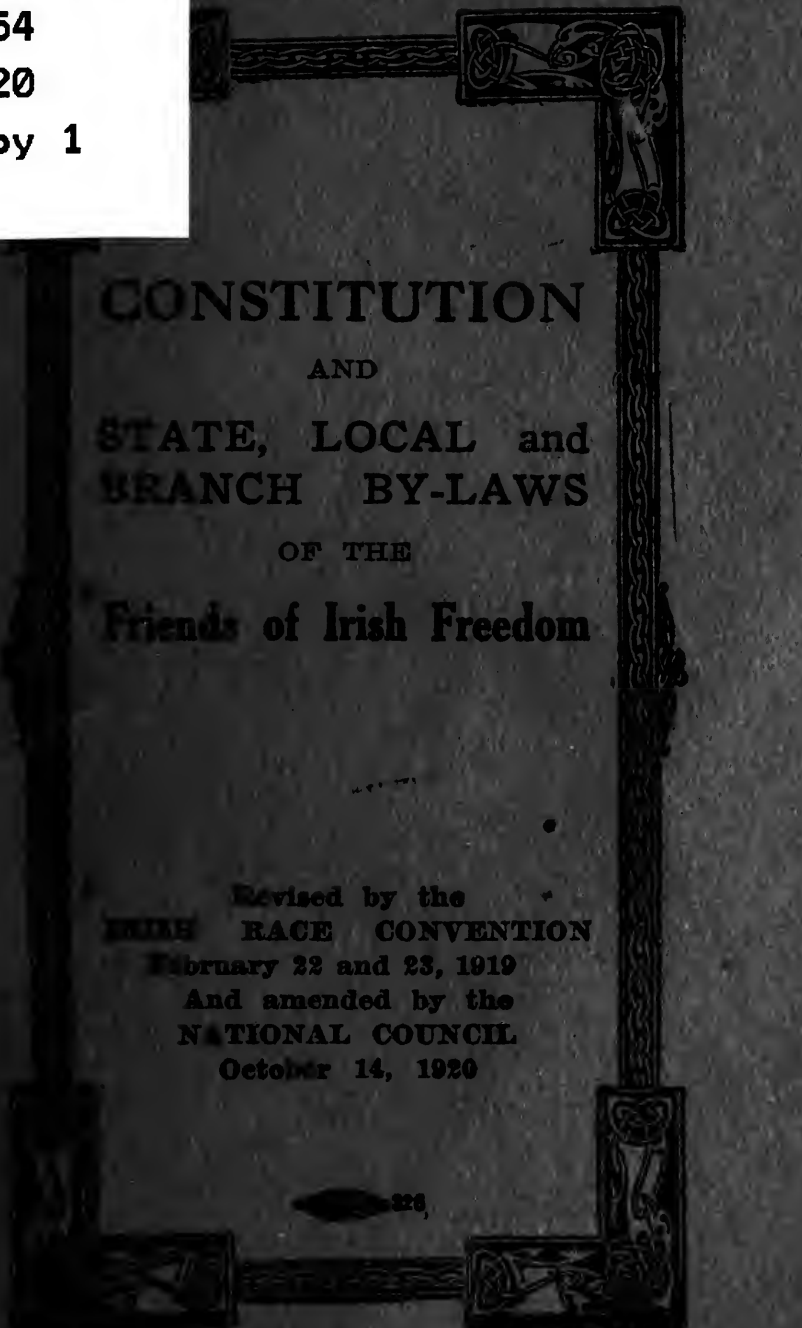


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**CONSTITUTION**  
AND  
**STATE, LOCAL and**  
**BRANCH BY-LAWS**  
OF THE  
**Friends of Irish Freedom**

Revised by the  
**IRISH RACE CONVENTION**  
February 22 and 23, 1919  
And amended by the  
**NATIONAL COUNCIL**  
October 14, 1920



**CONSTITUTION**  
**AND**  
**STATE, LOCAL and**  
**BRANCH BY-LAWS**  
**OF THE**  
**Friends of Irish Freedom**



Revised by the

**IRISH RACE CONVENTION**

February 22 and 23, 1919

And Amended by the National Council

October 14, 1920

**DIARMUID LYNCH**

*National Secretary*

280 Broadway

New York City

## PRESIDENT WILSON

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1920

To Congress, April 2, 1917, on declaration of War:

"But the right is more precious than peace, and we shall fight for the things which we have always carried nearest our hearts—for democracy, for the right of those who submit to authority to have a voice in their own governments, for the rights and liberties of small nations, for a universal dominion of right by such a concert of free peoples as shall bring peace and safety to ALL nations and make the world itself at last free."

At New York, September 27, 1918:

"Shall the military power of any nation or group of nations be suffered to determine the fortunes of peoples over whom they have no right to rule except the right of force?"

"Shall strong nations be free to wrong weak nations and make them subject to their purpose and interests?"

"Shall peoples be ruled and dominated, even in their own internal affairs, by authority and irresponsible force or by their own will and choice?"

"Shall there be a common standard of right and privilege for ALL peoples and nations or shall the strong do as they will and the weak suffer without redress?"

"Shall the assertion of right be haphazard and by casual alliance, or shall there be a common concert to oblige the observance of common rights?"

"No man, no group of men, chose these to be the issues of the struggle. They are the issues of it; and they must be settled—by no arrangement or compromise or adjustment of interests, but definitely and once for all and with a full and unequivocal acceptance of the principle that the interest of the weakest is as sacred as the interest of the strongest."

CP 3 June '21

**IRELAND'S DECLARATION OF IN-  
DEPENDENCE. PROCLAIMED  
BY THE DAIL EIREANN,  
DUBLIN, JANUARY  
21, 1919**

—  
(Translation)

“Whereas the Irish People is by right a free people;

“And whereas for seven hundred years the Irish people has never ceased to repudiate and has repeatedly protested in arms against foreign usurpation;

“And whereas English rule in this country is, and always has been, based upon force and fraud and maintained by military occupation against the declared will of the people;

“And whereas the Irish Republic was proclaimed in Dublin on Easter Monday, 1916, by the Irish Republican Army, acting on behalf of the Irish people;

“And whereas the Irish people is resolved to secure and maintain its complete Independence in order to promote the common weal, to re-establish justice, to provide for future defense, to insure a peace at home and good will with all nations and to constitute a National policy based upon the people's will, with equal right and equal opportunity for every citizen;

“And whereas at the threshold of a new era in history the Irish electorate has in the General Election of December, 1918, seized the first occasion to

declare by an overwhelming majority its firm allegiance to the Irish Republic;

“Now, therefore, we, the elected Representatives of the ancient Irish people, in National Parliament assembled, do, in the name of the Irish Nation, ratify the establishment of the Irish Republic and pledge ourselves and our people to make this Declaration effective by every means at our command.

“To ordain that the elected Representatives of the Irish people alone have power to make laws binding on the people of Ireland, and that the Irish Parliament is the only Parliament to which that people will give its allegiance.

“We solemnly declare foreign Government in Ireland to be an invasion of our National Right, which we will never tolerate, and we demand the evacuation of our country by the English garrison;

“We claim for our National Independence the recognition and support of every Free Nation of the world, and we proclaim that Independence to be a condition precedent to international peace hereafter;

“In the name of the Irish people we humbly commit our destiny to Almighty God, who gave our fathers the courage and determination to persevere through centuries of a ruthless tyranny, and strong in the justice of the cause which they have handed down to us, we ask His divine blessing on this, the last stage of the struggle which we have pledged ourselves to carry through to Freedom.”

# FRIENDS OF IRISH FREEDOM

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## *NATIONAL OFFICERS*

### **NATIONAL PRESIDENT**

Rt. Rev. Michael J. Gallagher, D.D.  
Detroit, Mich.

### **NATIONAL TREASURER**

Michael B. McGreal, New Haven, Conn.

### **NATIONAL SECRETARY**

Diarmuid Lynch, New York City, N. Y.

### **NATIONAL TRUSTEES**

John A. Murphy, Buffalo, N. Y., Chairman.

Joseph McGarrity, Philadelphia, Pa.

Thomas Hughes Kelly, New York, N. Y.

Richard W. Wolfe, Chicago, Ill.

Thomas J. Maloney, Jersey City, N. J.

Thomas F. Conroy, Providence, R. I.

Richard F. Daiton, New York City, N. Y.

**OFFICIAL FORMS**  
**Supplied By**  
**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS**

- 1A. Membership Application. (1921.)
2. List of Regular Branch Officers.
- 2A. List of Associate Branch Officers.
- 2B. List of Honorary Branch Officers.
- 3A. Associate Branch Application.
- 3B. Honorary Branch Application.
- 4A. How to Form a Regular Branch.
- 5A. Official List of Branch Names.
- 6A. Renewal Membership Application. (1921.)
- 7A. Financial Secretary's Index Card.
- 8B. Local Council Delegates' List. (Regular Branch.)
- 8C. Local Council Delegates' List. (Associate Branch.)
- 9A. Associate Branch Renewal Application. (1921.)
- 10A. List of Applicants for Regular Membership.
- 11A. Regular Branch Application. (1921.)
12. Change of Address. (Regular Members.)
- 13A. Local Council Executive List.
- 14A. State Council Executive List.
15. Application for Membership Transfer.
16. Membership Transfer Certificate.
- 17A. Local Council Permit.
- 18A. Special Organization Circular. (1921.)
19. Financial Secretary's Monthly Statement to Local Council.
20. Credential—Regular Delegate to Local Council.
21. Credential—Alternate Delegates to Local Council.
22. Local Council Quarterly Reports.
23. Branch Treasurer's Annual Report.
24. Organizer's Report.

**Branch Certificate.**

**Branch and Index Books.**

**Branch Treasurer's Voucher Book.**



**CONSTITUTION**  
of the  
**FRIENDS OF IRISH FREEDOM**

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**ARTICLE I.**

The name of this organization shall be  
**FRIENDS OF IRISH FREEDOM.**

**ARTICLE II.**

The objects of this organization are:

(a) To maintain America's position as the world-champion of human freedom, by preserving American ideals of liberty and upholding the principles on which the Government of the United States was founded.

(b) To uphold the right of the Republic of Ireland to international recognition, and to inform the American people to the end that the Government of these United States, applying American principles, shall accord full official recognition to the elected Government of the Republic of Ireland.

(c) To diffuse a more intimate knowledge of Irish history and the history of the Irish Race in America, and stimulate a just pride of Irish ideals and achievements, thus enabling our people to contribute in the highest degree to the enrichment of American culture.

(d) To develop the economic resources of Ireland and to promote direct trade relations between the U. S. and Ireland.

(e) To promote the revival of the Language, Music and Customs of Ireland.

### ARTICLE III.

Membership in the Friends of Irish Freedom shall be open to all those who uphold the Republic of Ireland, who promise to work for its international recognition and otherwise accept this Constitution.

### ARTICLE IV.

**Members Entering Individually:** (a) In a locality where no Branch exists, individuals may be enrolled as members of the Friends of Irish Freedom on submitting signed application on Form No. 1A declaring acceptance of this Constitution, and the payment of Two Dollars national membership fee direct to the National Secretary; fee shall be renewable on the first of January in each year thereafter. Such members shall thereupon be affiliated with the branch nearest to their respective place of residence.

(b) Subsequent to the formation of a Regular Branch in their immediate locality, said members shall on due notice become enrolled members of the local branch. Otherwise their national membership shall become void.

### ARTICLE V.

**Regular Branches:** (a) Twelve or more persons who personally sign membership applications on the prescribed form (Form No. 1A) declaring acceptance of this Constitution and who pay the sum of **Two Dollars** each (National membership fee), shall, acting under the au-

thority of a Local or State Council, or of the National Executive, be entitled to establish a Regular Branch of the Friends of Irish Freedom.

(b) The Financial Secretary shall in the first instance retain for Branch and Local Council purposes fifty cents out of each national membership fee. He shall forward to the National Secretary the balance of said fees, viz., \$1.50 for each applicant, together with the original membership applications, also a separate list on Form No. 10A giving the name and address of each applicant.

(c) To secure recognition of a Branch, as such, **Branch Affiliation Fee of Five Dollars** shall be paid to the National Secretary in addition to the individual membership fees.

(d) The Branch Secretary shall also furnish to the National Secretary, together with the foregoing, a list (on Form No. 2) in duplicate of the temporary or permanent Branch officers.

(e) Affiliation fee from Branch, and National membership fees as specified in Section (a) shall be renewable on the first of January in each year thereafter. Form No. 6A shall be completed (instead of Form No. 1A) by the Branch Financial Secretary for each member thus renewing membership, and forwarded to the National Secretary in the usual manner.

(f) Each Branch shall be known by a name approved by the National Executive; **said name shall not be that of any living person, nor of any place.**

(g) In a local Council area no two

Branches shall be known by the same name; a written permit on Form No. 17 authorizing the establishment of a Branch must be secured from the Local Council Secretary and forwarded to the National Secretary. The decision of a local Council, with respect to the formation of a Branch, may be vetoed by the State Council or National Executive.

(h) Applications for membership from a locality where a Regular Branch or Branches exist, must be submitted through a Branch and not direct to the National Secretary.

(i) Each individual who qualifies for national membership shall receive a National Membership Card, signed by the National Secretary, for the year for which fee is paid. Cards for those joining through a Branch shall be issued through the Branch Financial Secretary.

(j) Unless and until an individual has complied with the national membership requirements and corresponding National Membership Card has been issued he or she shall not be eligible for initiation as a member of a Regular Branch.

(k) Individuals shall only retain membership in one Regular Branch of the Friends of Irish Freedom.

(l) Any member desiring a transfer from one Branch to another shall make application to the National Secretary on Form No. 15. If and when the transfer shall be granted the Secretaries of both Branches and the State Secretary shall be notified by the National Secretary.

(m) When the membership of any

Branch reaches one thousand, a new Branch shall be formed therefrom.

(n) Each Branch shall be at liberty to fix the dues payable to it by its own members, apart from the National membership fee.

(o) Regular Branches shall adopt a uniform system of bookkeeping as directed by the National Executive.

(p) Each city and town where a Branch or Branches exist shall be systematically canvassed, according to parishes or districts, for new members and for the circulation of educational literature issued or approved by the National Council, National Executive or State Council.

(q) Secretaries of Regular Branches shall submit reports monthly to the Local Councils. Also written report quarterly, direct to the National and State Secretaries which shall show the financial standing and general activities of their respective Branches.

(r) The Treasurer of each Regular Branch on January first each year shall submit to the National Secretary and to the State Secretary a financial statement for the preceding year, on the form supplied by National Headquarters.

(s) A duly authorized representative of a State Council or Local Council shall have the power to inspect the accounts and vouchers, and to investigate all matters pertaining to each Regular Branch within the jurisdiction of said Councils. The National Secretary or other person delegated by the National Executive

shall have similar power with respect to any Regular Branch, Local Council, or State Council.

(t) Resolutions and literature emanating from any Branch pertaining to the principles or policy of the Friends of Irish Freedom shall not be published, unless and until approved by a Local or State Council, or by the National Executive.

(u) A Branch while under suspension by a vote of a Local Council, State Council, or of the National Executive shall not function as a Branch of the Friends of Irish Freedom, and shall not be entitled to representation on a Local Council, or at a State or National Convention.

(v) Should a Branch be expelled by vote of a State Council or of the National Executive, it shall thereupon cease to function as a Branch of the Friends of Irish Freedom, and all of its members forfeit membership thereby. With the sanction of the National Executive, the Branch may be reorganized, and those of its members who have not by act, word or vote, been guilty of any breach of discipline may be reinstated in good standing therein or in some other Branch.

(w) Whenever any irregularity occurs in an election, or any dispute arises, the right of appeal is, in the first instance, from the Branch to the Local Council, and afterwards, if necessity exists, to the State Council; and further, upon certification by at least two members of the last appellate tribunal, to the National Executive, whose decision shall

be final. Where no Local or State Council exists, the appeal shall be direct to the National Executive.

## ARTICLE VI.

**Associate Branches:** (a) Any Irish-American Society, or Branch of any Irish-American organization in the United States which upholds the Republic of Ireland and promises to work for its international recognition, and which otherwise accepts this Constitution in so far as it applies to Associate Branches, may affiliate as an Associate Branch of the Friends of Irish Freedom, on submitting an Application on Form No. 3A, in compliance with the foregoing, and on the payment of an affiliation fee of Five Dollars to the National Secretary. Name and address of the President, Treasurer and Secretary shall at the same time be forwarded in duplicate to the National Secretary on Form 2A.

(b) This Fee shall be renewable on the first of January in each year thereafter.

(c) Each Associate Branch shall affiliate with its respective State and Local Councils in accordance with Articles XV and XVII.

(d) The payment of any further moneys by an Associate Branch to the Friends of Irish Freedom shall be voluntary on the part of the said Associate Branch except as regards moneys raised for any special purpose by the Associate Branch voluntarily acting under the direction of the National Convention or

National Council of the Friends of Irish Freedom.

(e) Associate Branches shall not be at liberty to use the name "Friends of Irish Freedom" in connection with any public function, except with permission of, and upon conditions laid down by the National Executive.

(f) Individuals belonging to an Associate Branch are eligible to obtain regular membership in the Friends of Irish Freedom in the appointed manner.

## ARTICLE VII.

**Honorary Branches:** (a) Any other organization, or Branch of same, in the United States which upholds the Republic of Ireland and promises to work for its international recognition and which otherwise accepts this Constitution in so far as it applies to Honorary Branches, may affiliate without fee as an Honorary Branch of the Friends of Irish Freedom on submitting an application on Form No. 3B in compliance with the foregoing. Name and address of the President, Treasurer and Secretary shall, at the same time, be forwarded to the National Secretary on Form No. 2B.

(b) An Honorary Branch shall not be entitled to representation on Local Councils or at State Conventions.

(c) The payment of any moneys by an Honorary Branch to the Friends of Irish Freedom shall be voluntary on the part of said Honorary Branch, except as regards moneys raised for any special purpose by the Honorary Branch volun-



tarily acting under the direction of the National Convention or National Council of the Friends of Irish Freedom.

(d) Honorary Branches shall not be at liberty to use the name "Friends of Irish Freedom" in connection with any public function, except by permission of and upon conditions laid down by the State Council or National Executive.

(e) Individuals belonging to an Honorary Branch are eligible to obtain regular membership in the Friends of Irish Freedom in the appointed manner.

## ARTICLE VIII.

**National Officers:** (a) The Board of National Officers shall consist of a President, eighteen Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, a Secretary and seven Trustees, elected by the National-Convention.

(b) The National Council is empowered to fill vacancies in the Board of National Officers. Notice of such vacancy or vacancies shall be sent to each member of the National Council prior to the meeting at which nominations to fill same may be made. Elections shall take place at the subsequent meeting of the Council.

## ARTICLE IX.

(a) The National President shall preside at all meetings of the National Council, and call the National Convention to order.

(b) In the event of the death or resignation of the President, the avail-

able Vice-President in the order of election seniority shall temporarily perform the duties of the President's office, except as otherwise provided for.

(c) In the absence of the National President from any meeting of the National Council, said meeting shall elect its own chairman.

## ARTICLE X.

**National Treasurer:** (a) Acting under instructions from the National Treasurer, the National Secretary shall keep a correct record of all receipts and disbursements of the Friends of Irish Freedom, and issue receipts for all moneys received.

(b) The National Treasurer shall cause to be deposited in the General Fund of the Friends of Irish Freedom all moneys received for the purposes of the Organization by him or by the National Secretary.

(c) The National Treasurer shall open a Special Account in the name of the Friends of Irish Freedom in a depository selected by a Committee of the National Officers consisting of the President, Treasurer and Secretary, and the Board of Trustees. This Special Account shall be replenished by the National Trustees as required to meet disbursements ordered by the National Council.

(d) All disbursements shall be made either direct from the National Treasurer's Special Account or from the Contingent Account of the National Secretary. The amount of this Contingent Account shall be fixed by the National Executive and it shall be replenished by

the National Treasurer in accordance with statements rendered to and approved by him.

(e) The National Treasurer shall keep a correct record of all moneys received from the National Trustees, and of all payments made from his Special Account.

(f) He shall sign all drafts on the General Fund.

(g) The National Treasurer shall report to the National Trustees once a month, or oftener if required, the financial condition of the Organization, and shall make a detailed report to the National Convention, National Council or National Executive when either body may so require.

(h) In January of each year he shall submit his accounts to a firm of certified accountants selected by the National Trustees, who shall submit an itemized report of receipts and expenditures for the preceding year.

(i) The National Treasurer shall be bonded in a sum to be determined by the National Trustees.

## ARTICLE XI.

(a) **National Trustees:** The General Fund into which all moneys shall be deposited in the name of the Friends of Irish Freedom shall be placed in a depository or depositories selected by a committee of the National officers consisting of the President, Treasurer and Secretary, and the Board of Trustees. It shall be controlled by the National Coun-

cil and drafts on the same shall be signed by the National Treasurer and countersigned by at least four National Trustees.

## ARTICLE XII.

(a) The **National Secretary** shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the National Council and National Executive. He shall conduct the correspondence, and shall be responsible for the efficient transaction of all work pertaining to the Organization at National Headquarters under the direction of the National Executive.

(b) He or she shall have charge of a Contingent Account which shall be kept in a depository selected by the National Executive, from which to make disbursements, and shall submit to the National Treasurer statements of such disbursements.

(c) He shall keep a correct record of and issue receipts for all moneys received by him for the Friends of Irish Freedom; he shall deposit such moneys in the General Fund.

(d) The National Secretary's books shall be at the disposal of auditors mentioned in Article X (Section h).

(e) The National Secretary shall be bonded in a sum to be determined by the National Trustees.

(f) He or she shall be a full-time paid official; salary to be fixed by the National Council.

## ARTICLE XIII.

**National Council:** (a) The National

Council shall consist of the National President, National Treasurer, National Secretary, 18 National Vice-Presidents, 7 National Trustees, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the National Executive, all of whom shall be elected by the National Convention, and of additional members as hereinafter specified.

(b) Each State shall be represented on the National Council on the basis of one Councillor for each one thousand members in the State. These representatives shall be recommended by the delegates in State Convention assembled prior to the National Convention, and shall not assume office unless and until elected by the National Convention.

(c) Each State shall have at least one representative on the National Council. Where no State Council exists, the Branches in the State shall elect delegates on the basis of representation at State Conventions, who shall meet and recommend the election of a specified representative on the National Council by the National Convention.

(d) The National Convention shall elect an additional number of members on the National Council not exceeding fifty per cent of the total number of Councillors to which the States are entitled on the basis of Sections (b) and (c) of this Article.

(e) The National Council shall be empowered to co-opt, subsequent to the National Convention, an additional Councillor or Councillors from any State whose increased membership may justify

same, on the basis of one Councillor for every thousand members.

(f) Candidates for the National Council in accordance with Sections (b) and (c) may be nominated by any Branch of the F. O. I. F. in the respective States. Nomination papers shall be signed by the Branch President and Secretary, and shall reach the State Secretary or temporary Secretary of the State Convention at least two weeks prior to the date of said convention. Said Secretary shall thereupon compile an alphabetical list of the candidates and mail copy to each delegate at least one week prior to State Convention date.

(g) Each member of the National Council must hold membership in a Regular Branch.

(h) The National Council shall meet regularly once every two months on a fixed day. The place of meeting shall be decided by the Council.

(i) Special meetings of the National Council may be called by the National President on the written request of twenty members thereof, or on the order of the National Executive.

(j) Twenty-five members of the National Council shall constitute a quorum, provided, however, that any business transacted upon vote of less than forty members shall be subject to reconsideration by a majority vote at a subsequent meeting. Motion for such reconsideration need not be moved by one of those who originally voted on the question.

(k) The National Council shall have

power to suspend or dismiss any of the National officers and to suspend or expel any of its members on a two-thirds vote at a regular meeting of the Council. Said two-thirds vote shall exceed 30 and notice of motion for such suspension, dismissal or expulsion shall be given in writing at the previous regular meeting and all members of the Council shall be duly advised of such motion.

(l) Vacancies arising from any cause among the National Councillors originally recommended by a State Convention shall be filled from a list of five alternates recommended by said State Convention and filed at the time with the National Council; any other vacancy shall be filled by the National Council on a majority vote at a regular meeting.

(m) In matters of procedure not covered by the Constitution and By Laws, Cushing's Manual shall be followed. /

#### ARTICLE XIV.

**National Executive:** (a) The National Executive shall consist of the Chairman and Vice Chairman, who shall be elected by the National Convention, the National President, National Treasurer, National Secretary, and ten other members of the National Council who shall be elected at the first meeting of the latter. It shall exercise full control of the Organization when the National Convention or National Council is not in session.

(b) Meetings of the National Executive shall be held at the call of the Chairman.

(c) The National Executive shall have power to call on Regular Branches, Local Councils or State Councils of the Friends of Irish Freedom for special contributions when necessity for such arises.

(d) The National Executive may elect or appoint one or more National Organizers. These organizers shall be full-time paid officials and shall operate under direction of the National Executive.

(e) The National Executive may refuse admission into the Friends of Irish Freedom of any individual, combination of individuals or society; it may by a two-thirds vote of those present at a regular meeting, for the good of the organization, suspend any member or Branch from the Friends of Irish Freedom. The Executive shall order the trial of any such suspended member or Branch and shall appoint a time and place when and where such suspended member or Branch may be heard in his, her or its defense with the right to be represented by Counsel who shall be a member of the Friends of Irish Freedom, and adduce testimony written or oral as he, she or it may see fit. The subordinate body or committee authorized by the National Executive to conduct the trial shall be entitled to do likewise. If the suspended member or Branch be found guilty of the charges preferred, the National Executive shall have power to expel said member or Branch. No clause in the Constitution or By-Laws shall be considered as conflicting with the aforesaid power of the National Executive.



(f) Vacancies in the National Executive shall be filled by the National Council.

(g) Five members of the National Executive shall constitute a quorum.

(h) Should any member of the National Executive absent himself or herself from three consecutive meetings without sufficient reason the office shall be declared vacant and so reported at the next meeting of the National Council. The National Council shall fill the vacancy at its meeting following that at which the vacancy has been declared.

## ARTICLE XV.

**State Council:** (a) A State Council shall consist of a State President, State Vice-President, State Treasurer, State Secretary and seven other Councillors elected annually by a State Convention. All members of the State Council shall be regular members of the Friends of Irish Freedom.

(b) In the event of any State failing to elect a State Council as specified in clause (a) the National Council may appoint a temporary State Council.

(c) A State Council, to attain the objects set forth in Article II shall pay special attention to the organization of Regular Branches, the affiliation of Associate and Honorary Branches, and shall be responsible for the progress and well-being of the organization as a whole in its respective State. It shall supervise the educational and publicity work of the Friends of Irish Freedom therein.

(d) The operations of the State Coun-

cil shall be subject to review by the National Executive and National Council.

(e) Each State Council may elect or appoint one or more State Organizers. The National Executive shall be duly notified of such election or appointment.

(f) Each Regular Branch shall affiliate with its respective State Council. The National Secretary shall refund to each State Treasurer on or before the fifteenth day of April, July, October and January in each year, a sum representing fifty cents for each membership fee received from each respective State during the preceding quarter.

(g) Each State Secretary shall regularly receive from the National Secretary the names and addresses of all applicants as per lists furnished in accordance with Article V, Section (b), by the Branch Secretaries in the respective States.

(h) Each Associate Branch in a State shall affiliate with the State Council within thirty days after the date of National affiliation; it shall pay to the State Treasurer an affiliation fee of Five Dollars. Renewal fees are payable on the first of January in each year thereafter.

(i) Each Local Council in the State shall affiliate with the State Council and pay into the Treasury of the latter an annual assessment of Five Dollars; this assessment shall be payable on the first day of April or within thirty days after the date of organization of such Local Council.

(j) Any Regular Branch, Associate Branch or Local Council failing to com-

ply with the foregoing provisions shall thereby forfeit its representation at its respective State Convention and at the National Convention. Further restrictions may also be enforced.

(k) A State Council shall not affiliate any Branch unless and until notified by the National Secretary that said Branch has been recognized by National Headquarters.

(l) A State Council, as the result of a trial conducted by a Local Council, may by a two-thirds vote at a regular meeting, or at a special meeting called for the purpose, suspend or expel any individual or Branch within its jurisdiction. If the trial be instituted by the State Council in the first instance, the regulations laid down in Article XIV, Section (e) shall apply. The decision of a State or Local Council is subject to the veto of the National Executive.

(m) Any member of a State Council not devoting proper attention to the duties pertaining to his or her office, or guilty of conduct derogatory to the interests of the Friends of Irish Freedom, may be removed from the State Council by a two-thirds vote at any regular meeting of the State Council or National Council, provided that notice of such motion be given at the previous regular meeting of the State Council or National Council respectively and duly communicated to each member of those respective Councils and to the State Councillor involved.

(n) Should a member of a State Council, subsequent to election as such, be-

come a National Councillor and thereby increase the number of National Councillors on the State Council to more than four, said Councillor thereby forfeits his seat on the State Council.

(o) Vacancies arising from any cause shall be filled by co-option by the State Council on a majority vote at a regular meeting. Notice of co-option shall be given to each member of the council at least one week in advance of the meeting at which the vacancy is to be filled.

## ARTICLE XVI

**State Finance Committee:** Each State shall have a Finance Committee appointed by the State Council. Its duties shall be to raise funds for needed activities, under the direction of the State Council or National Executive.

## ARTICLE XVII.

**Local Council:** (a) In any City or Town where three or more Regular Branches exist, a Local Council, which shall direct and control the working of said Branches, may be established, subject to the approval of the State Council or of the National Executive.

(b) Adjacent townships may be grouped for the purpose of forming a Local Council.

(c) All Regular and Associate Branches in a district governed by a Local Council, shall affiliate with said Council.

(d) Each Regular Branch shall pay to the Treasurer of its respective Local

Council on or before the fifteenth day of each month a sum representing twenty-five cents (25c) for each member whose membership fee or renewal membership fee has been paid during the preceding month.

(e) Each Associate Branch shall pay to the Treasurer of its respective Local Council an affiliation fee of Five Dollars within thirty days after the date of its affiliation with National Headquarters. This fee shall be renewable on the first of January each year thereafter.

(f) Any Regular or Associate Branch failing to comply with the foregoing provisions shall thereby forfeit its representation on its respective Local Council, at its respective State Convention and at the National Convention. Further restrictions may also be enforced.

(g) A Local Council shall not affiliate any Branch unless and until notified by the National Secretary or State Secretary that said Branch has been recognized by National Headquarters.

(h) A Local Council shall consist of delegates from Regular Branches in its district on the following basis:

One delegate from a Branch having less than 50 members, 2 delegates for 50 members, 3 delegates for 100, and one additional delegate for each 50 members in excess of 100.

Each Associate Branch in the district shall be entitled to one delegate on the Local Council.

All delegates shall be elected by ballot by their respective Branches.

(i) The Executive of a Local Council shall consist of a President, three Vice-Presidents, Recorder, Corresponding and Financial Secretary, and Treasurer, elected annually by ballot at regular meeting of the Council. When the Council is not in session, the Executive thereof shall exercise the powers of the Council.

(j) Only duly accredited delegates to a Local Council, who also hold Regular membership in the Friends of Irish Freedom, shall be eligible for election on a Local Council Executive.

(k) A Local Council shall hold two regular business meetings each month.

## ARTICLE XVIII.

**National Convention:** (a) A National Convention of the Friends of Irish Freedom shall be held biennially, or oftener in the discretion of the National Council; date and place to be decided by the National Executive.

(b) The basis of representation at said Convention is as follows: Branches shall be affiliated with National Headquarters at least two months prior to the date of said Convention.

(c) Each regular Branch with a membership of twenty-five or less, in good standing two months prior to Convention date, shall be entitled to two delegates and to one additional delegate for each additional fifty members.

(d) Each Associate Branch in good standing shall be entitled to two delegates.

(e) Each Honorary Branch shall be entitled to one delegate.

(f) Each Local Council shall be entitled to two delegates at the National Convention.

(g) All delegates representing Branches and Local Councils shall be elected by ballot at a regular or special meeting thereof.

(h) The members of the National and State Councils shall be ex-officio members of the National Convention with all the prerogatives of delegates.

(i) Notices of motions, or of proposed amendments to the Constitution shall reach the National Secretary at least two weeks in advance of Convention date.

(j) The National Convention may in the discretion of the National Executive of the Friends of Irish Freedom be called as an "Irish Race Convention." In this event the National Executive shall be empowered to adopt a special basis of representation and to invite prominent citizens, who may not be delegated by Branches, or Local Councils.

(k) The election of delegates shall be vouched for by the President and Secretary of the body authorizing delegates to attend the Convention.

(1) Each National Convention or Irish Race Convention shall, through appropriate Committee, pass upon the qualifications of all persons presenting credentials; and shall adopt rules of procedure governing its conduct and deliberations.

## ARTICLE XIX.

**State Convention.** (a) A State Convention shall be held annually during the month of September in each State having five or more Regular Branches.

(b) The basis of representation at a State Convention shall be as specified for a National Convention in clauses (b), (c), (d), (f) and (g) of Article XVIII.

(c) Members of the National Council resident in each State and the outgoing members of the State Council shall be ex-officio members of the State Convention with all the prerogatives of delegates.

(d) The State Convention shall elect by ballot eleven members on the State Council, comprising the State President, State Vice-President, State Treasurer, State Secretary and not more than seven other councillors resident in the State. Each member of the State Council shall be an active member of a Regular Branch.

(e) Not more than four members of the National Council resident in the State are eligible for election on the State Council. They shall qualify in accordance with clause (d).

(f) Notices of motions should reach the State Secretary at least two weeks in advance of Convention date.

## ARTICLE XX.

(a) **Amendments** to this Constitution shall not take effect, unless and until (1)



approved by a majority of the National Executive and subsequently by a two-thirds vote at a regular meeting of the National Council, or (2) adopted by a National Convention.

(b) Copies of proposed amendments approved by the National Executive shall be forwarded to the members of the National Council at least three weeks prior to the date of the National Council meeting at which action may be taken on them by the latter.

# STATE COUNCIL BY-LAWS

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## ARTICLE I.

**Section 1.** The **State President** shall:

(a) Preside at all meetings of the Council and enforce a strict observance of these By-Laws and of the Constitution of the Friends of Irish Freedom;

(b) Appoint all committees not otherwise provided for and shall be ex-officio a member of all committees, except the Auditing Committee;

(c) Countersign all orders on the Treasurer;

(d) Act as temporary chairman of the State Convention;

(e) Be responsible in a general way for supervising the State Council's affairs and for observing that the other officers and committees perform the duties assigned to them.

**Sec. 2.** The **State Vice-President** shall, in the absence of the President, perform all the duties pertaining to the office of State President.

**Sec. 3.** The **State Treasurer** shall:

(a) Receive all moneys due the Council, and immediately deposit same in the name of the State Council in the financial institutions selected by the Council;

(b) Keep accurate records of all receipts and expenditures and make written reports to the Council at each meeting, showing the exact condition of the Treasury;

(c) Pay out moneys only upon formal written orders signed by the Secretary and countersigned by the President;

(d) Submit a complete financial report to the Council on the first of January of each year, and forward copy to the National Secretary.

(e) File a bond in an amount to be agreed upon by the State Council.

**Sec. 4. The State Secretary shall:**

(a) Keep complete and accurate minutes of all meetings of the State Council and shall keep and preserve all reports, correspondence and documents of every kind dealing with the business of the Council;

(b) Keep an accurate and complete roll of all Branches within the jurisdiction of the Council;

(c) Keep a card index showing name and address of every officer and of every member of each Regular Branch of the Friends of Irish Freedom in the jurisdiction of the State Council, also the name and address of the Secretary of each Associate and Honorary Branch in the State;

(d) Sign all orders on the State Treasurer, and all checks drawn on the Council's funds by the Treasurer for properly authorized expenditures;

(e) Keep a correct account of receipts and expenditures and turn over to the Treasurer all moneys of the Council at each meeting;

(f) Conduct all correspondence;

(g) File a bond in an amount to be agreed upon by the State Council.

## ARTICLE II.

**Section 1.** The Council shall meet at least once every month. Special meetings may be called at the discretion of the President, or upon a petition signed by five members of the Council. Each member of the Council shall be notified in writing of the time and place of meeting at least one week before the date of such meeting.

## ARTICLE III.

**Section 1.** The order of business at each regular meeting of a State Council shall be as follows:

1. Call to Order by the President.
2. Roll Call.
3. Reading of Minutes.
4. Bills and Communications.
5. Reports of Officers.
6. Reports of Committees.
7. Unfinished Business.
8. New Business.
9. Good of the Order.
10. Adjournment.

**Sec. 2.** In matters of procedure not covered by these By-Laws, Cushing's Manual shall be followed.

## ARTICLE IV.

All plans or projects for the raising of money by the Friends of Irish Freedom, within a State, except those authorized by the National Council or National Execu-

tive, must be submitted to and approved by the State Council.

## ARTICLE V.

**Section 1.** These by-laws shall be automatically amended to conform with all provisions of the National Constitution and by-laws, as the same may be in force from time to time.

**Sec. 2.** All other amendments must be read at two successive meetings of the State Council before being finally acted upon, prior written notice of such proposed amendments having been duly given to each member of such Council; or shall be adopted by a two-thirds vote at annual State Convention. Said amendments shall be in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Constitution and shall not take effect unless and until ratified by the National Executive or National Council.

# LOCAL COUNCIL BY-LAWS

## ARTICLE I.

### NAME AND PURPOSES.

Section 1. The name of this Organization shall be the \_\_\_\_\_ Local Council of the Friends of Irish Freedom.

Section 2. The purposes shall be to carry out, in the district over which its authority extends, the provisions of Article II, Sections A, B, C, D and E of the Constitution of the Friends of Irish Freedom:

(A) "To maintain America's position as the world-champion of human freedom, by preserving American ideals of liberty and upholding the principles on which the Government of the United States was founded.

(B) "To uphold the right of the Republic of Ireland to international recognition, and to inform the American people to the end that the Government of these United States, applying American principles, shall accord full official recognition to the elected Government of the Republic of Ireland.

(C) "To diffuse a more intimate knowledge of Irish history and the history of the Irish Race in America, and stimulate a just pride of Irish ideals and achievements; thus enabling our people to contribute in the highest degree to the enrichment of American culture.

(D) "To develop the economic resources of Ireland and to promote direct trade relations between the U. S. and Ireland.

(E) "To promote the revival of the language, music and customs of Ireland."

Section 3. To direct and control in its district, all Branches of the Friends of Irish Freedom, that the purposes as herein set forth, for which the Friends of Irish Freedom have been organized, may be attained.

Section 4. This control is subject only to the National Council, the National Executive, the State Council and the rule of the Constitution.

## ARTICLE II.

### MEMBERSHIP.

Section 1. Membership in this Local Council shall include all Regular and Associate Branches of the Friends of Irish Freedom in its district.

Section 2. Branches to secure and maintain membership in this Local Council must be in good standing with National Headquarters.

## ARTICLE III.

### OBLIGATIONS AND REPRESENTATION.

Section 1. Each Regular Branch shall pay to the Treasurer of its respective Local Council, on or before the 15th day of each month, a sum representing twenty-five cents (25c) for each member enrolled or whose renewal membership fee has been paid during the preceding month.

Section 2. Each Associate Branch shall pay to the Treasurer of its respective Local Council an affiliation fee of Five Dollars (\$5) within thirty days from the date of its affiliation with National Headquarters. This fee shall be renewable on the first of January each year thereafter.

Section 3. Before a Regular or Associate Branch may be affiliated or re-affiliated with

this Council, said Branch must present for inspection by the Executive of the Council the official receipt issued by the National Secretary showing that the National Branch fee applying from January first of the year for which affiliation is sought, has been paid to National Headquarters. Regular Branches must also present for inspection by the Local Executive, official receipt showing that membership fees for said year have been duly paid to the National Secretary.

Section 4. This Local Council shall consist of delegates from regular branches in its district on the following basis: One delegate from a branch having less than fifty (50) members; two delegates for fifty (50) members; three delegates for one hundred (100) members, and one additional delegate for each fifty members in excess of 100. Each Associate Branch in the district shall be entitled to one (1) delegate on the Local Council. All delegates shall be elected by ballot by their respective Branches.

Section 5. Only those are to be considered delegates to this Council who present credentials signed by the President and Secretary of their respective Branches which have complied with all obligations to National Headquarters and to this Council. Said credentials shall be countersigned by the Secretary of the Local Council.

Section 6. When any delegate absents himself or herself without reasonable excuse from three consecutive meetings of the Council, his or her position as delegate shall be declared vacant. Any Branch whose representation may thus be affected shall fill the vacancy or vacancies at its next regular meeting.



Section 7. At the time of electing a delegate or delegates by ballot from a Branch to the Local Council, there shall also be respective alternates elected, whose names and addresses shall be forwarded to the Local Council Secretary at the same time as those of the regular delegates, in order that said alternate delegates, in the absence of those whose alternates they are, may be entitled to all the privileges of the floor. Should the regular delegate and his or her respective alternate be absent from a meeting, no substitute delegate shall be permitted to attend thereat. The responsibility of notifying an alternate delegate of any meeting at which the respective regular delegate cannot attend rests with the latter, who shall also notify the Local Council Secretary. When any regular delegate from a Regular or Associate Branch is present at a meeting of the Council, his or her respective alternate shall not be entitled to sit thereat.

Section 8. Individuals who are not regular delegates, but who may be specially qualified to deal with any particular question under discussion by the Local Council, may be invited by the Local Executive to any specified meeting of the Council. Permission for such visitor to address the Council must, however, be secured by vote of the delegates present at said meeting. They shall sit apart from the duly qualified delegates and shall not have power to vote on any question. The Council shall have power to request the departure of such visitors from a meeting if and when it sees fit.

Section 9. The President, Secretary, or Treasurer of the National Council and of the State Council, or a person duly qualified by

either of those bodies, shall have the right to attend and speak on any question at a meeting of the Local Council; they shall not have power as such to vote thereat.

## ARTICLE IV.

### OFFICERS.

Section 1. The seven Officers of this Council shall consist of a President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Third Vice-President, Recorder, Corresponding and Financial Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2. Only duly accredited delegates to this Council, who also hold Regular membership in the Friends of Irish Freedom, shall be eligible as officers of this Local Council.

## ARTICLE V.

Section 1. The seven officers, as above, shall constitute the Local Executive, with power and authority as outlined in these By-Laws.

## ARTICLE VI.

Section 1. Delegates representing at least one-third of the membership by Branches, shall be necessary to constitute a quorum at any business or special meeting of a Local Council having fifteen or more affiliated branches. Furthermore, the number of individual delegates to form a quorum at such Council meetings shall not be less than nine.

Section 2. A Local Council with less than fifteen affiliated branches shall be at liberty to decide for itself the number of individual delegates necessary to form a quorum, but shall be obliged to advise the State Secretary and National Secretary in this respect.

## ARTICLE VII.

### MEETINGS.

Section 1. Two regular business meetings shall be held every month on fixed days and all properly accredited delegates must be notified by the Corresponding Secretary, of the date, time and place of these meetings.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the President: (a) On order from the Local Executive; or (b) on the formal written request of fifteen delegates representing fifteen Branches in the case of a Council having more than sixty affiliated Branches; or (c) on similar request from delegates representing one-fourth of the total number of Branches affiliated where such number is less than sixty and more than twenty-five; or (d) on similar request from seven individual delegates to a Council having more than twelve and less than twenty-five affiliated Branches. (e) A Local Council composed of delegates from less than twelve affiliated Branches shall be at liberty to decide this point for themselves, subject to ratification by the State Council or National Executive.

Section 3. Notices of special meetings must be sent out to all delegates, specifying the special business of said meeting, and no other business may be transacted thereat except by unanimous consent.

Section 4. In case of elections or of amendments to these By-Laws, after every preliminary requisite has been complied with, except the actual voting, a recess of ten minutes is to be declared for the purpose of consultation.

Section 5. In matters of parliamentary prac-

tice, not covered by these By-Laws, Cushing's Manual shall be used.

Section 6. All regular meetings shall start at eight o'clock sharp (P. M.), and it shall be the duty of the ranking officer then present to call the meeting to order, and to proceed with the business of the Council as herein outlined.

Section 7. All reports of Officers or Committees shall be presented in writing before any action may be taken thereon.

Section 8. No one will be considered as in order, or be permitted to speak at a business meeting, except to a question formally put by the Chair.

Section 9. No speaker shall be given more than ten minutes, except by unanimous consent, and the chairman must put this question to the meeting as soon as ten minutes have been occupied by any one speaker.

Section 10. No delegate may address the meeting more than once on any motion or question, while any other member who has not spoken desires to speak.

Section 11. A delegate wishing to address the meeting must arise, give name and state Branch represented.

Section 12. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall be considered an officer of the meeting, but not an officer of the Council.

Section 13. No business other than that included under Sections 2 and 3 of Article I of these By-Laws may be acted upon, or even discussed at the business meetings of this Council except by unanimous consent.

## ARTICLE VIII.

### FINANCE.

Section 1. Subject to ratification by the State Council or National Executive, this Local Council may adopt plans whereby money may be raised in its district for the purpose of carrying into effect any special work that may devolve upon it.

## ARTICLE IX.

### DUTIES OF PRESIDENT.

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Local Council and the Executive, and shall enforce a strict obedience to, and conformity with these By-Laws.

Section 2. He shall appoint all committees, not otherwise provided for, and shall be ex-officio a member of all committees, except that on Finance, when it sits as an Auditing Committee.

Section 3. The President shall sign all orders on the Treasurer, and all checks drawn on the Council's Funds by the latter for properly authorized appropriations.

Section 4. He shall be responsible, in a general way, for supervising the Council's affairs and for the performance of their duties by other Officers and by Committees.

Section 5. He shall not vote, except in case of a tie or an election.

## ARTICLE X.

### DUTIES OF FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT.

Section 1. The First Vice-President shall assist the President, and in case the latter is ill or absent he shall perform the duties of the President.

Section 2. He shall be chairman of the Finance Committee.

## ARTICLE XI.

### DUTIES OF SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT.

Section 1. The Second Vice-President shall, in the absence of the President and First Vice-President, preside at the meetings of the Local Council and the Executive.

Section 2. He shall be chairman of the Organization Committee.

## ARTICLE XII.

### THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT.

Section 1. The Third Vice-President shall be chairman of the Committee on Publicity.

Section 2. He shall, in the absence of the President, First and Second Vice-Presidents, preside at the meetings of the Local Council and the meetings of the Executive.

## ARTICLE XIII.

### RECORDER.

Section 1. The Recorder shall keep accurate and complete minutes of all meetings of the Local Council and the Executive, and shall have and protect all the reports and documents of every kind dealing with the business of the Council.

Section 2. This Officer shall keep an accurate and complete roll of Branches and Branch officers, delegates and committees of this Council and must furnish the Council, the Executive and the Auditing Committee any information possessed as Recorder and pro-

duce books and papers pertaining to the same office whenever required.

Section 3. This Officer shall call the roll of Branches and delegates at every meeting of the Local Council and note the names of absentees therefrom.

## ARTICLE XIV.

### CORRESPONDING AND FINANCIAL SECRETARY.

Section 1. This Officer shall have charge of the Correspondence of the Local Council and the Executive and shall refer same to the President for action.

Section 2. He shall notify Branches of meetings, etc., and shall secure reports from them as provided for by the Constitution and these by-laws.

Section 3. He shall furnish whenever required, any information concerning his office, desired by the Council, the Executive or the Auditing Committee.

Section 4. He shall keep a complete and correct account of receipts and expenditures.

Section 5. He shall collect the monthly Local Council fees when due from Branches, and shall turn over to the Treasurer all moneys of the Council at each meeting, accompanied with a complete and correct written report of all receipts and expenditures since the last meeting.

Section 6. He shall keep a complete card index record on file, showing names and addresses of every officer and of every member of each Regular branch of the Friends of Irish Freedom within the Local Council area, and of the delegates from said Branches to this Council, and of the Secretary and delegate

of each Associate Branch within the district of the Council.

Section 7. He shall provide forms suitable for these purposes, to be sent free to every Branch affiliated with this Council.

Section 8. He shall provide credentials for the use of duly accredited delegates to Local Council.

Section 9. He shall keep a record of all contributions made by each Branch in the Local Council district to the Friends of Irish Freedom.

Section 10. He shall draw all orders on the Treasurer.

Section 11. He shall file a bond, the expense to be borne by the Local Council, in a reliable Surety Company, the amount and company to be decided by the Executive and Finance Committee, in joint session for this purpose. Their decision must first be ratified by the Council.

Section 12. He shall keep the National Secretary and State Secretary advised of any changes in the personnel or addresses of Branch officers and officers of the Local Council.

## ARTICLE XV.

### THE TREASURER.

Section 1. The Treasurer shall receive from the Financial Secretary all moneys of the Council and shall, within three days of the receipt of same, deposit such in the name of the Local Council, in the financial institutions selected by the Executive and the Finance Committee. The depository or de-



positories selected must be approved by at least four members of the Executive and by the Council.

Section 2. The Treasurer shall keep accurate records of all receipts and expenditures, and make written reports to the Council at each meeting, showing the exact condition of the treasury.

Section 3. He shall, on no condition and under no circumstances or pretext whatever, honor or accept any order, or pay out moneys except on a formal written order, made out by the Financial Secretary in person, with the amount of same written out, signed by the Financial Secretary and countersigned by the President.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall have ready, whenever called upon by the President, the Auditing Committee or the Council, the deposit, check and other books of the Treasurer, together with all vouchers for payments made by or through this officer.

Section 5. The Treasurer shall accept no moneys without giving a receipt for same.

Section 6. The Treasurer must submit a complete report to the Auditing Committee on the first of January and the first of July of each year, so that this committee may make its report at the first meeting of the Council held thereafter.

Section 7. The Treasurer shall file a bond in an amount and Surety Co., to be agreed upon by the Executive, and the Finance Committee; the Council finally voting its approval of the Bonding Company and sum named. The expense incurred in securing said bond shall be borne by the Council.

## ARTICLE XVI.

### THE LOCAL EXECUTIVE.

Section 1. The President of the Council shall be chairman of the Local Executive.

Section 2. The Secretaries of the Council shall act in their official capacities to the Executive.

Section 3. The Local Executive shall meet at least twice every month.

Section 4. It shall exercise all the powers of the Council, when the latter is not in session, only and except as herein provided.

Section 5. It may not legislate for the Council.

Section 6. It may not appropriate, expend or authorize to be expended any moneys unless and until such expenditure or disbursement has been considered by the Finance Committee and passed by the Council.

Section 7. This foregoing Section 6 does not apply to the necessary current expenses of the Council, provision for such current expenses being made by the Finance Committee.

Section 8. It shall be the duty of the Executive to act in the matter of charges against members and Branches, as laid down in Articles XXI and XXII of these By-Laws.

Section 9. It shall have full authority in its district to control and direct all activities of every kind in so far as these activities are of, for, or by the Friends of Irish Freedom. This authority is limited only by the Constitution, the National Council, National Executive, States Council and these By-Laws.

Section 10. It shall have jurisdiction over all moneys collected by or in the name of the

Friends of Irish Freedom in the district of the Council, subject to the direction of the State Council or National Executive.

Section 11. It shall have charge of and control over the Local Council headquarters of the Friends of Irish Freedom, its employees, and its property. This property is to be used for no purpose whatever except the business of the Friends of Irish Freedom.

Section 12. All plans, reports and expenditures of standing committees must be available for review by the Local Executive.

Section 13. The Local Executive, acting with the Finance Committee, shall be charged with the duty of selecting the depository for all Council or other funds intrusted to its care, and must advise the Council of its decision, and of the percentage of moneys assigned to each depository, if more than one be selected for this purpose.

Section 14. Should any member of the Local Executive absent himself without reasonable excuse from three consecutive meetings of the Local Council, his office shall at a regular meeting of the latter be declared vacant.

## ARTICLE XVII.

### THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Section 1. This Committee shall be composed of five members to be appointed by the President.

Section 2. The First Vice-President of the Council shall be chairman of this committee, but shall not vote except in case of a tie.

Section 3. The Finance Committee shall have joint power with the Local Executive in

the selection of a depository for the funds of the Council or the withdrawal of same.

Section 4. No appropriation may be made by the Council to exceed ten (\$10.00) dollars without the consent of this committee, unless by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present at a regular business meeting.

Section 5. All budgets of committees or officers must be referred to this committee for consideration, before action by the Council may be taken.

Section 6. All plans of any kind, except those emanating from the National Council, National Executive or State Council by which moneys may be raised by or for the Friends of Irish Freedom in this district, must be submitted to this committee for their consideration before they can be adopted by this Council.

Section 7. All proposals referred to this committee must be returned with a report not later than the next regular meeting after it has been referred to them.

Section 8. The Finance Committee shall see that Branch Trustees audit the quarterly Branch financial reports called for by Article V, Section 10, of Branch By-Laws; it shall be responsible for the correctness of the audit.

Section 9. A special Auditing Committee shall be appointed by the President in June and December each year. It shall audit the accounts of the Financial Secretary and the Treasurer as of June 30 and December 31, and report the findings in detail to the Local Council.

Section 10. The audit committee shall have the right at any time, after due notice has

been given—one week to be considered sufficient for this purpose—to call for any records or papers of the Council or its officers which deal with money transactions of the Friends of Irish Freedom.

## ARTICLE XVIII.

### THE ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE.

Section 1. This committee shall be composed of five members to be selected by the President.

Section 2. The second Vice-President of the Council shall be Chairman of this Committee, but may not vote except in case of a tie.

Section 3. This committee shall have jurisdiction over all matters of organization in the district over which the authority of the Local Council extends subject to the direction of said Local Council, the State Council and the National Executive.

Section 4. It shall have the right to grant permission for the organization of Regular Branches in accordance with regulations laid down by the National Executive. Permits thus granted shall be signed and issued by the Secretary of the Council and shall specify the name and location of each new Branch. Each permit shall be forwarded by the temporary Financial Secretary of the Branch, together with the first lot of applications and fees, etc., direct to the National Secretary.

Section 5. It shall have authority to select organizers and speakers for the purpose of organizing Regular Branches.

Section 6. This committee must meet once every week and make a written report at every business meeting of the Council.

## ARTICLE XIX.

### PUBLICITY COMMITTEE.

Section 1. This committee shall be composed of five members to be appointed by the President.

Section 2. The Third Vice-President shall be its chairman, without the right to vote except in case of a tie.

Section 3. Its duties shall be to authorize and arrange for all public and mass-meetings of the Friends of Irish Freedom in its district and to select speakers for the same.

Section 4. To arrange for the publication in local or other organs of publicity, an account of the activities, plans and purposes of the Friends of Irish Freedom within the district of the Council.

Section 5. To examine and review all books, booklets, pamphlets, special articles, newspapers and all written, printed or published matter, music records, songs, music, buttons, banners, decorations or other means of influencing public opinion, that may be presented to the Council as affecting the interests of the Friends of Irish Freedom and to report to the Council on same.

Section 6. No moneys may be used or appropriated by this Committee for propaganda of any kind, unless and until approved by the Finance Committee, the Local Executive and the Local Council.

Section 7. All resolutions, emanating from any Branch or delegate, must, before their adoption by the Council, be referred to this committee for review or redrafting.

## ARTICLE XX.

### SUPERVISORS.

Section 1. A Local Council with which eight or more Regular Branches are affiliated shall elect Supervisors for said Branches. Each Supervisor shall have charge of at least three and not more than four specified Branches. It shall be the duty of a Supervisor to be present at each meeting held by the Branches which he has been elected to superintend; to see that the business of each Branch is conducted in accordance with the Constitution and the instructions of the superior bodies; he shall direct the attention of a Branch to any departure from the accepted rule of conduct, or to matters on which he may have received special instructions; he shall report on each branch at the regular meetings of the Local Council.

## ARTICLE XXI.

### SUSPENSION OF BRANCHES.

Section 1. Any Branch in a Local Council district which fails to comply with the Constitution and By-Laws of the F. O. I. F. or the rulings of the Local Council, or acts in a manner derogatory to the discipline, policy or principles of the organization, shall have charges preferred against it. Said charges shall be in writing and signed by at least three members residing in the Local Council district. The trial shall be conducted by the Local Council Executive which shall summon before it three or more officers of the Branch affected. The Local Executive shall report its findings to the Local Council, which by a two-thirds vote at a regular meeting, may order

the suspension of the Branch. The Local Council may also recommend to the State Council, or direct to the National Executive where no State Council exists, that the Branch be expelled. The Branch affected may, within thirty days after the decision of the Local Council has been rendered, appeal to the State Council, or direct to the National Executive where no State Council exists.

## ARTICLE XXII.

### CHARGES AND TRIALS.

Section 1. Any member of the Local Executive who acts in a manner derogatory to the interests of the Council or to the principles or well-being of the Friends of Irish Freedom may have charges preferred against him. Said charges shall be made in writing and bear the signature and address of the complainant, and a demand for trial shall be signed by at least one-fifth of the total number of delegates on the roll of this Council. Copy of same shall be served on the accused. The trial shall take place at a special meeting of the Local Council called for the purpose. Said special meeting shall elect its own chairman. The accused if found guilty, may, by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present, be suspended or expelled (1) from office, (2) from his seat on the Council, (3) from the Friends of Irish Freedom.

Section 2. Any member of the Local Council not a member of the Local Executive who acts in a manner derogatory to the interests of the Council, or to the principles or well-being of the Friends of Irish Freedom may have charges preferred against him. Said



charges shall be made in writing and bear the signature and address of the complainant. Copy of same shall be served on the accused. The trial shall be conducted by a Trial Committee of five appointed by the President of the Local Council. The decision shall be subject to review by the Local Council. The accused may, if found guilty, be suspended or expelled (1) from his seat on the Council, (2) from the Friends of Irish Freedom.

Section 3. Any member of the Local Executive or Local Council so charged as in Sections 1 and 2 of this Article may be suspended as a delegate to the Local Council by a majority vote of the Council, pending trial.

Section 4. All charges affecting the relation of a member to his or her Branch must be submitted in writing at a regular meeting of the Branch. The complaint shall bear the signature and address of the complainant and copy of same shall be served on the accused. A member or officer of a Branch against whom charges are preferred shall be tried by a Judiciary Committee appointed by the Presiding Officer. The decision shall be subject to review by the Branch as a whole at a regular or special meeting of same. The accused shall receive notice of trial and if found guilty may be suspended or expelled as the Branch may by two-thirds vote decide. The Local Council Executive shall be advised of the date and place of trial so that it may be represented thereat.

Section 5. The decision of the Branch may be appealed from by the member accused or by the complainant, by making written application to the Local Council Executive. The

Local Executive may itself hear the appeal or refer it to a Trial Committee comprising five members of the Local Council.

Section 6. In case a Branch fails to proceed with the trial of any of its members or officers against whom charges are preferred; or if, in the opinion of the Local Executive, due cognizance has not been taken, in the trial of any such member or officer, of the standard of discipline which the well-being of the organization demands, the Local Council Executive shall have power to institute and carry through proceedings against such member or members. The Local Executive may in its discretion delegate this work to a Trial Committee comprising five members of the Local Council. Charges shall be in writing, signed by the individual or individuals responsible for same. Copy of the charge or charges shall be served on the accused and the latter shall also receive notice of trial. The accused, if found guilty, may be suspended or expelled from membership in the Friends of Irish Freedom.

Section 7. Nothing in these by-laws shall be considered as conflicting with the authority of the National Executive as laid down in Section (e), Article XIV of the National Constitution.

## ARTICLE XXIII.

### ELECTIONS.

Section 1. A general election of all officers of this Council shall be held at the second regular meeting in March of each year.

Section 2. Branches shall be represented at said election on the basis of their standing

with National Headquarters on February 28 of the same year.

Section 3. Nominations shall be made and elections held at the same meeting.

Section 4. The election shall be by ballot.

Section 5. Officers shall hold office until their successors shall have been chosen.

Section 6. All Committees automatically cease to exist on the date of the general election.

Section 7. In the event of a vacancy occurring on the Local Executive it shall be so declared at the next regular meeting of the Local Council, and filled at the next regular meeting following such declaration, in accordance with Sections 3 and 4 of this Article.

## ARTICLE XXIV.

### ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Call to order by Presiding Officer.
2. Selection of Sergeant-at-Arms.
3. Roll Call of Officers.
4. Presentation of credentials by delegates.
5. Application by Branches for affiliation.
6. Reading of Minutes.
7. Bills and communications.
8. Reports of officers.
9. Report of Executive.
10. Report of National Councillor acting as Special Representative to the National Council (if any).
11. Report of Supervisors.
12. Report of Standing Committees, in this order: Finance, Organization, Publicity and Trials.
13. Special Committees.

14. Unfinished Business.
15. New Business.
16. Resignation from and Election to Office.
17. Reports of Branches.
18. Receipts of Meeting.
19. Good of the Organization.
20. Adjournment.

## ARTICLE XXV.

### AMENDMENTS.

Section 1. Amendments to these By-Laws must be presented in writing by a delegate to the Council, and must be signed by a representative from at least three Branches.

Section 2. The Amendment with explanations must be posted for one month in the meeting place of the Council, before it may be called up for action.

Section 3. All such amendments must be brought to the attention of all delegates of the Council by a written notice.

Section 4. Amendments require a two-thirds vote of the delegates present at a regular business meeting of the Council for adoption. They shall not be effective unless and until ratified by the National Executive.

Section 5. These By-Laws shall, however, be automatically amended to conform with all provisions of the National Constitution and By-Laws, as the same may be in force from time to time.

# REGULAR BRANCH BY-LAWS

## ARTICLE I

### Name of Branch

The name of this Branch shall be the

-----  
Branch of the Friends of Irish Freedom.

## ARTICLE II

The OBJECTS of this Branch of the Friends of Irish Freedom are:

(a) To maintain America's position as the world-champion of human freedom, by preserving American ideals of liberty and upholding the principles on which the Government of the United States was founded.

(b) To uphold the right of the Republic of Ireland to international recognition, and to inform the American people to the end that the Government of these United States, applying American principles, shall accord full official recognition to the elected Government of the Republic of Ireland.

(c) To diffuse a more intimate knowledge of Irish History and the history of the Irish Race in America, and stimulate a just pride of Irish ideals and achievements, thus enabling our people to contribute in the highest degree to the enrichment of American culture.

(d) To develop the economic resources of Ireland and to promote direct trade between the U. S. and Ireland.

(e) To promote the revival of the

Language, Music and Customs of Ireland.

### ARTICLE III

(a) **Membership** in this Regular Branch of the Friends of Irish Freedom shall be open to all those who individually pledge their support of its objects, and otherwise qualify as per Articles IV and V of the Constitution.

(b) Applicants who have paid their national membership fees shall be nominated, seconded and voted on for membership. Five adverse votes will reject an application. Those individuals whose applications shall have been accepted by the Branch shall not be considered as members of the Branch unless and until their National Membership Cards shall have been issued by and received from the National Secretary.

### ARTICLE IV

(a) The **officers** of this Branch shall be President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Orator, Guard, Director of Organization, Director of Publicity and three Trustees.

(b) No person other than a member in good standing shall be elected to office. No member may hold more than one office in the Branch.

### ARTICLE V

#### Duties of the Officers

#### Section 1. The duties of the **President**

are to preside at the meetings; to enforce the Constitution and By-Laws; to see that Officers and Trustees discharge their respective duties; appoint all Committees and sign vouchers for all drafts on the Treasurer. He or she shall be ex-officio member of all committees except the Auditing Committee.

**Sec. 2.** The Vice-President shall, in the absence of the President, perform all the duties of the President's office.

**Sec. 3.** The Recording Secretary shall keep the records of all meetings. He or she shall keep an alphabetically arranged card index, showing the name, address and national serial number of each member.

He shall submit a written monthly report to the Secretary of the Local Council and of the State Council where such Councils exist, showing the financial standing and general activities of the Branch. Also, a similar report on the last day of each quarter to the National Secretary. For this purpose he shall receive from the Treasurer, Financial and Corresponding Secretaries such data as may be requisite.

**Sec. 4.** The Financial Secretary shall give official receipt for fees received and for all moneys collected, and keep a correct record of same in the special form of Account Books approved by the National Executive. He or she at the close of each meeting shall turn over to the Branch Treasurer all moneys received, taking a receipt for same.

He shall keep a card index account for each member on Form No. 7A.

He shall keep a record of the name and address of each applicant for membership, and shall submit to each Branch meeting a list of said applicants.

On acceptance of membership applications by the Branch he shall arrange the application forms alphabetically and shall transmit same at least once a month, together with check or money order for corresponding fees (\$1.50. per member), also a list on Form No. 10A giving the name and address of each applicant, by registered mail to the National Secretary.

He shall in due course receive the corresponding National Membership Cards from the National Secretary, and shall promptly issue said cards to the respective members, having first recorded the national serial number which appears on each.

Where a Local Council exists, the Branch Financial Secretary shall, on or before the fifteenth day of each month, remit to the Local Council Treasurer a sum representing twenty-five cents (25c) for each member whose membership fee or renewal membership fee has been paid during the preceding month, together with a list of the names, addresses and national serial numbers of said members.

Where a Local Council does not exist the Branch shall retain for its own purposes fifty cents out of each National Membership fee received by the Branch.

He shall keep in stock a sufficient num-



ber of membership application blanks to meet the requirements of the Branch.

He shall sign vouchers for all drafts on the Treasurer.

**Sec. 5.** The **Corresponding Secretary** shall conduct all the correspondence of the Branch, except that which pertains specifically to other officers of the Branch. He shall keep the National Secretary, State Secretary and Local Council Secretary advised of any changes in the personnel or addresses of the Branch officers, or in the addresses of the members.

He shall read at Branch meetings all correspondence received from National Headquarters, State Secretary and Local Council Secretary.

**Sec. 6.** The **Treasurer** shall keep a correct record of all moneys received by him or her from the Financial Secretary or other sources, and shall give his receipt for same. He shall deposit all funds in excess of \$50.00 in the name of the Branch in a Savings or Commercial Bank. He shall disburse moneys only as ordered by the Branch and against vouchers signed by the President and Financial Secretary. Drafts against the Bank account of the Branch shall be signed by the Treasurer and countersigned by at least two Trustees. He shall report to the President and [or] Financial Secretary of the Branch, or superior authority, the amount on hand at any time, and give a detailed report when required. He shall on January first of each year submit to the National Secretary and to the State Secre-

tary a financial statement for the preceding year, on the form supplied by National Headquarters.

**Sec. 7.** The **Orator** shall be responsible for securing speakers (who shall be approved by the Local Council where such exists) and providing entertainment for each meeting of the Branch, under "Good of the Order." He shall be chairman of the Entertainment Committee.

**Sec. 8.** The **Guard** shall be stationed at the entrance to Council chamber and shall admit to meeting only those persons authorized to be there.

**Sec. 9.** The **Directors of Organization and Publicity** shall work under the direction of the Branch acting independently, or in conjunction with the Local Council where such exists, or with the State Council, and shall utilize the Branch membership to the fullest extent in carrying out their respective campaigns, a certain territory being assigned to each member or group of members.

The **Director of Organization** shall be Chairman of the Committee on Organization.

The **Director of Publicity** shall be Chairman of the Committee on Publicity.

**Sec. 10.** The **Trustees** shall have charge of the property and funds of the Branch and shall sign all vouchers. They shall examine the books of the Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary and Treasurer at least once every three months, and submit report to Branch.

**Sec. 11.** Each Branch officer on assum-

ing office shall sign the following pledge:

"I ..... solemnly pledge myself to fulfill the duties of the office imposed on me to the best of my ability, and to turn over to my duly elected successor in office all books, records, and properties of this Branch entrusted to my keeping; to maintain the F. O. I. F. Constitution, By-Laws and regulations in force or hereafter to be enacted; to work loyally in co-operation with the National Council and any other duly constituted authority in the Organization."

## ARTICLE VI

### Dues

**Section 1.** In addition to the National-membership-fee of \$2.00 per annum, payable with application for membership and renewable on the first day of January in each year thereafter, each member shall pay to the Branch Financial Secretary such monthly dues as may be decided on by each Branch.

**Sec. 2.** Any member owing three months' Branch dues and fails to pay same after receiving due notice, shall have the privilege of speaking and voting at Branch meetings withdrawn from him or her. This privilege may subsequently be restored on payment of moneys due the Branch.

**Sec. 3.** Any member owing more than six months' Branch dues and who fails to pay same after receiving due notice may be dropped from the Rolls. Such member may subsequently be restored

to full Branch membership on payment of moneys due the Branch.

**Sec. 4.** The funds shall be used to meet current expenses of the Branch, and such other purposes as a majority of the members at a regular meeting may deem advisable, but they shall be used only for the benefit and progress of the organization. No appropriation exceeding ten dollars shall be made for any purpose other than one directly connected with Branch work, except with the approval of a Local Council, State Council, or the National Executive.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- 1. Meeting Called to Order.**
- 2. Roll Call of Officers.**
- 3. Minutes of Preceding Meeting.**
- 4. Reading of Correspondence.**
- 5. Reports of Officers.**
- 6. Reports of Committees.**
- 7. Propositions for Membership.**
- 8. Initiation of Members Whose National Membership Cards Have Been Received from Headquarters.**
- 9. Unfinished Business.**
- 10. New Business.**
- 11. Receipts of Meeting.**
- 12. Good of the Order.**
- 13. Adjournment.**

## ARTICLE VIII

### Politics

Any officer of this Branch who shall wilfully use his office or the organization for personal political advancement or aggrandizement, shall have charges preferred against him on behalf of the Branch. If found guilty, his office shall be declared vacant by a majority vote at a regular meeting or special meeting called for such purpose.

## ARTICLE IX

### Elections

**Section 1.** The Board of Officers shall be elected annually by ballot at the first meeting in December, and shall be installed in office at the first meeting in January following.

**Sec. 2.** Officers of a newly established Branch shall be elected and installed at its first regular meeting, and thereafter as specified in Section 1.

**Sec. 3.** No member shall be eligible for the Presidency of a Branch for more than two consecutive terms of one year each.

**Sec. 4.** Should the office of President become vacant through death, resignation, or expulsion, and a new President be elected to fill the unexpired term, such unexpired term if it exceeds six months' tenure of office shall constitute a Presidential term, in the meaning of the word "term," in Sec. 3 of this Article.

**Sec. 5.** When a term of President in-

tervenes, a Past President is again eligible to the office of President, provided such intervening term shall not be less than one year.

**Sec. 6.** All other Branch officers may be elected to the same office year after year.

**Sec. 7.** Should any officer absent himself or herself from three consecutive meetings, without sufficient reason, the office shall be declared vacant, and a new election held for said office; notice of such election shall be given at least one week in advance to all members. Vacancies arising in the Board of Officers from any other cause shall be filled in like manner. The National Secretary and Local Council Secretary shall be notified of the result of such elections.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **Charges and Trials**

**Sec. 1.** All charges affecting the relation of a member to his or her Branch must be submitted in writing at a regular meeting of the Branch. The complaint shall bear the signature and address of the complainant and copy of same shall be served on the accused. A member or officer of a Branch against whom charges are preferred shall be tried by a Judiciary Committee appointed by the Presiding Officer. The decision shall be subject to review by the Branch as a whole at a regular or special meeting of same. The accused shall receive notice of trial, and if found guilty may be suspended or ex-

pelled as the Branch may by two-thirds vote decide. The Local Council Executive, where such exists, shall be advised of the date and place of trial so that it may be represented thereat.

**Sec. 2.** The decision of the Branch may be appealed from by the member accused or by the complainant, by making written application to the Local Council where such exists; otherwise to the State Council or as provided in the Constitution.

**Sec. 3.** In case a Branch fails to proceed with the trial of any of its members or officers against whom charges are preferred; or if, in the opinion of the Local Executive, State Council or National Executive, due cognizance has not been taken, in the trial of any such member or officer, of the standard of discipline which the well-being of the organization demands, the Local Council Executive, State Council or National Executive shall have power to institute and carry through proceedings against such member or members.

**Sec. 4.** Nothing in Sections 1, 2 and 3 shall be considered as conflicting with the authority of the National Executive as laid down in Section (e), Article XIV of the National Constitution.

## **ARTICLE XI**

### **Meetings**

**Sec. 1.** The regular meetings of the Branch shall be held at least once a month on a fixed day or days. The National, State and Local Council Secretaries shall be notified in this respect.

**Sec. 2.** Seven members shall constitute a quorum for a Branch with a membership not exceeding fifty; fifteen members for a Branch of between 50 and 100; twenty members for a Branch of 100 or more members.

**Sec. 3.** A special meeting may be called (1) by a majority vote of the members present at any regular meeting. (2) by the President on receipt of a written request signed by not less than (a) seven members in a Branch having a membership of less than 50, (b) fifteen members in a Branch with a membership of between 50 and 100, or (c) twenty members in a Branch with a membership of 100 or more. In either case, each member of the Branch shall be duly notified and the special object of the meeting stated. No other business shall be transacted at such meeting.

**Sec. 4.** Individuals not regular members of the F. O. I. F. shall not be permitted to attend business meetings of the Branch unless vouched for by a member of the Branch in good standing, and with the consent of the members present. No such individual shall under any circumstances be permitted to attend more than one business meeting.

**Sec. 5.** Members of a Regular Branch of the F. O. I. F. may be permitted to attend the meeting of another Regular Branch on presentation of his or her National Membership Card to the Guard when entering. The Branch visited may, however, refuse to grant such admission.



Visiting members shall not have the right to vote in any Branch which they may visit; they shall not in any way participate in the business discussions of the Branch visited except with the permission of the presiding officer, and if deemed necessary with the consent of said Branch.

**Sec 6.** The Local Council Supervisor, or other duly appointed representative of a superior governing body, shall be at liberty to address the Branch on any subject under discussion. Any special message which the Supervisor wishes to convey shall be delivered under "Good of the Order" unless the Branch desires to hear him at an earlier stage in the proceedings.

## **ARTICLE XII**

### **Miscellaneous**

**Sec. 1.** Applications for transfers from this Branch shall be made on Form No. 15.

**Sec. 2.** Delegates and Alternates to the Local Council, where such exists, shall be elected at a regular meeting of the Branch in February of each year.

**Sec. 3.** Branch meetings shall be conducted according to the rules laid down in Cushing's Manual.

**Sec. 4.** A member who is not in good standing with National Headquarters and in the Branch shall not be permitted to participate in the discussion of, or vote on, any question before the Branch.

**Sec. 5.** Failure to comply with regula-

tions and instructions issued by the National Executive, State Council or Local Council shall entail penalties as provided for in the Constitution.

**Sec. 6.** Any resolution passed by the Branch relating to matters of principle or policy shall not be published unless and until approved by its respective Local Council or State Council, or by the National Executive.

**Sec. 7.** The Branch may by a two-thirds vote at a regular meeting adopt additional By-Laws for the conduct of its own affairs. Notice of such shall be given at previous regular meeting of the Branch. Said By-Laws shall be in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Constitution. They shall not be effective unless and until ratified by the National Executive.

**Sec. 8.** These By-Laws shall be automatically amended to conform with all provisions of the National Constitution and By-Laws, as the same may be in force from time to time.



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