

### COUNTY COUNCIL OF LEGION IN LEGISLATION

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offered by the local posts for the best essays along this line.

#### Entertainment for Vets.

Entertainment for the men at the Great Lakes and North Chicago hospitals was also discussed to a considerable extent. A motion to ask the government for installation of talkies in the motion picture equipment at the hospitals was approved. In this matter John Hartman gave a brief sketch of the needs of the veterans, what had been done throughout the United States and what additional plans were to better their condition.

L. J. Benston, service officer from Chicago, told of the desperate needs of the veterans or their families who applied to him for aid. He quoted the many decisions of the different heads of departments in Washington, D.C., and what a tangle had ensued. Mr. Benston went on to tell of plans to bring order out of chaos.

Commander Schlupp of the Fifth District, chairman of the Bogardus act, under which disabled or distressed veterans of all wars might obtain assistance from the county without being pauperized, told of the procedure by which a post might obtain this aid for needy men in their territory. This relief could be demanded by the post commander, he explained, as the law permits the supervisors to provide for this money in their budget. He advised post commanders who were using post funds for relief work to get in touch with their local supervisors, who, he said, could not refuse their request.

Commander Schlupp related a case that was now being handled by his office: one night, just as he was about to close a veteran approached him for aid. It seems that his wife had been taken to the county hospital for necessary care and treatment. He had four little children, the oldest being six years. He was employed as a night watchman with a private detective agency and did

not want to leave the children alone in the two rooms where the family were living. Further investigation brought out the fact that the man had had a job as machinist and lost it through ill health. Then his wife became ill and he finally took the night watchman's job at 3:50 per night—this to support a family of six. Working at any other thing that might earn a few dollars this man had run down to the extent that he became ill. His landlady claimed he owed two weeks' rent and was for putting the children out on the street

the very night he had appealed for aid.

#### Legion Secures Aid

The Legion stepped in. The wife's case was assured of proper attention by the county authorities; the man himself was placed in a hospital; and after many attempts an institution was found that would care for all of them, as many would take in only those of certain ages. After this man recovers his health the Legion plans to find him a job in his trade and gather the family under one roof again.

This is but one of the many cases handled by the Legion, Mr. Schlupp stated, but it gives an idea of what the Legion is doing to help the ex-service man and his family. Each year, he added, the number of appeals for aid increases.

Commander Charles Kapschull gave a brief report of the vets at the North Chicago hospital and reported that he was told that patients for mental treatment were applying there for admittance at the rate of twenty-four a month.

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