

National Association
for
Constitutional Government

Washington, D. C.

Present Membership of the General Committee

Hon. David Jayne Hill, Chairman

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL	GEORGE HARVEY
HENRY CAMPBELL BLACK	ARCHIBALD HOPKINS
WILLIAM J. BOARDMAN	CHARLES R. HOWRY
CHARLES HENRY BUTLER	MARTIN A. KNAPP
THOMAS C. CARRIGAN	R. WALTON MOORE
CHARLES RAY DEAN	CHARLES C. NOTT
JOHN JOY EDSON	WALTER S. PENFIELD
HON. JOHN W. FOSTER	ADM. CHAS. H. STOCKTON
REV. SAMUEL H. GREENE, D. D.	DR. HARVEY W. WILEY
FRANK W. HACKETT	

Preamble and Resolutions

The undersigned persons, meeting at the residence of Mr. David Jayne Hill, in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, on the twenty-seventh day of April, 1914, and others adhering to the action then taken, have adopted the following Resolutions:—

WHEREAS, there exists in our country a widespread tendency toward ignoring and finally effacing the distinction between a fundamental law deliberately adopted by the people for the protection of their inherent rights on the one hand, and mere statutory legislation on the other, thus tending to substitute the caprice of the moment for the solid guarantees of a long tested basis of government; and

WHEREAS, we learn that strenuous efforts are being put forth to render easier the alteration of the fundamental law, and that more than seventy proposals of change now await an opportunity to be written into the Constitution of the United States, which, after serving as the effective guarantee of our liberties for a hundred and twenty-five years, is now exposed to ill-considered alteration; and

WHEREAS, we disapprove of radical changes in our form of government, and have full confidence in the excellence and sufficiency of the representative institutions provided for in our Federal Constitution, desiring that these safeguards of life, liberty, and property be preserved and transmitted undiminished to our descendants, be it therefore

RESOLVED, That for the purpose of carrying into effect the views and intentions previously stated, there is hereby founded and established THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT, having for its aims:—

1. To revive and extend a knowledge of the distinctive features of Constitutional Government as conceived by the founders of this Republic, and to maintain respect for the Constitution;

2. To insist upon deliberate discussion of proposed changes in our Federal Constitution, the existing method of amending it being deemed wise and adequate; and

3. To preserve the idea of a fundamental law and prevent the substitution for it of a mere statutory code subject to frequent change.

These aims to be carried out by appropriate means of action such as the formation of local centers for the study of the Constitution, the publication and circulation of literature upon the subject, and the assembling of meetings for the discussion of such questions as may from time to time seem to require consideration.

SECOND. That for the purpose of effecting a preliminary organization of the said ASSOCIATION and providing a provisional government for it, there shall be constituted a General Committee of members of the ASSOCIATION.

THIRD. That the gentlemen present at this meeting, and whose names shall be recorded by the secretary of the meeting, are hereby severally constituted and appointed members of the said General Committee, and the acceptance by each of his appointment to such membership, and of membership in the ASSOCIATION itself, shall be manifested by his assent to the adoption of this resolution.

FOURTH. That the membership of the said Committee may from time to time be enlarged until a total membership of one hundred shall have been reached.

And be it further RESOLVED, that, for the purpose of the more efficient conduct of the work of organization and of administrative detail, there shall be constituted an Executive Committee, to be composed of seven members of the General Committee, who shall be named and designated by the chairman of this meeting, to carry on the active work of the ASSOCIATION, under the direction and supervision of the General Committee, until such time as a constitution for the ASSOCIATION shall have been adopted and a permanent organization effected.

PERSONAL

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

DAVID JAYNE HILL,
CHAIRMAN

WALTER S. PENFIELD,
TREASURER

CHARLES RAY DEAN,
SECRETARY

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE
OF THE

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT

COLORADO BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 22, 1914.

PRESENT MEMBERSHIP OF
THE COMMITTEE

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL
HENRY CAMPBELL BLACK
WILLIAM J. BOARDMAN
CHARLES HENRY BUTLER
THOMAS C. CARRIGAN
CHARLES RAY DEAN
JOHN JOY EDSON
HON. JOHN W. FOSTER
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FRANK W. HACKETT
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HON. DAVID JAYNE HILL
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CHARLES R. HOWRY
MARTIN A. KNAPP
R. WALTON MOORE
CHARLES C. NOTT
WALTER S. PENFIELD
ADM. CHARLES H. STOCKTON
DR. HARVEY W. WILEY

President Harry Pratt Judson,

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:

We respectfully call your attention to the enclosed folder setting forth the purpose and plan of organization of the National Association for Constitutional Government, and ask your careful attention thereto.

At a recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the Association it was suggested that the objects of the organization would probably appeal to you, and that you might be willing to help inaugurate the movement by becoming a member of the General or Advisory Committee of one hundred. This would involve no particular tax upon your time beyond that which you might volunteer by way of advice or suggestions in the interests of the Association. It is believed by the Committee that if your interest in and sympathy with the movement were known, it would have much to do with its ultimate success.

It should be clearly understood that this is to be a strictly non-partisan organization, with the patriotic motive of awakening our citizens to what we believe to be a real danger threatening their fundamental rights of life, liberty, and property guaranteed by our Constitution, and of pointing out to them where their safety lies.

CHARLES RAY DEAN
SECRETARYWALTER S. PERKINS
TREASURERJAMES HILL
CHAIRMAN

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

OF THE

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CHARLES R. HOWEY

HAROLD A. HURP

R. WATSON MOORE

CHARLES G. MOTT

WALTER S. PERKINS

ADM. CHARLES H. STOCKTON

DR. HARVEY W. WILBY

The plans of the Association contemplate the encouragement of discussion in public meetings and the press of any proposed amendments to our Constitution; the distribution of suitable literature on subjects of interest to the Association; the eventual publication of a periodical or journal of the Association, and the holding of an annual conference in Washington where questions requiring consideration can be discussed.

The annual dues of members of the General Committee are \$5.00.

The initiation of such a movement requires a considerable expenditure for printing, postage, clerk hire, etc., and contributions, additional to the annual dues, towards such expenses will be very welcome. No large sum is desired from any one person.

Remittances may be made to Mr. Walter S. Penfield, Treasurer, Colorado Building, Washington, D. C., who will furnish proper receipts.

We trust that you will be moved to become a member of the General Committee, thereby helping to forward a movement of vital importance to our Nation.

Communications may be addressed to Charles Ray Dean, Secretary, Colorado Building, Washington, D. C.

Respectfully,

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, Chairman,
Henry Campbell Black,
Thomas C. Carrigan,
Charles Ray Dean,
Archibald Hopkins,
R. Walton Moore,
Walter S. Penfield,

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

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The annual dues of members of the General Committee are \$8.00. The initiation of such a movement requires a considerable expenditure for printing, postage, clerk hire, etc., and contributions, additional to the annual dues, towards such expenses will be very welcome. No large sum is desired from any one person.

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Respectfully,

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, Chairman,
Henry Campbell Black,
Thomas C. Carrigan,
Charles Ray Dean,
Archibald Hopkins,
R. Walton Moore,
Walter S. Penfield,

Chicago, May 25, 1914.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of May 22d addressed to
President Judson is received in his absence abroad.
He expects to return in the autumn, at which time
the material will be brought to his attention.

Yours very truly,

Private Secretary

Secretary of the General Committee of the
National Association for Constitutional Government,
Colorado Bldg., Washington, D. C.

Chicago, May 25, 1914.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of May 23d addressed to
President Judson is received in his absence abroad.
He expects to return in the autumn, at which time
the material will be brought to his attention.
Yours very truly,

Private Secretary

Secretary of the General Committee of the
National Association for Constitutional Government,
Colorado Bldg., Washington, D. C.