The President's Page

The SEVENTY-SECOND GENERAL CONFERENCE

O WING to circumstances beyond our control, it became necessary to cancel the 72d General Conference which was to be held at the Shamrock Hotel in Houston, Texas, 27-30 Oct., 1950. It was with real regret that this step was taken, knowing the great deal of time and effort that had been put forth by the Officers of the Texas National Guard and the National Guard Association in perfecting arrangements for the Conference. It was evident, too, that the Houston Conference would have been outstanding in every respect, with an attendance far beyond the ordinary; and certain it was, too, that the facilities of the Shamrock would have left nothing to be desired. The advent of the Korean emergency with the progressive mobilization of the National Guard in Texas, and the holding of a Conference comparable with those of past years would be out of the question.

It was then determined to emulate the precedent established in 1940 when the Conference scheduled to be held at San Antonio, Texas, was switched to Washington, D. C., and accordingly arrangements have been perfected for the holding of a streamlined conference at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, 23-24-25 Oct., 1950. Because of limited hotel accommodations and for other reasons, it became necessary to limit attendance of the Delegates to the Adjutants General, United States Property and Disbursing Officers, and 3% of the authorized Delegates, or approximately 360 persons. The Call of the Conference and instructions pertinent thereto have been transmitted to the States, Territories and the District of Columbia.

There will be two sessions on each of the three days of the Conference. All of the sessions will be closed, with admission limited to those who are members of the National Guard Association, certain persons of the Regular Armed Forces, and the Distinguished Guests who are to address the Conference. In view of the limited time and the disposal of the Conference and due to a rather heavy agenda, there will be no extracurricular activities and the conduct of the Conference will be limited strictly to business.

It is urged that the States which have not as yet made application through the Association for hotel reservations do so without delay. Such applications should contain the names of those for whom reservations are desired, double or single rooms, and the date and time of arrival, i.e., morning or afternoon. It is further desired that each State submit, in a separate communication, the name of a Delegate to serve on each of the Conference Committees on Resolutions, Nominations, and Time and Place. In addition, each State should submit at the earliest practicable date such resolutions as they desire to have considered. It is further requested that subjects to be placed on the Agenda be submitted at the earliest practicable date.

The Conference is fortunate in that it will be addressed by the Secretary of Defense, Secretary of the Army, Secretary of the Air Force, Chief of Staff of the Army, Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force, Commanding General of the Army Field Forces; Chief, National Guard Bureau; Commanding General of the Continental Air Command, National Director of Selective Service, Members of Congress and other high officials of the Departments of the Army and the Air Force. It is essential that time be conserved wherever possible since the conference will be limited to six sessions instead of the customary eight; accordingly, the reports of the Officers and of the Standing and Special Committees of the Association will be prepared in advance and contained in the envelopes of the Delegates to be perused at their leisure, instead of being read to the Conference. Chairmen of these Committees are reminded that if their reports have not been submitted as yet, they should be submitted without delay.

It is believed that all concerned will find that the business to be transacted at the General Conference will be of great importance and attendance will be well worth while. It is regretted, extremely, that it was necessary to limit the attendance in any way, but perhaps when another year has rolled around and the time comes for the 73d General Conference at the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York City, conditions will have returned to some degree of normalcy and those members of the National Guard who are or may be in the active military service of the United States will have returned to their peacetime pursuits.

Bullard

"As long as there are wars between men, they will be fought by men. There is not within the visible future any form of supersolicitous salvation from the human sacrifice war entails."—General Omar N. Bradley.

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OUR COVER

M-Day means Mobilization Day, and it also means Moving Day for untold (for security reasons) thousands of National Guardsmen who have been and are beingblanketed into active Federal service with such efficiency that it may be said the entire Guard has been through it know. Moving Day means an awful job of packing and unpacking, of painting and loading. Eighteen-year-old Pvt. Charles H. Sprinfield of the cavalry, W. M. 1888, Regt., CO E, Inc., is shown doing his stuff with a paint brush while preparing for the trip to Campbell, Ky. (Photo by Alan J. Nelson for WAVN.)