

Nemeth Named Head Of Young Vets' Unit

MAR 26 1945

Temporary Organization is Setup At Two-Day Meet in Harrisburg

Frank Nemeth, Bethlehem, was elected temporary commander of the recently organized Pennsylvania Department of American Veterans of World War II, at a two-day meeting in the Penn-Harris Hotel, Harrisburg.

Other temporary officers chosen follow: first vice commander, Norman Clock, Reading; second vice commander, Norman Gorson, Philadelphia; third vice commander, Randell K. Morton, Harrisburg; judge advocate, Russell G. Weidner, Reading; finance officer, Joseph T. Duhig, Allentown; adjutant, Allen P. Solada, Harrisburg; historian, William Charles Wolf, York; service officer, Charles P. Marks, York; public relations officer, Edward D. Weisenberg, Bethlehem; provost marshal, Phillip Bucci, Philadelphia; chaplain, William Kreis, Allentown.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Chairman of by-laws committee, Jerome Kaskey, Philadelphia; chairman of membership committee, Paul Brogley, Reading; chairman of ritual committee, William Kreis, Allentown.

Permanent officers will be elected at a meeting scheduled for June. Thus far there has been no place selected for the session.

ADOPT RESOLUTION

Reconvening at 10 a. m. yesterday, the group adopted the following resolutions:

"Whereas, the State Department of Pennsylvania of the American Veterans of World War II has this day been established, and has affiliated itself with the national organization; and whereas, the American Veterans of World War II consider themselves as trustees for the men presently overseas; and whereas, the delegates here assembled deem it advisable that such veterans and

First Commander



S/SGT FRANK NEMETH

the community at large be advised of the fundamental philosophy of this organization; now, therefore, be it resolved that the Pennsylvania State Department of the American Veterans of World War II is an organization, which is pro-veteran and as such is opposed to discrimination in any form based upon race, religion, or class prejudice; and be it further resolved that this organization does thereby pledge itself to secure for the returning veteran his every right, whether he be employer or employee.

"Whereas our boys are fighting and dying on the battlefronts of the world to destroy the forces of evil that have plunged us into conflict for the second time in a quarter century; therefore be it resolved that we, the Department of Pennsylvania American Veterans of World War II on behalf of today's veterans, ask for GI representation at the Peace Table, believing that recognition is due those who have and are risking their lives to achieve victory. Be it further resolved that those who have worn the uniform be given representation in all other Government policy making bodies dealing with veterans affairs."

Both resolutions were adopted early last evening.

During yesterday's sessions, it was decided to open permanent state headquarters at Harrisburg, the site to be selected.

Floyd R. Williams, Harrisburg, was appointed state organizer.

A meeting of the executive committee will be held in the near future at the call of the temporary commander.

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Nemeth, Frank

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Staff Sergeant Frank Nemeth, chosen as temporary head of the new organization, resides at 328 Pierce Street, and saw lots of action in World War II. Assigned to the U. S. Air Corps, he was a tail gunner on a B-24 Liberator which was hit during a raid on the Ploesti oil fields on August 1, 1943. Out of control, the bomber crashed into the Mediterranean sea, killing the pilot, co-pilot and bombardier.

With six of his fellow crew members, he swam to the shore of Turkey, where they were picked up by a group of Turkish guards and transported to a hospital. He was reported missing in action for three months.

He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Purple Heart, the Distinguished Unit Badge, Air Medal and other decorations "for distinguished and meritorious achievements while participating in aerial flights against the enemy." He also participated in the first flight over Rome.

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