

SPECIAL SESSION OF LEGISLATURE

Provided Extra Pay For Vermont Soldiers and Their Dependents

SOLDIERS CAN VOTE IN PRIMARY

Act Passed Giving Them The Right--Dependent Wife or Mother Will Receive \$15 a Month and Each Child \$5--Only \$35 a Month To Be Given One Family--Business Accomplished In Two Days.

Montpelier, Aug. 24.—The senate made possible adjournment of the special session called by Governor Gates to act on relief measures in regard to members of the Vermont national guards and their dependents, this evening, when it passed without debate the house bill providing for paying of the dependents of the soldiers not to exceed \$35 a month in one family and that the wife of a soldier shall get \$15 a month and \$5 for each child, while if there is a mother or father dependent they may receive \$15 a month.

It was feared that the senate might hold the matter up a little but there was no debate in the committee and five minutes after it commenced consideration of the same the bill was reported back into the senate for passage.

The hour of adjournment had been fixed for noon Friday by joint resolution.

The governor has signed House bill No. 2, which was passed by the senate late in the afternoon and provides for \$10 a month for the guardsmen in the federal service.

The senate has cleaned up all of its work but the house at a late hour had under consideration two senate bills which are to give the boys at the front and at Fort Ethan Allen the right to vote at the September and November elections. However, the senate sent back to the house its bill relative to mileage for the session so that each member will get but 10 cents instead of 20 cents, as passed by the house.

Everybody seemed highly pleased over the results of the day's efforts.

motion of Sen. Powell providing that acts and resolves of this session be included in acts and resolves of the session of 1917.

IN THE HOUSE

The assembly was called to order by Speaker Weeks at 10:20 o'clock and devotional exercises were conducted by Chaplain J. H. Willis. The proclamation of the governor convening the general assembly was read.

The roll of members was called, showing an attendance of 223. The house on motion of Mr. Rice of Shaftsbury, adopted a resolution of sympathy for Mr. Hulet of Arlington, whose daughter is critically ill.

Mr. Soule of Alburgh introduced a resolution that the house notify the senate, that the house was organized and ready for business.

Mr. Proctor for the committee on rules, reported that the rules of the last session, be adopted as the rules of the house, except the following: Omit rules one and twenty-three, and all of rule 27 after the word "times"; in line 2; omit all of rule 40 after the word "assistants" in line 2, and omit rules 41 to 46 inclusive.

The speaker announced the appointment of the same committee to serve during the special session as served in the regular.

A resolution by Mr. Wilson of Chelsea was adopted that a committee of two be appointed to notify the governor that the house was organized and ready to receive any communication; the speaker named as the members of the committee, Mr. Wilson of Chelsea and Mr. Porter of Bradford. The committee reported that the governor would communicate by message, later.

Joint rules were concurred in providing that the joint rules and the joint committees be the same as those of the last session and that a joint assembly be convened at 11:15 a. m. to receive a message from the governor.

Mr. Haggood of Peru offered a resolution providing that Hon. Hale K. Darling be empowered to recommend to the next legislature as a part of his duties as commissioner of the revision of statutes what laws or parts of laws now upon the statutes should be repealed, "not only on account of being redundant but also on account of being useless and obsolete." On motion of Mr. Nichols of Essex the resolution was referred to the judiciary committee. On motion of Mr. Graham of Rockingham the house expressed its sympathy with Mr. Caswell of Derby in his illness.

IN JOINT ASSEMBLY

On motion of Senator Locklin of Franklin, the lieutenant-governor appointed a committee of five consisting of Senators Locklin of Franklin and Hinsman of Rutland, and Representatives Foster of Calais, Moore of Ludlow and Jackson of Jericho, to wait on the governor and escort him into the presence of the joint assembly.

The presentation of the governor to the joint assembly by the lieutenant-governor was the signal for hearty applause.

The Governor's Message

In his message Governor Gates said in part: "We have come together for reasons known to you and for a cause which appeals to your patriotism and manhood. But in order that you may more clearly comprehend and understand the true situation of our troops and their dependents, I think it best at this time to call your attention to a few facts."

"As soon as the president called for troops Vermont responded with old-time alacrity and patriotism. Adjutant General Thilston says in speaking of our troops: 'They responded promptly to the call, they were the first troops to arrive at the border and the first to be given responsible duty, in the district in which they are stationed; in fact, they are the only National guard troops at that point which have, as yet, been put on general border patrol work. All reports show that the Vermont regiment is recognized as an efficient organization. This condition is due entirely to the character and efforts of the officers and men of the regiment, and they deserve the practical as well as the moral support of the state.' Col. Reeves writes 'Vermont has sent a splendid body of men to the front. They are well behaved, loyal and patriotic, and the officers are proud of them. They have created a splendid impression here because of their good conduct and soldier qualities.'"

Gov. Gates in his message continued to tell of the call for the troops, their prompt response, the necessity of delay in action by legislature because of the uncertainty as to what steps the federal government would take along the same lines, the desirability of practical as well as moral support and concluded as follows:

"There are several plans upon which we can work, and the question of which is the best to suit our present condition I leave for your consideration and good judgment. I believe we should provide for the payment of ten dollars per month for each enlisted man who now is or who may be enrolled in our National guard for service on the Mexican border, or such other military service as the president may demand in addition to the regular federal pay, and that it be limited in its operation to the period between the date when the National guard entered the federal service (June 13, 1916) and the convening of the next regular session of the legislature, by which date the situation may be cleared up so that further action will not be necessary."

"I believe in addition to the above we should provide for the families and I recommend your very careful consideration of plans worked out by the committee above mentioned."

"Having called to your attention the business for which we are convened, the consideration of these important matters is in your hands, and may your action be commensurate with the

interest that prompts the deeds of all good men in times of this kind, and may your deliberations be confined to the business which you were called to consider, and controlled by a wholesome desire to act wisely and to adjourn as early as you consistently can."

To Expedite Business

Mr. Smith of St. Albans city, with an expressed desire to expedite business, moved to amend Rule 41 so that no bill or resolution could be considered except such came within the scope of the governor's message. Mr. Smith of Barre city thought the men at the front ought to have the right to vote there and feared the proposed rule would prevent action on this subject.

Mr. Smith of St. Albans city thought the rule would not prevent such action, but said in any event the rules could be suspended, if necessary.

The motion was adopted, there being many nays on a viva voce vote.

Evening Session

Although an effort was made to finish the business of the session before supper it could not be done and an evening session occurred.

The senate this afternoon passed two bills, one of which provided for the authority to allow the members of the Vermont regiment to vote at the Mexican border as well as those at Fort Ethan Allen, while the other provided for the November primaries.

Both branches passed a resolution providing for the same pay for chaplains as members of the legislature for this session.

Just before adjournment for supper the senate passed the house bill providing for \$10 a month to be paid to the Vermont soldiers in the federal service.

In the house a resolution of sympathy was expressed by motion of O'Brien of South Burlington to the family of Williams of Charlotte, who recently died.

EXTRA SESSION IS ADJOURNED

Senate Promptly Concurs In House Proposals of Amendment to Bill Permitting Soldiers to Vote Which Provided for Administering of the Freeman's Oath.

Montpelier, Aug. 25.—Legislature adjourned at noon today after the usual messages to the effect that the business of the session was completed. The house had a little trouble over the pay for mileage which resulted in a yea and nay vote going on record, but the senate proposal of amendment that mileage of 10 cents a mile be paid was finally concurred in by a vote of 183 to 41, the issue being made upon the second proposal of amendment after which the first and third proposals were concurred in. The senate promptly concurred in House proposals of amendment so that Freeman's oath can be administered to the soldiers in federal service, which was all the business done by that branch of the assembly Friday morning except passing the usual message.

IN THE HOUSE

A message was received from His Excellency, the governor, by Benjamin Gates, secretary of civil and military affairs, as follows:

I am directed by the governor to inform the house that on the 25th day of August he approved and signed bills originating in the house of the following titles:

H. 1. An Act to provide for the expenses of the present session of the general assembly.

H. 2. An Act to provide for the support of dependents of enlisted men of the Vermont National Guard.

H. 3. An Act to amend section 22 of No. 4 of the Act of 1915, providing for the primary elections.

(J. R. H. 3) Joint resolution relating to final adjournment.

The house convened at 10:10 o'clock under devotional exercises were conducted by the chaplain. The roll of absentees of yesterday was called by the clerk. Passed in concurrence with proposed amendment.

Senate bill No. 1, an act to provide for soldiers voting at the general election, Nov. 7, 1916. [Provides for administering of Freeman's oath.]

Passed in Concurrence.

Senate Bill No. 2, an act to provide for soldiers voting at the primary election, September 12, 1916.

Passed in concurrence with proposals of amendment.

House Bill No. 1, an act to provide for the expenses of the present session of the general assembly.

Mr. Graham moved to consider the second proposal of amendment, first, which was to fix the mileage at 10 cents per mile. The proposal was favored by Mr. Proctor, Mr. Blodgett, Mr. Stone, Mr. Chalmers, Mr. Morse, Mr. Stacey and Mr. Powell. Mr. Haggood opposed the proposal.

Mr. Miller of Bethel demanded the yeas and nays; the vote resulted, yeas 183, no 41, and the house concurred in the proposals of amendment. The proposal to reduce the contingent expense fund from nine to six thousand dollars prevailed.

A resolution was adopted on motion by Mr. Hamblet of Barton, that a committee be appointed to wait on His Excellency, the governor, and inform him that the House has on its part completed the business of the session, and is ready to adjourn without day. The speaker named Mr. Hamblet of Barton and Mr. Miller of Bethel, who performed their duty.

A resolution was adopted on motion by Mr. Taylor of Springfield; that the clerk inform the senate that the house has on its part completed the work of the session and is ready to adjourn without day.

At 12 o'clock, the speaker declared the special session adjourned without date.

IN THE SENATE

The governor has informed the senate that on the 25th day of August he approved and signed bills and a joint resolution originating in the senate of the following titles:

S. 1. An Act to provide for soldiers'

voting at the general election, November 7, 1916.

S. 2. An Act to provide for soldiers' voting at the primary election, September 12, 1916.

(J. R. H. 3) Joint resolution relating to the publication, promulgation and distribution of the Acts and Resolves of the present session.

The morning session of the senate convened at 10 o'clock, Lieutenant Governor Darling presiding. Devotional exercises were conducted by Chaplain Farman.

House Proposal of Amendment Concurred In

Senate Bill No. 1, providing for soldiers' voting at the November election, 1916. [House proposal of amendment provided for administering of Freeman's oath.]

A message from the house was received relative to the governor's signature. (Continued on page 6.)

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Linen Suitings, etc., sold from 25c to \$1.00 per yard, 15c
39c Honeycomb Check (School dress material), 19c
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As usual we will be strong on Shirt Waist values, \$3.00 to \$5.00 Waists in Crepe de Chine, Striped Silk, Taffeta, etc., \$1.29 ea.

\$2.50 Wash Waists, to close, \$1.49
1 Crepe Waist, \$3.50 value, \$2.29
8 Pussy Willow Taffetas, \$2.98 values, \$2.29
New Crepe de Chine Waists, \$3.98 and \$5.00, \$2.79
2 doz. Gingham Dresses, \$2.00 to \$4.00, 98c
Our Summer Dresses, three lots, to close, \$2.19, \$2.79 and \$3.79
5 Silk Petticoats, \$2.50 value, 98c ea.

The Garment Department will be your one best place to get in right. Buy your Summer Suits and Coats, your Fall Garments or Mid-Winter Cloaks, all selling at this time at a Bargain Price.

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