which is the all-important one to be struck at this time, and with greater and greater emphasis.

The strictly official days were Monday and Tuesday, on the mornings of which the official business was done, and the afternoons and evenings were occupied chiefly with lectures. On Monday afternoon there were discussions concerning the work of extending our message, followed by a beautiful service of burning one of the Krotona mortgages. After this I spoke on *Principles of Government*, and in the evening Mr. Rogers lectured on *The Inspired Life*.

The afternoon of the next day was occupied

by lectures by Mr. Knudsen on *Manu and Anti-Christ* and by Mr. Max Wardall on *Practical Spiritual Factors*, and the evening by a public lecture by Mrs. Russak on *Modern Scientific Achievements in the Light of Occultism*.

Some changes were worked out at the business sessions, tending, as I believe, to improve and enlarge the effectiveness of the service. These are covered by the new set of By-Laws which were presented by me and which, with slight amendments, were adopted. Briefly, they are these:

Under the new By-Laws the Section now has the officers which usually conduct the business of corporations, namely, the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. The duties of the Vice-President and Treasurer need no explanation, but those of the President and Secretary include those heretofore performed by the General Secretary and Assistant General Secretary. While the corporate designations of all these offices are as above indicated, yet, in order the better to distinguish the offices from similar offices of the international body—the Theosophical Society—the Board of Trustees has passed a resolution that the word “national”

be prefixed to each of these titles in common usage in the Section, especially since in the general rules of the parent Society a Section is known as a “National Society.” Your National President, therefore (formerly called General Secretary), will now perform chiefly executive and supervisory duties, and your National Secretary will perform those formerly under the Assistant General Secretary. This, broadly speaking, is the distinction, but a careful reading of the By-Laws will disclose the precise duties of each.

The new offices created are the Editor and the Propaganda Manager, and that of the Manager of the Book Concern has been regularized. These all have their specific duties, and all members should correspond with each directly when business is to be done with these departments, and no longer to a “General Secretary” as a kind of representative of them all.

This change in the organization throws the responsibility directly on the departmental heads to whom it naturally belongs, and sets the National President free from direct responsibility, and so enables him to work in a wider scope.

## REPORT ON THE POST-CONVENTION

The idea of the Post-Convention was to feature some of our strong speakers and present a number of those less extensively known but whose work is valuable and promising for the future. Speakers from all parts of the Section were sought and finally a program of considerable value was prepared, as will be seen below. The sessions were partly open to the public and each evening a public lecture previously advertised was given in a larger hall than that used during the day. The attendance was more than anticipated, the members throwing themselves with commendable zeal into the *Open Forum* feature, presenting much food for thought and discussion. This revivification of the old Post-Convention plan proved so valuable that it was suggested that it be continued next year at St. Louis.

Among the subjects discussed in the *Open Forum*, by members only, were included *What Theosophy Gives to the Unbeliever—Sectarian, Devotee, Scientist, Uneducated; Ignorance versus Tolerance; Ritual and Formality, their Uplift, Power, Efficacy, Comfort, Fascination,*

*Education; The Subtle Bodies; Modes of Individualization; The Thinker; Self-Consciousness; The Master-Mind; Developed Egos; Morals and Ethics; Man's Power and Handicap.*

Stereopticon lectures were given to the public by Dr. J. C. Mitchell on *Man and His Bodies*; by Dr. B. W. Lindburgh on *The Microcosm and Reincarnation in the Bible*; and by Mr. Irving S. Cooper on *The Aura in Art*. Other evening lectures were on *Superior Diet*, by Mr. E. T. Power; *Awakening Humanity*, by Miss Julia K. Sommer; *The Unknown Guest—Maeterlinck*, by Mrs. Antoinette de C. Phillips; *He that Overcometh*, by the Hon. Max Wardall; *The Race Mother*, by our National President, Mr. A. P. Warrington; *The Coming of the Christ*, by Miss Marjorie Tuttle; *The Young Person and the Theosophical Society*, by Norris W. Rakestraw; *How to Become a Vegetarian*, by Dr. Mitchell; *Lower and Higher Psychism, The School of the Ego, and To Sleep and to Die*, by Miss Annie C. McQueen; and *Ethics, Healing of Body, Emotion and Mind, and Geology and The Secret Doctrine*, by Mr. A. F. Knudsen.

On the four days previous to the T. S. Convention the Co-Masonic Lodges on the Pacific Coast held the second Regional Convention of the American Federation. Splendid work was done to uphold the high ideals for which the Masonic Order stands. Although regional in plan, the Convention was attended by the Grand Commander, Louis Goaziou, 33°, President of the American Federation, and the Vice-President, Alida E. de Leeuw, 33°, as well as by several members of the National Council.

The spirit of the real joy of Brotherhood among the many nationalists represented was felt as a great factor in the entire series of meetings, which ended in a banquet on Saturday evening.

At the closing it was decided to try and have a National Convention next year, that the inspiration of working together in this manner may be shared by each and every Lodge from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast.

May increasing Light come to all!



# BY-LAWS OF THE AMERICAN SECTION OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

AS AMENDED BY CONVENTION, JULY, 1915

## PREAMBLE

To promote the welfare of The American Section of The Theosophical Society, we, its members, do adopt the following By-Laws:

## BY-LAW I

### *Name*

The name is "The American Section of The Theosophical Society."

## BY-LAW II

### *Objects*

The objects of The Theosophical Society are:  
1st. To form a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or color.

2nd. To encourage the study of Comparative Religion, Philosophy and Science.

3rd. To investigate unexplained laws of Nature and the powers latent in man.

## BY-LAW III

### *Organization*

The American Section is an integral and indivisible part of The Theosophical Society, founded in New York, U. S. A., on November 17th, 1875, by Henry Steel Olcott and Helena Petrovna Blavatsky, and incorporated at Madras, India, on April 3rd, 1905, and having its permanent headquarters at Adyar, Madras, India. It is an autonomous body composed of its members.

## BY-LAW IV

### *Membership in The Theosophical Society*

Membership in the Society is open to all persons, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or color.

## BY-LAW V

### *Membership in The American Section*

Membership in The American Section is either as a member-at-large or as a member of a lodge.

## BY-LAW VI

### *Government of the Section*

SECTION 1. *Administration.* The administration of the Section is vested in its members assembled in an Annual Meeting, and in the

interim between two Annual Meetings in a Board of Trustees, the action of either, however, being subject to a veto power in the general council of the whole Society in the manner prescribed by its rules, and also being subject to the rights of the members to veto or legislate directly by means of the Initiative and Referendum in a manner hereafter provided.

SEC. 2. *Officers and Committees.* There shall be the following Section officers and standing Committees:

1. The President.
2. The Vice-President.
3. The Secretary.
4. The Treasurer.
5. The Editor.
6. The Manager of the Theosophical Book Concern.
7. The Propaganda Manager.
8. National Lecturers.
9. The Judiciary Committee.

SEC. 3. *Board of Trustees.* There shall be a Board of Trustees consisting of five (5) members of the Section, of which the President shall be one member.

SEC. 4. *Election of Officers and Trustees.* The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, and the Trustees shall be elected at the Annual Meeting by ballot of the members in good standing June 30th preceding, either in person or by proxy, to hold office until their successors are elected. The vacancies on the Judiciary Committee shall be likewise filled.

The Editor, the Manager of the Book Concern, the Propaganda Manager, the Secretary and the National Lecturers shall be selected by the Board of Trustees, subject to the right of removal by the Board.

The Board of Trustees shall have the power to fill vacancies in any office occurring from any cause.

SEC. 5. *Advisory Board.* The President may at his discretion form an Advisory Board, consisting of the first seven officers designated in By-Law VI, Section 2, who shall meet at his call, shall render reports called for by him, and shall give such general aid with information and advice as will tend to improve the unity and effectiveness of the service.

SEC. 6. *Judicial Committee.* There shall be a Judiciary Committee consisting of three members, whose terms of office shall be for three years. At the first election, one member shall be elected for three years, one member for two years, and the third for one year.

## BY-LAW VII

*Powers and Duties*

SECTION 1. *Duties of Board of Trustees.* The Board of Trustees shall be charged with the execution of the laws of the Section and the policies determined upon at the Annual Meeting. It shall have exclusive control of all funds of the Section, the disbursements of which have not been specifically provided for by the Section at its Annual Meeting.

It shall annually prepare a budget in respect to the income and expenditure of the Section and shall make suitable appropriations for the carrying on of the work of the Section and the various offices and departments thereof.

No person holding any office mentioned in By-Law VI, Section 2, Nos. 1 to 7, inclusive, elective or appointive, in the Section, except the President, shall be eligible for membership on the Board of Trustees. The Board may create Bureaus or other departments in connection with the work of the Section and define the work of same, and upon the nomination of the President may appoint the members of such Bureaus and departments.

SEC. 2. *Meetings of Board of Trustees.* The Board of Trustees shall meet just prior to the Annual Meeting of the Section and immediately after its close, and three members thereof shall constitute a quorum. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President or by any two Trustees upon two weeks' notice thereof being sent to each Trustee by telegraph, prepaid, the said notice to be confirmed by registered letter or upon three weeks' notice thereof being sent by registered letter. It shall be the duty of each Trustee to acknowledge receipt of telegram by telegraph, but such failure to acknowledge shall not invalidate any meeting. The Board shall publish its proceedings in the official magazine. Any notice demanded by this By-Laws may be waived in writing.

SEC. 3. *Presiding Officer at Meetings.* The President shall act as temporary chairman at the meetings of the Section and shall preside over same until the meeting has selected its permanent chairman.

The Board of Trustees shall select its own chairman.

SEC. 4. *Duties of the President.* The President shall be the general executive officer of the Section and generally shall possess the powers and discharge the duties required of presidents of corporate societies. He shall sign and execute as President such documents as may be required and first authorized by the Section or the Board. He shall require of all officers, Boards and Committees, and they shall make to him, such reports as he may deem proper to be made, and he shall annually make a full report as President of the Section of all its affairs. He shall be the proper medium of communication between the various officers and the Board. He shall as often as possible attend the meetings of the general council of The Theosophical Society, and shall also be the medium of exchange of information and plans with

The Theosophical Society and the other National Societies. He shall conduct correspondence with members and non-members other than of a routine nature and especially concerning personal problems. He shall nominate to the Board the Secretary, the Editor, the Manager of the Book Concern, the Propaganda Manager, the National Lecturers, and all members of such Bureaus and departments as may be created by the Board. He shall have power to divide the territory of the Section into districts or divisions, as he may deem wise, and to appoint in such divisions presidential deputies to be known as Divisional Representatives to aid him in the performance of his duties. There shall be set aside for his official use space in the official magazine, in which he shall make such communications to the members as he may deem proper. Such space, together with a suitable appropriation of funds for the use of the President, shall be made by the Board of Trustees.

SEC. 5. *Duties of "General Secretary" under By-Laws of The Theosophical Society.* In addition to the powers, privileges and duties cast upon the President by these By-Laws, he shall possess and exercise, ex-officio, all of the privileges and duties devolving upon the official designated as "General Secretary" in the laws and rules of The Theosophical Society, that is to say, he shall sit on the general council as a member thereof; he shall be the channel of official communication between the general council and his Section; he shall take the votes of the individual members of the Section in a Presidential election of The Theosophical Society on the list of the members forwarded to Adyar in the preceding November, and shall communicate the result to the Recording Secretary; he shall admit members of The Theosophical Society and countersign their diplomas; he shall forward to the President at Adyar annually not later than the 1st day of November, a report of the year's work of the Section, and at any time furnish any further information the President of The Theosophical Society or general council may desire.

SEC. 6. *Duties of the Vice-President.* Upon the office of President becoming vacant the Vice-President shall assume the duties of President until such time as a President shall be elected by the Section at Convention or *ad interim* by the Board. He shall have no other duties than those prescribed or referred to in this Section.

SEC. 7. *Duties of Secretary.* The Secretary of this Section shall be the general clerical officer thereof, and shall perform all the duties usually pertaining to the office of Secretary of Corporations. He shall have general charge, subject to the control of the Trustees, of the receipt of the money due to the Section, may sign and endorse checks on behalf of the Section, and enter into such contracts on behalf of the Section as may be required, or that may in law be legal and proper for the Section to enter into, after the same shall have been authorized by the Board in its general budget or otherwise. He shall collect all moneys due to the Section, make proper record of the same, and promptly deposit the same to the



credit of the Section in such bank or banks as the Board shall have directed, and promptly report such deposits to the Treasurer. Every corporate act that would ordinarily be required to be performed on behalf of the Section by a Secretary thereof shall be carried out and performed by the Secretary thereof, who is hereby especially invested with that power and authority. He shall officiate as Secretary to the annual and other meetings of the Section and to the Board of Trustees, keep records of the meetings of the Section and of the Board of Trustees, which records shall at reasonable times be open to the inspection of members. He shall notify members of their election, keep a roll of members, issue notices of all meetings of the Section; he shall conduct the routine correspondence only, and make reports in writing as may be required of him, and perform such other duties as usually pertain to this office. He shall have custody of the corporate seal. The Secretary shall during the term of his office reside at the official headquarters of the Section. He shall publish in THE MESSENGER each month a synopsis of receipts and disbursements. He shall deposit all funds in the bank in the name of the Section, and he shall give a bond, to be furnished at the expense of the Section, for the faithful discharge of his duties in an amount to be fixed by the Trustees. He shall render such service in connection with the issuance of the official organ, and such other duties as may be required of him.

SEC. 8. *Duties of the Treasurer.* It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to take charge of all securities belonging to the Section and to keep the same under the rules and regulations to be established by the Board of Trustees. He shall receive from the Secretary a record of the funds deposited in bank to the credit of the Section, and he shall make a permanent record of same; he shall countersign all checks drawn by the Secretary for the payment of the obligations of the Section that may first have been duly authorized, and shall make such reports as may be required. He shall give such bond, at the Section's cost, for the faithful discharge of his duties as the Board may require of him. He shall reside at or near the official headquarters during his term of office.

SEC. 9. *Duties of the Editor.* The Editor of the official magazine shall have charge of the editing and publication of same under the general direction of the Board of Trustees. The Board shall arrange for the official organ's issuance, shall prescribe its policy, and set apart space in same for use of the President and Secretary, and the Editor shall render such other service as may be required of him by the Board. The Editor shall not hold any other office in the Society, nor permit the magazine to take any part in the political affairs of the Society.

SEC. 10. *Duties of Manager of the Book Concern.* The Manager of the Book Concern shall have charge of the purchase and sale of books for the Section, and of the publication and importation of books. He shall endeavor to so conduct

the book business for the Section that it will meet the fullest demands of the membership and of the public, and be profitable to the Section. In all matters the Manager shall be under the direction of and subject to the control of the Board, and he shall not incur any debt or liability on behalf of the Section not first provided for or authorized. He shall make such reports as may be required of him, and shall give such bond, at the Section's cost, as may be required by the Board, and perform such other duties respecting his office as may be required.

SEC. 11. *Duties of the Propaganda Manager.* The Propaganda Manager shall endeavor to ascertain the best methods for the conduct of the propaganda work of the Section, with a view to the constant improvement of same, to the development of systematized and efficient propaganda work on the part of lodges and individual members, to the raising of funds for propaganda work under direction of the Board; he shall set in motion and keep effective all of the possible agencies of the Section that can be employed to the aid of the propaganda work; shall enlist and utilize the services of lecturers, teachers, writers and others to the best advantage in the presentment of Theosophy to the public, and in general shall render all such aid to the Section, its officers, lodges and committees as will make effective every effort made in connection with propaganda. He shall give the President such assistance in the propaganda work as the President may require, and shall perform such other duties as the Board may prescribe.

SEC. 12. *Duties of Trustees.* Just prior to the Annual Meeting the Board of Trustees shall cause the accounts of the Section to be audited by a certified public accountant and a sworn report by the latter to be made therefrom.

The Board shall elect the Secretary, the Editor of the official magazine, the Manager of the Book Concern, the Propaganda Manager and the National Lecturers. It shall fix the bonds of officers, and may prescribe additional duties of all officers and committees. The Board shall be responsible for the welfare of the Section and the proper administration of its business and affairs, and shall require efficient service and faithful observance of the law and rules on the part of all officers. The Board may hold its meetings in any State or Territory where there are lodges of The Theosophical Society under the jurisdiction of the Section.

SEC. 13. *Duties of Judiciary Committee.* The Judiciary Committee shall have no powers except those conferred on it by these By-Laws, or those which may be delegated to it by resolution at the Section meetings or by the Board of Trustees.

## BY-LAW VIII

### Meetings

SECTION 1. *Annual Meeting.* The Annual Meeting of the Section shall be held on the last Friday in August at 9:30 A. M., but the Board



of Trustees may postpone or anticipate the meeting. The Section Convention may fix a different date.

Unless previously determined at a meeting of the Section or by referendum vote, the meetings of the Section shall be held in Chicago, State of Illinois. Meetings may be held in any State or Territory where one or more lodges of the Section exist.

**SEC. 2. *Special Meetings.*** Upon the request of the Board of Trustees or of twenty-five per cent of the members of the Section, calculated on the basis of the last annual report of the Secretary, the President, if not the President then the Secretary, shall call a special meeting, notice of which must be mailed to each member of the Section at least thirty days previous to date of such meeting. The call shall definitely state the questions to be considered and shall include the questions presented in the request for the call, and these and none others shall be there considered. It shall meet at the same place as the Convention next preceding it, unless the Board of Trustees shall otherwise duly determine.

**SEC. 3. *Quorum.*** Twenty-five per cent of the members of the Section, calculated on the basis of the annual report of the Secretary covering the previous fiscal year, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting, except as the rules of procedure may prescribe a larger number. These may be present in person or by proxy.

**SEC. 4. *Voting.*** At all elections of all elective officers, Trustees and members of the Judiciary Committee, the members shall vote by ballot individually or by proxy, where there is more than one candidate for any single office; otherwise the vote shall be by ayes and nays.

**SEC. 5. *Notice of Annual Meeting.*** It shall be the duty of the Secretary to print in the official organ of the Section a notice of the Annual Meeting, at which officers, Trustees, members of the Judiciary Committee and other elective officers are to be elected, and to mail such notice to each member of the Section at least sixty days prior to such Annual Meeting. Said notice shall state what offices are to be filled and the names of the incumbent officers. The form of notice and of proxy for use at such meeting shall first be approved by the Judiciary Committee.

## BY-LAW IX

### *Membership*

**SECTION 1. *Admission to Membership.*** Any person in sympathy with the objects of the Society and willing to abide by its rules may make application on the printed form provided by the Board of Trustees, obtainable from either the Secretary or lodge officials. This shall be signed by the applicant, countersigned by two members of the Society and accompanied by the fees provided in Section 2 of this By-Law. The Secretary is empowered to accept or reject the application subject

to the approval of the President. A person under legal age must secure the consent of parents or guardian.

**SEC. 2. *Fees for Applicants.*** There shall be a fee of fifty cents for the diploma of membership. This, together with dues for the remaining months of the fiscal year, as hereinafter provided, shall accompany each application for membership, and both shall be forwarded to the Secretary, who shall issue to the applicant a diploma of membership bearing the signature of the President of the Society and President of the Section, and bearing the seal of the Society. A copy of the rules of the Society and of the Section shall accompany the diploma. At the discretion of the President, the Secretary may remit both the diploma fee and annual dues of any member.

**SEC. 3. *Membership in a Lodge.*** An application for membership in a lodge shall be presented either to its president or its secretary, to be acted upon in accordance with the rules of the lodge. The application, if accepted, shall be forwarded, together with the required fees mentioned above in Section 2, to the Secretary.

**SEC. 4. *Membership-at-Large.*** A person may join the Section without joining a lodge and when so admitted is designated a Member-at-Large. Officers of lodges are empowered to receive applications for membership-at-large, and the application so received, together with the fees, shall be forwarded to the Secretary.

**SEC. 5. *Annual Dues.*** The annual dues of members shall be as follows:

For a member-at-large, \$5.00, to be forwarded to the Secretary.

For a member of a lodge, \$2.00, payable to the Secretary of the lodge.

Dues shall be payable for the yearly periods from July 1 to June 30, in advance, on the 1st day of July, provided that the same may be paid in semi-annual installments on July 1 and January 1 of each year, at the option of the member. New members shall pay dues at the time of their admission *pro rata* for the remaining months of the fiscal year.

**SEC. 6. *Good Standing of Members.*** A member in good standing is one whose dues have been paid, as shown by the books of the Secretary of the Section.

**SEC. 7. *Cessation of Membership.*** A member whose dues have not been received by December 31 shall be considered delinquent as to the payment of dues, and THE MESSENGER shall no longer be sent to him unless a special subscription shall have been paid, and if his delinquency is maintained until June 30 following, he shall be dropped from the rolls, but not until such action has been approved by the President.

**SEC. 8. *Honorary Members of Lodges.*** A member of one lodge may be elected an honorary member of another, without, however, the right to vote in the latter lodge.

**SEC. 9. *Lodge Membership.*** Active membership may be held in more than one lodge at the

same time. Sectional dues may be paid to any of the lodges of which one may be a member and the written receipt of such lodge for such dues shall be *prima facie* evidence to the other lodges of payment of Sectional dues.

SEC. 10. *Demit.* A member of a lodge, if in good standing, may obtain a demit from the secretary of his lodge. The form of the demit shall be as follows:

"This is to certify that.....  
a member in good standing of the.....  
Lodge, with dues paid to.....  
is hereby demitted to.....Lodge or  
membership-at-large.

"(Signed) .....Secretary  
of the.....Lodge."

The member thus demitted must then become either a member-at-large or a member of another lodge. If the desire is for membership-at-large, the member shall send his demit to the Secretary, together with the difference in dues, with the request that he may be made a member-at-large. If the member desires to join a lodge, he must be duly elected to membership in that lodge, and the secretary of the lodge shall forward to the Secretary a statement of his admission to the lodge, together with his demit.

#### BY-LAW X

##### Lodges

SECTION 1. *Application for Charter.* Seven or more members, or applicants for membership, may make application to the Secretary for a Charter. This application must be in writing on the form provided by the Board of Trustees, and accompanied by a charter fee of \$5.00. In the case of lodges organized in new territory (places where no lodges exist) the Trustees may waive the charter fee. In the event that it is made by non-members, then it must also be accompanied by individual applications for membership, together with the proper fee and dues as hereinbefore provided. If made by members, it must be accompanied by demits, as provided in Section 10 of By-Law IX. Each Charter shall be issued by the Secretary, with the written assent of the Board of Trustees.

SEC. 2. *Designation of Lodges.* Each lodge shall have as its designation, "The.....Lodge of The Theosophical Society," and no other designation shall be recognized by the Board of Trustees. When a lodge to be chartered is the only one in a given locality, it shall bear the name of the locality in which it has been organized. When another lodge in the same locality is chartered, the name adopted for it shall be approved by the Board of Trustees before the Charter is issued.

SEC. 3. *Revocation of Charter.* Whenever the Board of Trustees is satisfied that a lodge has ceased to perform the function for which it was chartered, the Secretary may give notice that unless the conditions are changed the charter will be

canceled and its members' names placed on the list of members-at-large, or transferred to some other lodge by demit.

SEC. 4. *Lodge Organizations.* Each lodge shall adopt By-Laws for the transaction of its business, and shall elect its own officers in accordance therewith. Before any By-Law of a lodge shall be valid the same shall receive the approval of the Judiciary Committee.

SEC. 5. *Lodge Dues.* Each lodge shall fix its own lodge dues. A lodge may absolve a member from the payment of lodge dues, but each lodge shall be responsible to the Secretary for the annual dues of its members and for such other dues as are to be paid into the treasury of the Section. It shall be the duty of all lodges before adjourning for the summer recess to collect from the members and forward to the Secretary the dues for the period beginning July 1.

SEC. 6. *Fiscal Year.* The fiscal year of the Section shall begin July 1 and end June 30.

#### BY-LAW XI

##### Initiative and Referendum

SECTION 1. *Mode of Procedure.* Ten per cent of the members of the Section, calculated on the basis of the last annual report of the Secretary, may propose to their fellow members for a vote thereon any question which the members in Annual Meeting are empowered to decide. This procedure shall be known as the Initiative.

Either the members in Annual Meeting or the Board of Trustees may refer any question to the members of the Section for a vote thereon. This procedure shall be known as the Referendum.

A majority of the valid votes cast on any question shall constitute a decision and shall have the same standing as if made at the Annual Meeting.

SEC. 2. *Initiative Petitions; Filing and Payment of Costs.* The initiative petition shall be either written or printed and shall clearly set forth in full the measure to be submitted. The measure may embrace one or more counts or questions, if the nature thereof shall render this desirable, and they shall be stated in the affirmative, clearest and simplest form so as to admit of a "Yea" or "Nay" answer being given to each of them. The foregoing provisions of this Section shall also apply to a measure submitted by the Referendum so far as they may be applicable. The names and post-office addresses of the petitioners and the names of their respective lodges, if any, shall be affixed in their own handwriting. The petition shall be filed with the Secretary in the name of the person whose name heads the list of petitioners, and shall be accompanied by a sum of money sufficient to pay the cost of submitting the measure, but which sum shall not exceed \$100.00.

SEC. 3. *Defective Petitions.* If a petition is found by the Secretary to be defective, he shall return it to the person whose name heads the list of petitioners and accompany it by proposed amendments for the purpose of remedying these



defects. If the amendments are not acceptable to such person, then the petition and these amendments shall be forwarded to the Judiciary Committee, which shall render a decision thereon and notify both parties.

SEC. 4. *Conflicting Issues in Petitions.* In the event that two or more petitions which are filed with the Secretary contain interfering subject-matter, the latter shall be reframed and incorporated exclusively in the petition first filed. A petition that is filed after the printing of the ballots of a preceding petition, and that contains interfering subject-matter, shall be held by the Secretary to await the announcement of the decision on the first petition. Such decision shall preclude the re-submission for one year thereafter of the same subject-matter. If the Secretary and the petitioners shall fail to agree thereon, either as to the existence or extent of such conflict in the subject-matter contained in the petitions, it shall be submitted to the Judiciary Committee for decision.

SEC. 5. *Arguments for and against Initiative Petitions.* The person whose name heads the list of an initiative petition shall have the right to prepare the argument *for* on each question submitted, and the Board of Trustees the right to prepare the argument *against*. The petitioner shall have a further right of reply. Within twenty days from the receipt of an argument from one side the other shall prepare and file the argument in response thereto. The main and reply arguments shall, ordinarily, not exceed 200 and 100 words, respectively. These arguments shall be entirely impersonal, and confined solely to the supposed merits or demerits of the questions at issue. In the event of a difference of opinion growing out of the preparation or time for filing these arguments, these differences shall be returned to the Judiciary Committee for decision. Decisions on all questions within the jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee shall be final.

SEC. 6. *Arguments for and against the Referendum.* If a question is submitted by the Annual Meeting, the arguments shall be prepared by two committees chosen at that meeting, and respectively representing the affirmative and negative sides of the measure.

If a measure is submitted by the Board of Trustees, they may require the Judiciary Committee to prepare the arguments.

SEC. 7. *Distribution of Ballots and Arguments.* The ballots and the arguments shall be mailed by the Secretary as soon as possible after the receipt of the petition in proper form. An envelope shall be inclosed bearing thereon the address of the Secretary, and some distinguishing symbol or expression, so that when returned it may be preserved sealed until the date set for the counting of the ballots therein. The date for counting of the ballots shall be set by the Secretary, not later than thirty days from the date of mailing of the ballots, which date shall appear on said ballots.

SEC. 8. *Counting the Votes.* The valid ballot returns shall be counted on the date announced therefor by a committee of three, consisting of the

Secretary, or his representative, and two other members appointed by him, one of whom shall be *for* and the other *against* the question submitted to a vote. Ballots returned after such count shall have been made shall have the date of their receipt placed thereon but shall not be counted, unless it appear that reasonable diligence was exhibited in their return, and then only if the result would be changed by counting them.

SEC. 9. *Announcement of the Result; Preservation of Ballots.* Immediately after the results of the counting of the votes has been ascertained, it shall be publicly announced by the Secretary and shall be published in the official organ of the Section. In order that a recount may be had should the Section desire it, all ballots returned to the Secretary shall be preserved until after the next Annual Meeting.

## BY-LAW XII

### *The Annual Meeting*

SECTION 1. *Composition.* The Annual Meeting, known as the Convention, shall be composed exclusively of members of the Section in good standing and members whose dues are paid to July 1st last preceding.

SEC. 2. *Credentials Committee.* Prior to opening of Convention the Board of Trustees shall appoint a Credentials Committee and the Secretary shall provide them with a list of members in good standing. It shall be their duty to station themselves at the polls and examine into and pass on the right of applicants to vote, either as of themselves or for others as proxy. The decision of such committee shall be final unless immediate appeal is made in writing to the Convention.

SEC. 3. *Order of Business.* The order of business at the Annual Meeting shall be as follows, except as the meeting may decide otherwise:

1. Calling of the meeting to order by the President, or in his absence by the temporary chairman selected by the Board of Trustees.
2. Report of Committee on Credentials.
3. Election of Permanent Chairman.
4. Minutes of previous meeting.
5. Reports of Board of Trustees and of officers.
6. Selection of committees.
7. Introduction of resolutions.
8. Reports of committees other than the Committee on Nominations.
9. Unfinished business.
10. New business.
11. Report of Committee on Nominations.
12. Election of officers, Trustees, and members of Judiciary Committee.
13. Adjournment.

SEC. 4. *Committees.* The Permanent Chairman shall appoint committees on Rules and Order of Business, Audit, Resolutions, Nominations, and such others as may be found desirable.

SEC. 5. *Introduction of Resolutions.* Resolu-

tions shall be introduced at that place in order of business fixed upon the Convention, but after the Committee on Resolutions has finally reported no new resolutions shall be submitted except by a two-thirds vote of the Convention.

The committee shall hear arguments for and against the resolutions before it.

SEC. 6. *Voting by Roll-Call.* If a call of the roll is demanded by one-tenth of the members of Convention actually present, then a vote shall be so taken.

SEC. 7. *Election of Officers and Board of Trustees.* In order that the wishes of the Convention with regard to the policies of the coming year shall have been determined before their election, the election of officers and the other members of the Board shall take place as near the close of Convention as possible.

SEC. 8. *Introduction of Nominations.* Nominations for the offices of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, the Board of Trustees, and the vacancies on the Judiciary Committee, may be introduced in open meeting, the same as resolutions. All nominations shall be in writing and shall be handed to the Nominating Committee for consideration and report of its choice. The Nominations Committee may hear arguments for or against the various nominees. ....

SEC. 9. *The President of the Whole Society at Convention.* When present, the President of the whole Society shall have the right to preside over the Convention.

SEC. 10. *Date of Acts.* Unless otherwise specified, the acts of the Convention shall take effect immediately upon their passage.

SEC. 11. *Headquarters.* The official headquarters of the Section are now located at Krotana, in Los Angeles, California, and shall so remain until removed by the Section in annual Convention.

### BY-LAW XIII

#### *The Membership Records*

It is recognized that every member has a right to expect and feel secure that his name and address on the roll of membership is private and confidential and that it will not be made public nor in any way used except in such ways as is contemplated from his membership. It is therefore made the duty of all officers, Boards and Committees

to sacredly regard this obligation and not to use or permit the use of the roll of members or any portion of same for any purpose whatsoever, except that provided for or contemplated by these laws. The President, the Editor, the Propaganda Manager, and the Manager of the Book Concern shall have the right to use the roll of members, subject to the discretion of the Board of Trustees, in order to properly discharge the duties of their offices, and the same shall be furnished to them by the Secretary, and to no other person, save by direction of the Board of Trustees.

### BY-LAW XIV

#### *Amendments*

By-Laws can be amended or altered at a regular Annual Meeting of the Section, and to do so it shall require a majority vote of those present in person and by proxy. Notice of the proposed changes shall be given not later than thirty days prior to the date of the Convention, by publication in the official organ of the Section, but the Convention may by two-thirds vote waive this requirement. Every member is entitled to submit the text for alteration or addition to By-Laws and have them published in the magazine, but unaccompanied by arguments for or against. In the interim of Section meetings the Board of Trustees shall have power to amend or add to these By-Laws after publication in three successive issues of the official magazine of the Section.

### BY-LAW XV

#### *Interpretation and Construction*

The interpretation and construction of these By-Laws shall follow as nearly as possible the rules for the interpretation and construction of the U. S. Statutes.

### BY-LAW XVI

#### *Operation of By-Laws*

These By-Laws as amended shall be in force and take effect on their enactment, and shall be substituted for and take the place of all previous Rules or By-Laws of the Section.

## REPORT OF THE BOOK CONCERN

Los Angeles, Calif., July 23, 1915.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN SECTION OF  
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

I beg to report that I have made a monthly audit of the books and accounts of the Theosophical Book Concern at Krotana for the period from November 1, 1914, to June 30, 1915.

This report is made as a part of, and supplementary to, the report on the accounts of the American Section of the Theosophical Society under date of July 12, 1915, by Mr. H. J. Rose, and in agreement with him, as mentioned in the first paragraph of his report.

There are attached hereto financial statements



showing the position of the Theosophical Book Concern during and at the close of the period under review, as follows:

Trading Account for the period from October 1, 1914, to June 30, 1915.

Balance Sheet as at June 30, 1915.

At June 30, 1914, when making his report on the accounts of the American Section of the Theosophical Society, Mr. Rose furnished no report upon the accounts of the Theosophical Book Concern, for reasons stated in his report at that time. The previous report on the Theosophical Book Concern was made at June 30, 1913, by Mr. Robertson of Chicago, the Book Concern at that time being located in Chicago, which report was incorporated by me, in my general report on the account of the American Section of the Theosophical Society at that date.

Since June 30, 1913, the books of the Book Concern have been twice closed without audit: first when the management was assumed by Mr. Hotchner at February 28, 1914, and secondly at September 30, 1914, on the relinquishment of the management by him.

The results of the operations of the Book Concern from July 1, 1913, to February 28, 1914, are shown in the books as resulting in a loss of \$1,888.81; while the results of the operations from March 1, 1914, to September 30, 1914, are shown as a profit of \$844.38.

The reason for such variable results are without doubt to be found in connection with the inventories at the time of closing the books, together with the introduction and omission at various times in the inventory of propaganda literature at varying valuations, which now definitely appears to belong to the American Section of the T. S., and paid for from the general funds of the Society and not from the funds of the Book Concern. This literature was included in the inventory taken in Chicago at June 30, 1913, at a valuation of \$550, increasing the profit shown up to that date unduly by that amount. At February 28, 1914, this literature was again included in the Book Concern inventory, but afterwards the accounts were adjusted to meet the actual facts, and this fact to the extent of \$850.00 is to that extent responsible for the extreme loss at that date.

The total loss for two years' operations of the Book Concern, from July 1, 1913, to June 30, 1915, is shown by the books to be.....\$1,565.90  
From which should be deducted the \$550 included in the inventory at June 30, 1913, which loss belonged to the previous period.. 550.00  
\$1,015.90

or, roughly, a loss of \$500.00 per annum.

In considering the Trading Account attached hereto, it should be borne in mind that the books which have been shipped to Chicago for sale have been charged to the Chicago Branch as though they had purchased same, and there-

fore the overriding profit on books to the net wholesale value of \$1,331.26 is included in the Trading Account as actually realized, and affects the above calculations to the same extent.

While considering the loss sustained through the operations of the last two years, it would be well to remember the many changes which have been made during that period in the management and the office staff. Such continuous changes at such short intervals would be almost fatal to any business even when managed and staffed by experts in the business, while those who have taken charge of the operations of the Book Concern during the period under review do not, I believe, make claim to any such qualifications.

During the present management there has been continuous effort to discover the true state of the assets of the Book Concern, and the Accounts Receivable stated in the Balance Sheet as "Good" are now considered certain to be collected. Those classed as doubtful are as follows:

City News & Cigar Co., Los Angeles.....	\$ 1.00
Mrs. Courtright .....	17.74
Holyoke T. S.....	63.89
Fritz Kunz (in dispute).....	2.50
Louisville T. S.....	54.16
Meadville T. S.....	9.14
Occult Book Company.....	10.89
Occult & Modern Thought Book Centre.....	19.72
Salt Lake T. S.....	13.53
The Temple, Halcyon, Calif.....	6.64
Theosophical Publishing House, Benares City, India .....	20.04
	<u>\$219.25</u>

It is inconceivable that any unit Lodge of the Theosophical Society should hamper the Book Concern by not paying for the books which have been supplied to them on their order, and for which they have doubtless collected the cash.

The amount shown in the Balance Sheet as Accounts Payable included \$610.18 due to the American Section of the Theosophical Society.

Insurance is carried as follows:

Expiration date	Amount	Covers	For
Oct. 22, 1916	\$2,900.00	Books, etc.....	\$2,500.00
Oct. 22, 1916	.....	Fur. & Fixtures	400.00
Oct. 22, 1916	1,200.00	Books, etc.....	1,200.00
Oct. 22, 1916	2,900.00	Books, etc.....	2,500.00
Oct. 22, 1916	.....	Fur. & Fixtures	400.00

Every endeavor has been made at this time to perfect the accounts of the Book Concern, and the statements presented herewith may be fairly considered, for the first time since the assumption of the Book Concern by the American Section of the Theosophical Society, to represent the action position of the business.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed) T. W. THOMASSON,

Associate Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario, Canada.

### TRADING ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD FROM OCTOBER 1, 1914, TO JUNE 30, 1915.

Inventory at October 1, 1914.....	\$ 5,385.78
Purchases during the period.....	7,964.87
Express and Postage.....	200.84
	<u>\$13,551.49</u>
Deduct Inventory at June 30, 1915.....	6,103.58
	<u>\$ 7,447.91</u>
Cost of Books sold during the period...	7,930.75
These books were sold for.....	<u>482.84</u>
Realizing a gross profit of.....	482.84
The profit on magazine subscriptions was .....	<u>321.57</u>
Total gross Profit for the period..	<u>\$ 804.41</u>
The cost of selling was:	
Office Expenses .....	\$129.76
Rent and Light.....	339.70
Salaries .....	764.24
Advertising .....	79.25
	<u>1,312.95</u>
Net Loss on Trading for the period.....	\$ 508.54
ADD: Bad Debts.....	70.61
	<u>\$ 579.15</u>
DEDUCT: Interest Earned.....	\$ 15.11
Deprec. Adjustment....	42.57
	<u>57.68</u>
Net Loss for the period.....	<u>\$ 521.47</u>

### BALANCE SHEET AS AT JUNE 30, 1915.

#### ASSETS:

Cash in Bank.....	\$ 301.53
Petty Cash .....	25.00
Inventories:	
Books, etc., at Krotona..	\$5,719.06
Books, etc., at Chicago..	1,331.26
Book Plates at Krotona...	384.52
Printing & Stationery...	53.49
	<u>7,488.33</u>
Accounts Receivable:	
Good .....	\$ 822.12
Doubtful .....	219.25
	<u>1,041.37</u>
Furniture & Fixtures.....	\$1,496.64
DEDUCT Deprec. Reserve.	433.37
	<u>1,063.27</u>
Insurance unexpired.....	47.79
	<u>\$9,967.29</u>

#### LIABILITIES:

Accounts Payable .....	\$2,035.67
Loan (Mrs. K. C. Stowe).....	700.00
Capital Account.....	\$6,168.03
Donations during the period	1,585.06
	<u>\$7,753.09</u>
DEDUCT Loss for the period .....	521.47
	<u>7,231.62</u>
	<u>\$9,967.29</u>

## WANTED

Krotona needs an all-round practical mechanic, one who can take care of the gasoline pump, run an automobile, attend to the irrigation of the orange orchard, make general repairs around the property, etc.

Unfortunately our very capable fellow-member, Mr. Munson, who has been so efficiently attending to these matters, is called away by private business, and thus we shall have to spare him for an indefinite absence. I hope that some other member can be found to fill the place at the usual Krotona wage.

## A NEW OCCULT MAGAZINE

Our members will be glad to hear that a new Occult Quarterly Magazine for the dissemination of truth is soon to be published. The first number will be issued in October. It is to be called *THE CHANNEL*, and its editors are Mrs. Marie Russak and Mr. Vance Thompson.

Even though the editors are both earnest Theosophists, *THE CHANNEL* has no official connection with any sect, religion or creed. Its aim is to study and investigate truth in whatever form it is found, and to collaborate with the many earnest investigators in the domains of religion, philosophy and science.

Mrs. Russak is too well known to need any further reference, and Mr. Thompson is one of the best known magazine writers of the day.

The Theosophical Book Concern, Krotona, Hollywood, Calif., will be pleased to receive subscriptions for *THE CHANNEL*.

## THE FRANCIS ST. ALBAN SCHOOL

Francis St. Alban School, the plan of which has been previously announced by circular, is now ready to begin work on September 15.

A suitable house has been rented on Tenth Street and Georgiana Avenue, Santa Monica, California, in the open Palisade District. The buildings are to be erected on the site on Washington Boulevard which has been acquired for the purpose. Immediately below this, two more lots have been added, thus doubling the area and giving ample space for tennis court, open-air school, and so forth.

Helpful sympathy has been shown by Cleveland friends who planned and held a bazaar for the benefit of the School, and by many others who have presented gifts for the Library and equipment, a piano and other valuable possessions.

A preliminary prospectus is being circulated, to be followed later by a more elaborate statement and plans.

All those who are at all interested in this work are asked to write to the Principal, Mrs. Alida E. de Leeuw, 301 Tenth Street, Santa Monica, California.

## PROPAGANDA DEPARTMENT

On account of the unusual amount of space necessarily given to the Convention in this number of *THE MESSENGER*, the announcement of Propaganda Department activities will be made in the next issue.

L. W. ROGERS,  
*Propaganda Manager.*



## THE MESSENGER

### ORGANIZATION OF THE AMERICAN SECTION.

Founded at New York, Nov. 17, 1875; incorporated in Illinois, Sept. 21, 1911.

**NATIONAL PRESIDENT:** A. P. Warrington, Krotona.

**NATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT:** Mrs. Marie B. Russak, Temple Drive, Hollywood, Calif.

**NATIONAL SECRETARY:** Miss Isabel B. Holbrook, Krotona.

**NATIONAL TREASURER:** C. O. Scudder, 1944 Cahuenga Ave., Hollywood, Calif.

**PROPAGANDA MANAGER:** L. W. Rogers, 1963 Cheremoya Street, Hollywood, Calif.

**EDITOR:** Mrs. L. W. Rogers, 1963 Cheremoya Street, Hollywood, Calif.

**MANAGER THEOSOPHICAL BOOK CONCERN:** Mrs. E. R. Broenniman, Krotona.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** H. C. Stowe, 172 South Oxford St., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Mrs. A. Ross Read, Akron, Ohio; Mr. Ray Wardall, 541 New York Block, Seattle, Washington; Mr. Robert K. Walton, Box 598, Santa Monica, Calif.; and the National President, ex officio.

**JUDICIARY COMMITTEE:** C. F. Holland, 207-9 Bullard Block, Los Angeles, Calif.; George H. Wilson, 243 East Walnut St., Louisville, Ky.; E. Y. Blum, 920 Grand Avenue, Kansas City, Mo.

**DIVISIONAL REPRESENTATIVES:** The following appointed officers represent the General Secretary in the territories mentioned. Eastern Division: H. C. Stowe, 172 S. Oxford St., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Northern Div.: Mrs. A. Ross Read, Akron, O.; Western Div.: E. Y. Blum, 920 Grand Ave., Kansas City, Mo.; N. W. Div.: Ray M. Wardall, 541 New York Blk., Seattle, Wash.; Southern Div.: F. H. Smith, 613 Congress St., Austin, Texas; S. W. Div.: A. F. Knudsen, Krotona, Hollywood, Los Angeles, Calif.

**NATIONAL LECTURERS:** L. W. Rogers, 1963 Cheremoya St., Hollywood, Los Angeles, Calif.; Irving S. Cooper, Krotona, Hollywood, Los Angeles, Calif.; Mrs. Marie Russak, Temple Drive, Hollywood, Los Angeles, Calif.; Miss Isabel B. Holbrook, Krotona; Max Wardall, 541 New York Block, Seattle; Augustus F. Knudsen, Krotona.

**FUNDS AND BEQUESTS:** The Section maintains a General and Propaganda Fund, contributions to which are either distributed as the donors indicate or by the Board of Trustees as the needs of the work demand. The following is a short form of Bequest: "I give and bequeath to The American Section of The Theosophical Society, incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois, on September 21st, 1911, the sum of \$....., to be paid within.....

months after my decease (free of duty) exclusively out of such part of my estate not hereby specifically disposed of, as I may by law bequeath to charitable purposes, and I hereby charge such part of my estate with the said sum, and I direct that the receipt of the said Society as provided for in its rules shall be a sufficient discharge for the said legacy."

**BUREAUS:** The following Bureaus are now in operation in the Section, under the supervision of the General Secretary; address the person listed:

**Correspondence for New Members,** Miss Eugenie Honold, Box 393, Abbeville, Louisiana; **Correspondence in the following tongues—**Swedish, Norwegian, Dutch, Finnish, German, French, Italian—address the General Secretary; **Lectures,** Mrs. Julia A. Myers, 10746 Hale Avenue, Chicago, Illinois; **Press Association** and also **Prison Work,** Mr. E. B. Catlin, Anaconda, Montana; **Library Catalogue,** Miss Julia E. Johnsen, 2542 29th Avenue, South, Minneapolis, Minnesota; **Travelers,** Mr. George H. Wilson, 243 E. Walnut Street, Louisville Kentucky; **Music Correspondence,** Frank L. Read, 706 W. 32d Street, Austin, Texas; **Round Table,** Mr. Norris W. Rakestraw, Krotona, Hollywood, Los Angeles, Calif.; **Lotus Groups,** Miss Marjorie Tuttle, Krotona, Hollywood, Los Angeles, California; **Braille Literature for the Blind,** Mrs. Emma C. Newcomb, 28 Williams St., Cambridge Massachusetts; **Mystic Drama,** Mrs. V. C. Marshall, 4129 Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois; **Railway Station Advertising,** Mrs. Ednah P. Freeland, 383 Oxford Street, Rochester, New York; **Southern Correspondence,** Mrs. B. S. Hillier, 3828 Campbell Street, Kansas City, Missouri; **Stereopticon Slides and Lectures,** Mr. J. C. Myers, 10736 Walnut Street, Morgan Park, Ill.

#### ASSOCIATED

**ORDER OF THE STAR IN THE EAST:** National Representative, Miss Marjorie Tuttle, Krotona. Organizing Secretaries: Irving S. Cooper, Krotona, Hollywood, Los Angeles, Calif.; B. W. Lindberg, M. D., 327 Shukert Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

**SERVANTS OF THE STAR:** National Representative (*pro tem.*), Mrs. Addie M. Tuttle, Starholm, Krotona, Hollywood, Los Angeles, Calif.

**KARMA AND REINCARNATION LEGION:** Chief Officer, Dr. Weller Van Hook; Secretary, Dr. C. Shuddemagen. Headquarters, 7243 Coles Ave., Chicago, Ill.

**ORIENTAL ESOTERIC LIBRARY:** Address 1207 Q St., Washington, D. C.

**TEMPLE OF THE ROSY CROSS:** Address the Grand Chancellor T. R. C., Krotona, Hollywood, Los Angeles, Calif.



# NOTICES

Please hereafter send only communications on general and personal matters to

A. P. WARRINGTON, *National President*,  
Krotona, Hollywood, California.

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Send all dues and other T. S. monies, all applications for membership, Lodge reports, and all general routine T. S. matters addressed to

THE AMERICAN SECTION OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY,  
Krotona, Hollywood, California.

Make T. S. checks, drafts and money orders payable to the Section as above. These will be received by Miss Isabel B. Holbrook, National Secretary.

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Send all literary matter for publication in THE MESSENGER addressed to

The Editor of THE MESSENGER,  
Krotona, Hollywood, California.

This will be received by Mrs. May S. Rogers, the Editor.

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Send all requests for propaganda matter and information concerning inquiries about Theosophy, and all names of those possibly interested in Theosophy, addressed to

THE PROPAGANDA MANAGER,  
Krotona, Hollywood, California.

These will be received by Mr. L. W. Rogers or, if he is absent, by the Assistant Propaganda Manager.

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Send all orders for books, pamphlets and magazines, subscriptions for magazines, including THE MESSENGER, orders for catalogues, stationery, post-cards, charts, diagrams, photographs, electrotypes, incense, T. S. seals and emblems, addressed to

THE THEOSOPHICAL BOOK CONCERN,  
Krotona, Hollywood, California.

Make drafts and money orders in payment for the same payable to

THE THEOSOPHICAL BOOK CONCERN.

These will be received by Mrs. E. R. Broenniman, Manager, or in her absence by the Assistant Manager.

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If business relating to more than one department is enclosed in one envelope, please be careful to take up each departmental matter on a separate sheet of paper. This will obviate the delay of having one letter necessarily pass through various departments. Each department should have its own separate sheet or letter for its own files, and can attend to its duties immediately when this is provided.

# THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

Annie Besant, President

International Headquarters, Adyar, Madras, India.

## NATIONAL SECTIONS

Section	General Secretary
America	A. P. Warrington, Esq., Krotona, Hollywood, Los Angeles, Calif. (Nat. Pres.)
England & Wales	Dr. L. Haden Guest, 19, Tavistock Square, London, W. C.
India	Rai Iqbal Narain Gurtu, Benares City, U. P.
Australia	W. G. John, Esq., 164 Phillip Street, Sydney, N. S. W.
Scandinavia	Erik Cronvall, Engelbrektsgatan, 7, Stockholm, Sweden.
New Zealand	Dr. C. W. Sanders, 351, Queen Street, Auckland.
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France	Monsieur Charles Blech, 4 Square Rapp, Paris.
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Bohemia	Herr Jan Bedrnicek, Dolni Sarka 275, Prague-Podbaba, Bohemia.
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Scotland	D. Graham Pole, Esq., 28, Great King Street, Edinburgh
Switzerland	Mlle. H. Stephani, Cour S. Pierre, 7, Geneva
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Norway	Miss Eva Blytt, Hansteensgt 91, Kristiania, Norway
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South America	Senor Adrian A. Madril, 1767 Ploja, Rosario de Santa Fe, Argentina
Spain	Senor Don Jose Xifre, Rifugio, "Felicitos," Campfer (Grisons), Haute Engadine, Suisse.
Ireland	P. Leslie Pielou, Annandale, Sandford Road, Dublin, Ireland

## THE AMERICAN SECTION LODGE DIRECTORY

NOTE: In the Lodge Directory is kept standing (a) the name and address of the Secretary, (b) the address of the Lodge Headquarters, (c) the telephone to be called for information, (d) the name of a resident member in cities where no lodge exists.  
Secretaries are requested to examine the directory and report errors and omissions immediately to the National Secretary.

<b>ACTON, MONTANA</b> Mrs. Kirstine Hansen.*	<b>BALTIMORE, MARYLAND</b> Baltimore. Mrs. Gracia F. Tongue, 4524 Reisterstown Road. Meets 1310 North Charles St. Tel. Madison 3955Y.
<b>ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA</b> Mrs. Adelaide Burch, 207 Haywood St. Tel. 2458.*	<b>BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA</b> Berkeley. Mrs. W. J. Woods, 1334 Spruce St. Meets Wright Bldg., Cor. Shattuck and Center Sts. Tel. 6838.
<b>AKRON, OHIO</b> Akron. Mrs. M. F. Karper, 146 S. High St. Meets 94 E. Market St. Tel. Peoples 5527.	<b>BIG RAPIDS, MICHIGAN</b> Big Rapids. Mrs. Cora F. Karshner, 519 N. State St.
<b>ALBANY, NEW YORK</b> Albany. Miss Anna Emmons, 15 Western Ave. Harmony. Miss Ida M. Marsh, care of Mrs. E. S. Simons, 5 Madison Place. Meets Room 4, 91 N. Pearl St. Tel. Main 644 or Main 3507.	<b>BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA</b> Birmingham. Mrs. Rose Emrick, 500 S. 15th St.
<b>AMHERST, WISCONSIN</b> Mrs. Annie C. Fleming.*	<b>BISBEE, COCHISE CO., ARIZONA</b> Mr. John G. Prichard. Box 998.*
<b>ANACONDA, MONTANA</b> Anaconda. Duncan M. Munro, 317 W. Commercial St. Meets Room 1, Palace Block.	<b>BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS</b> Alpha. Miss Marguerite Boice, 72 Huntington Ave. Meets 295 Huntington Ave. Tel. Oxford 1044. Besant. Miss Eudora Morey, 26 Batavia St. Meets 26 Batavia St. Boston. Miss Hattie C. Whittredge, 12 Oakwood Ave., Dorchester Centre. Meets 295 Huntington Ave., Room 212. Tel. Dorchester 2692-W.
<b>AUSTIN, TEXAS</b> Austin. Dr. Julia H. Bass, 111 W. Eighth St. Meets McDonald Bldg., 200 W. Seventh St. Dharma. Mrs. E. A. Graves, 1411 W. Fifth St.	

\*Resident member. No lodge.



## LODGE DIRECTORY

- Huntington.** Mr. O. W. Dahl, 71 L St., South Boston. Meets Room 10, 295 Huntington Ave.
- Olcott.** Miss Selma Fritz, 26 Batavia St. Meets Chauncey Hall Bldg., Room 10, Cop-ley Square.
- BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT**  
Miss Cecilia B. Geoffrey, 1023 Howard Ave.\*
- BROOKLYN, NEW YORK**  
**Brooklyn.** Miss J. Van Nostrand, 95 Lafay-ette Ave. Meets 95 Lafayette Ave. Tel. Pros-pect 4476.
- BUFFALO, NEW YORK**  
**Buffalo.** J. E. Taylor, 256 Main St. Meets Henkel Bldg., Cor. Main and Utica Sts., Room 7. Tel. Crescent 336-M.
- BUTTE, MONTANA**  
**Butte.** D. Mortimer, 436 Phoenix Blk. Meets 102 Lewisohn Blk. Tel. 8790 independent.
- CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**  
**Akbar.** Mrs. Clara J. Kochersperger, 7212 Coles Ave. Meets Room 819 Fine Arts Bldg., 410 S. Michigan Ave. Tel. South Chicago 1175 or 1198.  
**Herakles.** Mrs. Ellen Rose Dickey, 6236 Dorchester Ave. Meets 1124 East 44th St.  
**Chicago North Shore.** Mrs. Ferne M. Robin-son, Hollywood, Ill. Meets 4666 Evanston Ave., Rooms of North Shore School of Music.  
**Sampo.** Miss Helmi S. Kekoni, 1319 Wave-land Ave.. Meets at homes of members.
- CHICAGO THEOSOPHICAL ASSOCIATION** (rep-resenting the following Chicago lodges).  
Meet Besant Hall, Lake View Bldg., 116 S. Michigan Ave.  
**Adyar.** William E. Van Norden, M. D., Besant Hall, 116 S. Michigan Ave. Tel. Central 5049.  
**Annie Besant.** Clarence L. Gowell, 508 South Dearborn St. Tel. Wabash 8435.  
**Central of Chicago.** Mrs. B. Brandon Reilly, 1342 W. Monroe St.  
**Chicago.** Miss Louise M. Gladden, 6215 Lex-ington Ave. Tel. Central 5049.  
**Kenwood.** Mrs. A. A. Rolf, 4459 Oakenwald Ave.  
**Leadbeater.** Carl H. Rahn, 2250 Clybourn Ave. Tel. Harrison 1196.
- CINCINNATI, OHIO**  
**Cincinnati.** Miss Alma Meier, 303 Odd Fel-lows Temple. Meets 211 Odd Fellows Temple.
- CLEVELAND, OHIO**  
**Cleveland.** Mrs. Lida Houghton Izant, 40 Gar-field Rd., East Cleveland. Meets "The Bir-mingham." 5607 Euclid Ave.  
**Kipina.** Emil Kaarna, 37 Phillips St., East Cleveland. Meets 9909 Adams Ave.  
**Viveka.** Aaron Wirpel, 10417 Kempton Ave. Meets Room 3, 5927 Euclid Ave. Tel. Eddy 1081 M.
- COALINGA, CALIFORNIA**  
John K. Collins, 35 Amy Bldg. Tel. Main 348.\*
- COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO**  
Colorado Springs. Miss Martha E. Stockdale, 517 West Dale St.
- CORRY, PENNSYLVANIA**  
Corry. Mrs. Augusta C. Crandall, 505 Wright St.\*
- COLUMBUS, OHIO**  
Columbus. Mrs. Harriet Schwartz, 265 East Main St. Meets 265 East Main St.
- CORTLAND, NEW YORK**  
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