

Wednesday, June 7, 1950

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate began debate on rent-control extension.
Army organization bill passed by House.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages 8208-8213

Bills Introduced: Three bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 3716 to S. 3718; and S. J. Res. 185.

Page 8209

Bills Reported: Reports were made as follows:

H. R. 5943, approving marker for grave of Constantino Brumidi (Capitol artist), with amendments (S. Rept. 1781);

H. R. 483, extending time limit within which certain suits in admiralty may be brought against the U. S. (S. Rept. 1782);

S. Res. 280, to make a study and investigation of homosexuals in Government agencies, and providing \$10,000 therefor, with committee amendments (no written report).

Pages 8208-8209

Bills Referred: Sixty-three House-passed bills were referred to appropriate committees.

Pages 8210-8211

CCC: Senators Hoey and Young were named as additional conferees on H. R. 6567, to increase by \$2 billion the borrowing power of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

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Homosexual Investigation: Senate adopted with committee amendments S. Res. 280, to make a study and investigation of homosexuals in Government agencies, and providing \$10,000 therefor.

Pages 8208-8209

Routine Measures: Senate adopted the following routine measures: H. R. 5943, approving marker for grave of Constantino Brumidi (Capitol artist), with committee amendments; S. J. Res. 171, to authorize the transfer of a plaster cast of George Washington from the Capitol to the Smithsonian Institution; and S. J. Res. 170, to transfer two paintings in the Capitol to the Department of the Interior.

Pages 8208, 8213-8214

Joint Recording Facility: By division vote, Senate rejected motion of Senator Ferguson to reconsider the vote by which H. J. Res. 332, establishment of a joint Senate and House recording facility, had been adopted on June 6, and to request the House to return the resolution to the Senate.

Page 8214

Displaced Persons: Conference report on H. R. 4567, to amend the Displaced Persons Act of 1948, was adopted, clearing the bill for the President.

Pages 8215-8223

Rent-Control Extension: Senate debated S. 3181, to provide for extension of rent control.

Pages 8214-8216, 8223-8242

Treaty Received: Consular convention between United States and Ireland, signed at Dublin May 1, 1950, was received by Senate and referred to Committee on Foreign Relations (Exec. P, 81st Cong.).

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Nomination: One civilian nomination was received.

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Committee Meetings

APPROPRIATIONS—GSA AND ALASKA

Committee on Appropriations: Jess Larson, Administrator, and assistants, all of the GSA, continued their testimony before the Subcommittee on Independent Offices Appropriations in support of 1951 budget estimates for the GSA. Delegate Bartlett and officials of the Interior Department appeared in support of estimates on Alaskan public works. These hearings are in connection with the subcommittee's study of its portion of H. R. 7786, the omnibus appropriation bill. Subcommittee continues tomorrow.

STATE DEPARTMENT—AMERASIA CASE

Committee on Foreign Relations: Brig. Gen. Julius Holmes, Counselor of Embassy at London with rank of Minister, who was one of the Assistant Secretaries of State at the time the Amerasia case broke, appeared in executive session before the subcommittee to discuss matters relating to the Amerasia case, in connection with the subcommittee's study in pursuance of S. Res. 231, to authorize the Foreign Relations Committee to investigate alleged disloyalty of certain State Department personnel. Subcommittee meets again Friday.

RAILWAY LABOR

Committee on Labor and Public Welfare: The following witnesses appeared before the subcommittee to ex-

press their views on S. 3463, to amend the Railway Labor Act to prevent interference with movement of interstate commerce: D. B. Robertson, president, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen; F. H. Nemitz, president, Order of Railway Conductors of America; Harry See, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen; and Paul E. Monahan, United Railroad Workers of America, CIO. Hearings continue tomorrow.

UNEMPLOYMENT INVESTIGATION

Committee on Labor and Public Welfare: In pursuance of S. Res. 274, to investigate the causes of increasing unemployment in coal, oil, silver, zinc, lead, and railroad industries, subcommittee heard the following witnesses discuss the effect the importation of petroleum products has on unemployment in the coal and oil industries: Representative Van Zandt; B. E. Urheim, American Retail Coal Association; Charles S. Hill, Independent Petroleum Association of America; and Fred W. Shield, San Antonio, Tex. Hearings continue tomorrow.

HOMOSEXUAL INVESTIGATION, AND CAPITOL ARTIST

Committee on Rules and Administration: In executive session, committee voted to report with amendments S. Res. 280, to make a study and investigation of homosexuals in Government agencies. As approved by the committee, the resolution would provide \$10,000 for the investigation and the committee would be required to report back to the Senate not later than January 31, 1951.

It also reported with amendments H. R. 5943, approving marker for grave of Constantino Brumidi (artist who painted many decorations in Capitol).

DEFENSE PROGRAM

Joint meeting: Gen. George C. Marshall appeared before the Senate Foreign Relations and Armed Services Committees, meeting jointly in executive session, to testify in support of the mutual defense-assistance program involving legislative authorization of \$1,222,500,000. Committees meet again tomorrow to hear members of the Foreign Military Assistance Coordinating Committee, in executive session.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: Five public bills, H. R. 8746-8750; eleven private bills, H. R. 8751-8761; and two resolutions, H. J. Res. 485, and H. Res. 634, were introduced.

Pages 8262-8263

Order of Business: By unanimous-consent request the House agreed to dispense with Calendar Wednesday business on Wednesday, June 14.

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CCC: Disagreed to Senate amendments to H. R. 6567, to increase by \$2 billion the borrowing power of the Commodity Credit Corporation; agreed to a conference requested by the Senate; and appointed Representatives Spence, Brown of Georgia, Patman, Hays of Arkansas, Wolcott, Gamble, and Talle conferees on the part of the House.

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Patents: Insisted on amendments to S. 2128, providing for the modification or cancellation of certain licenses granted to the Government by private holders of patents and rights thereunder; agreed to a conference requested by the Senate; and appointed as conferees Representatives Bryson, Willis, and Boggs of Delaware.

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Army Organization: Adopted several committee amendments and passed H. R. 8198, to provide for the organization of the Army and the Department of the

Army. This bill provides a statutory basis for the internal organization of the Army and the Department of the Army and does not affect the laws pertaining to the National Guard or the Reserve components of the Army; the strength of the Army; or personnel matters such as pay, promotion, and retirement.

H. Res. 619, the rule making in order the consideration of H. R. 8198, was previously adopted.

Pages 8254-8261

Committee Meetings

MARKETING FACILITIES

Committee on Agriculture: Continued hearings on H. R. 8320, to encourage the improvement and development of marketing facilities for handling perishable agricultural commodities. Witnesses speaking in favor of this legislation today were Albert S. Goss, master, the National Grange; Emerson Custis, Philadelphia, Pa.; Abel Banov, Food Trade News, Philadelphia, Pa.; E. L. Frost, chairman, Richmond Market Authority, Richmond, Va.; Rolla Johnston and J. J. Omerberg, both of Parkersburg, W. Va.; Truman Nold, executive secretary, National Apple Institute, Washington, D. C.; Winfield L. Rick, Eastern Mortgage Service Co., Philadelphia, Pa.; and Edwin W. Cake, executive secretary, Association of Virginia Potato and Vegetable Growers. Speaking

in opposition to the legislation was John C. Leonard, jobber and property owner, Philadelphia, Pa. Hearings will be continued tomorrow.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' BONDING

Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments: Ordered reported favorably to the House, H. R. 8706, to provide for the purchase of bonds to cover officers and employees of the Government. This measure was introduced by Representative Karsten, chairman of the Subcommittee on Public Accounts. This group held hearings relating to this legislation.

MILITARY ASSISTANCE

Committee on Foreign Affairs: At today's hearings Gen. George C. Marshall spoke in support of the mutual defense-assistance program. The committee will meet in executive session on this subject tomorrow morning in the Capitol.

RAILWAY LABOR

Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce: Concluded hearings on H. R. 7789, amending the Railway Labor Act regarding representation of employees by labor organizations, requesting union membership as condition of employment after 60 days on the job, and establishment of a dues check-off system by the carriers. Final witnesses to testify were Theodore E. Brown, director of research, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, AFL, New York City; Clarence Mitchell, labor secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Washington, D. C.; and Joseph C. Waddy, general counsel, International Association of Railway Employees, Washington, D. C.

AERONAUTICS

Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce: Subcommittee on Transportation announced that hearings will be held on S. 442, authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to extend to civil air navigation, laws and regulations applicable to animal and plant quarantine; S. 451, to amend the Civil Aeronautics Act by providing for certain penalties for unlawful use of examination papers; and S. 3377, making anyone willfully or knowingly displaying false markings on any aircraft subject to the criminal penalties of the Civil Aeronautics Act. No date was set for the hearings at this time. A further hearing will also be held later on the inland waterway bills.

PRIVATE CLAIMS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee No. 3 approved for reporting to the full committee nine private claims of the House, and took adverse action on four others.

Subcommittee No. 2 held executive consideration of its calendar but took no action.

WATER RESOURCES—TOPOGRAPHY

Committee on Public Lands: Ordered reported to the House H. R. 4065 and H. R. 6038, private bills; H. R. 6013, fixing the price of copies of records furnished by the Interior Department at the cost of production; and H. R. 8610, relating to the activities of temporary and certain other employees of the Bureau of Land Management.

Also considered, but took no action on, H. R. 6257, authorizing the Weather Bureau and the Geological Survey to determine the Nation's water resources through studies of volume of rainfall and amounts of water in streams, lakes, reservoirs, and underground formations, and H. R. 6900, providing an accelerated program for surveying and mapping of the United States, its Territories, and possessions. Thomas B. Nolan, Assistant Director, Geological Survey, testified in favor of both bills. Other officials of the Geological Survey that spoke on behalf of the two bills were C. G. Paulson, Chief Hydraulic Engineer, and A. Nelson Sayre, Chief, Ground Water Branch, who were heard on the water-resources-data program, and Gerald Fitzgerald, Chief Topographic Engineer, who was heard on the accelerated mapping program. Committee will meet tomorrow to consider pending bills.

TAX REVISION

Committee on Ways and Means: Confirmed the following tentative actions without change—

1. Defining the interest element in installment payments of life-insurance proceeds as gross income and therefore making such interest element subject to tax.

2. Making State and municipal bonds of 5 years, or less, maturity subject to amortization in the hands of dealers and dealer banks unless such bonds are sold within 30 days from the date the bonds were paid for. Where applicable, amortization will begin with the date of acquisition.

3. Providing that in case of corporations where dividends are in kind, the dividends received credit shall not exceed 85 percent of the basis of the property in the hands of the distributing corporation.

Also announced final decisions, as follows—

1. Reached final agreement not to reduce existing depletion allowances for oil, gas, sulfur, and nonmetallic minerals, and to extend percentage depletion as follows:

- (a) Fuller's earth, refractory clay, quartzite, fire clay, perlite, diatomaceous earth, borax, limestone, and tripoli—15 percent;

- (b) Stone (including slate), brick and tile clay, shale, oyster- and clam-shell deposits, sand, gravel, marble, and granite—5 percent;

- (c) Reaffirmed increase in percentage depletion for coal from 5 to 10 percent;

(d) Also rejected proposal to increase percentage depletion for metal mines from 15 to 27½ percent; and

(e) Adopted a clarifying amendment to make certain that the basis upon which percentage-depletion allowances are computed is the gross income before transportation.

2. Rejected a proposal to increase the import tax on crude petroleum from one-half to 2 cents per gallon, certain petroleum derivatives from one-half to 2½ cents, and gasoline or other motor fuel from 2½ to 3 cents per gallon.

3. Agreed to tax dividends paid out of earnings or profits accumulated before March 1, 1913, or paid out of appreciation in value accrued prior to March 1, 1913.

4. Agreed that upon liquidation of a foreign corporation, over 50 percent of the stock of which is owned by domestic corporations, the domestic corporations would be taxed at ordinary rates on their ratable share of the accumulated earnings of the foreign corporation to the extent of the gain by the domestic corporations on the liquidation.

5. Adopted an amendment to cover indirect redemption of shares in a parent corporation through purchases by its subsidiaries, and also where the same interests own two or more corporations and one corporation buys from those interests the stock of the other.

Will continue consideration of other tax-revision proposals tomorrow.

Thursday, June 8, 1950

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed 229 bills on call of calendar.

Senate committees voted to report bills on selective service, rubber, Reserve component facilities, and maritime.

House committee approved bill rescinding Postmaster's service-curtailement order.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages 8264-8265

Bills Introduced: Six bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 3719 to S. 3724; and S. Res. 293. Page 8264

Bill Reported: Report was made as follows:

S. Res. 293, authorizing Committee on Appropriations to expend additional sum from contingent fund of Senate during Eighty-first Congress (no written report)—referred to Committee on Rules and Administration. Page 8264

Bill Placed on Calendar: H. R. 8198, to provide for organization of the Army and the Department of the Army, was placed on calendar, and subsequently passed on call of calendar in lieu of S. 3691. Page 8264

Rent-Control Extension: Consideration of S. 3181, to provide for extension of rent control, was temporarily put aside to call calendar for passage of unobjected-to bills. Pages 8265, 8325

Calendar Bills Passed: On call of the calendar, 229 unobjected-to bills, of which 162 were private, were passed as follows:

Without amendment and cleared for President:

Agricultural commodities: H. R. 5511, relating to practices in the marketing of perishable agricultural commodities;

Kentucky lands: H. R. 3480, to authorize educational use of lands granted to Kentucky by U. S. for State parks;

Civil service: H. R. 6552, to correct a clerical error in section 2 of the act of January 16, 1883, an act to regulate and improve the civil service of the U. S.;

Veterans: H. R. 87, relating to the promotion of veterans of World War II in the field service of the Post Office Department;

Surplus property (Indians): H. R. 5556, to make available for Indian use certain surplus property at the Wingate Ordnance Depot, N. Mex.;

Buffalo Rapids: H. R. 829, authorizing acceptance of buildings and improvements affected on lands in Buffalo Rapids water conservation and utilization project and the canceling of certain indebtedness;

Land transfer—California: H. R. 4641, authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to transfer certain land owned by U. S. in Plumas County, Calif., to said county in exchange for other land in Plumas County;

Civil-service retirement: H. R. 7866, to amend Civil Service Retirement Act of 1930, as amended, so as to provide an order of precedence for lump-sum death payments;

Panama Canal employees: H. R. 7888, to amend the Classification Act of 1949 to make it inapplicable to postal employees of the Panama Canal;

VA office in Philippines: H. R. 6632, to extend the authority of the VA to continue offices in the Philippines;