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THE LEGION'S BOSSES

The policies of the American Legion are theoretically in the hands of the annual Legion national convention, but actually they are in the hands of the Legion's "Royal Family"--the reserve and active army and naval officers. Most of these belong to other officer-composed organizations such as the Legion of Valor and the Military Order of the World War which always meet a few days before the national convention of the American Legion. In 1935, the Legion of Valor, which met in August, went on record favoring the breaking of diplomatic relations with Soviet Russia, and condemned the National Education Assn. resolutions on academic freedom. The Military Order of the World War in September favored finger-printing all aliens and deporting all aliens who preached against capitalism. It favored universal military service in war-time and praised Hearst for his patriotic services. The Legion convention rubber-stamped every one of these resolutions.

Some of the Legion leaders are: Franklin D'Olier, 1st national commander, a director of 4 banks; Frederic W. Galbraith, 2nd national commander, a director of several large corporations; Thomas Taylor, present legislative representative who is interested in munitions and is a corporation lawyer; Post commander Henry L. Stevens, Jr., a lawyer for Gulf Oil and Andrew Mellon; F. Trubee Davison, son of one of J. P. Morgan's partners; Ogden L. Mills, one of the organizers of the Legion and one of the richest men in the country; Frank Belgrano, Jr., president and director of several large insurance companies and considered a "puppet of Banker Giannini;" Bibb Graves, Governor of Alabama; Edwin Denby, former Secretary of the Navy; Harry Woodring, present Asst. Sec. of War. At one time in the history of the Legion, 65 members of the House of Representatives and 18 members of the Senate were active Legionnaires.