

WHAT IS MADE BY LEGISLATURE

WHAT AMOUNT OF WORK DONE
BY THE FIFTIETH GENERAL
ASSEMBLY OF ILLINOIS.

IMPORTANT LAWS ACTED ON

Four Measures of Vital Interest to the
People of the State Passed—Appropriations Reach a Total
of \$50,000,000.

Springfield.—The Fiftieth general assembly adopted a resolution recessing the legislature until noon, June 29. On that date the assembly will adjourn sine die.

Were recesses to be taken it would be possible for members to initiate any sort of measures at any time the assembly came together and the special bills desired by the governor and the state council of defense might be seriously set back by the consequent wrangling. Special sessions can consider only such matters as are stipulated in the governor's call.

Governor Lowden appeared before a joint session and gave in person the final message of the executive to the legislators. He declared that the assembly goes into history as the most progressive and constructive in the state's history.

More bills were introduced than at any former session and more bills were passed. The bills introduced totaled 1,041 in the house and 612 in the senate.

Four Important Laws.

The four measures favorably acted upon which are of the most far-reaching importance are:

Joint resolution proposing submission to the voters of the question of holding a constitutional convention.

Administrative code bill consolidating overlapping state boards, commissions and other agencies and creating new departments of finance, agriculture, trade and commerce, public welfare, labor, mines and minerals, public works and buildings, health and regulation and education.

Private bank regulation bill requiring all private banks to incorporate and come under state supervision by January 1, 1921.

Sixty-million-dollar bond issue, providing for the construction of 4,400 miles of hard roads, and companion bill raising automobile license fees to finance the bond issue.

With the constitutional convention, the private bank bill and the \$60,000,000 good roads bonds issue up for action, in addition to the election of a United States senator and other state and county public officials, the election of next year will be one of unusual interest.

\$60,000,000 Appropriation.

Rough estimates of the total appropriations for the session indicate that the figure will be about \$50,000,000, as against \$47,200,000 two years ago.

The chief items in the appropriations follow:

Charitable Institutions bill appropriating for the maintenance of state government \$17,500,000.

University of Illinois bill, \$10,000,000.

Good Roads bill, \$4,903,000.

Balances of state officers and legislature bill, \$1,100,000.

Penal and reformatory institutions bill, \$2,800,000.

Military bill, \$1,900,000.

Normal schools bill, \$1,570,000.

Deficiency appropriations bill, \$1,100,000.

Centennial building, Springfield bill, \$100,000.

Centennial celebration bill, \$150,000.

Tuberculosis sufferers bill, \$275,000.

Agricultural boards bill, \$200,000.

Expenses of legislature bill, \$100,000.

Foot and mouth disease claims bill, \$75,000.

Miscellaneous Items bill, \$500,000.

Following is the list of important bills passed by both houses of the legislature. Where bills have been signed or permitted to become laws without signature it is indicated by "a law." Vetoed bills are not in the list.

Financial.

Appropriates \$106,045.00 for expense of mobilization in 1918 of Illinois National Guard.

Excludes from scaling process for five years, beginning 1917, taxes levied for payment of principal and interest of bonded indebtedness of cities.

Private bank bill. Provides that all private banks must incorporate on or before January 1, 1921, if law is adopted by referendum in November, 1918. Provides for capital stock in different classifications of municipalities and places all banks in state, except National banks, under control of state auditor.

Authorizes submission to a referendum vote in 1918 of the proposition to issue \$60,000,000 worth of bonds to

make it a misdemeanor to present

absent voters' bills for citizens and soldiers; a central registration bill, which, it is claimed by those who backed the measure, will save several hundred thousand dollars annually for the city of Chicago, and a bill taking all judges out from the provisions of the direct primary.

Provides for the establishment of an Illinois state farm for male offenders more than sixteen, where offense is punishable by jail or house of correction sentences. A law.

Provides highway officials to mark at each intersection directions and distances to places to which roads lead.

Stop look and listen bill. Provides for clearing of grade crossings as a safety measure by railroads and highway commissioners.

Authorizes park boards to acquire land for playground purposes. A law.

Establishes the state council of defense. A law.

The Oglebay plan of reserve militia recommended by the state council of defense.

Fixes pay of National Guardsmen in active service at \$1 a day.

Appropriates \$750,000 for supplies, etc., for National Guard now or hereafter to be mobilized.

Regulates adoption, sale and distribution of school text books and requires text books to be listed with state superintendent of public instruction with price list. Books once adopted not to be changed within five years.

Makes it a misdemeanor to present

LIQUOR BARRED TO FIGHTERS

State Council of Defense Urges Obedience to Federal Law Through-out the State.

Springfield.—Authorities in every town, village and hamlet in Illinois have received communications from the state council of defense urging them to see to it that the federal law prohibiting the selling of liquor to soldiers and sailors is rigidly enforced. They will be asked to advise all

liquor dealers regarding the law, and to inform them of the severe penalties provided for violations.

Take warning! Selling liquor to soldiers and sailors is illegal! It is the gist of the notices to be sent out by the council.

This action was decided upon by the council at its weekly meeting in Chicago.

The subject was given most serious attention, and the powers of the council with regard to enforcement of the law were fully discussed. It was de-

cided that the most effective procedure would be to call the attention of authorities to the law and its provisions.

Other important action taken was to authorize the chairman, Samuel Insull, to establish a bureau for the prevention of fraudulent war relief schemes and solicitations as soon as the pending bill on the subject was passed by the general assembly.

"Army Volunteer week," beginning June 24, will have the council's support and co-operation, as requested by the war department.

governor stated in his message that President Wilson and governors of other states should be asked to participate in the celebration.

The senate named as its committee Lieutenant Governor Oglebay, chairman, and Senators Dailey, Barr, Curtis, Cliffe, Roos, Cornwell, Hull, Hughes, Lantz and Gorman.

Bills revising the election and primary laws were introduced, but in the press of other matters it was decided a month ago not to push them. A few election bills were passed, including

those to be used in construction of a hard road system in Illinois of approximately 4,000 miles.

Provides for withdrawal of special assessment against property when city bids at delinquent tax sale.

Emergency act increasing pay of election clerks in cities under election commissions from \$3 to \$5 a day. A law.

Legalizes and validates all sanitary district tax levies, except disputed levy of 1915, regardless of whether publication of levy was in accordance with law. A law.

Authorizes 3-mill tax in cities between 15,000 and 200,000 population for not more than 20 successive years for public benefit tax.

Increases motor license fees to meet cost of \$60,000,000 road bond issue.

Adds 50 per cent January 1, 1918, and additional 50 per cent January 1, 1919. A law.

Gives drainage district trustees authority, when approved by the courts, to levy taxes for any improvement when necessary to avail district of financial assistance from any appropriation made by the federal government for improvements in the same district. A law.

Appropriates \$502,917 for expenses of National Guard and Naval Reserve, of which \$50,000 is emergency fund to be used by governor. A law.

Appropriates approximately \$250,000 to state board of agriculture and various other agricultural, scientific and military organizations.

"Blue sky" law giving secretary of state some control over sale and issuance of stock.

Appropriates \$20,000 to build bridges over sanitary district canal in Will county.

Appropriating \$1,326,000 for federal roads.

To appropriate \$185,000 to complete armories as follows: \$150,000 First cavalry, Chicago; \$10,000 Second Infantry, Chicago; \$22,000 at Ottawa; \$3,500 at Galesburg.

Appropriates \$1,173,790 for unexpended balance of previously appropriated hard road fund.

Appropriated \$20,000 for state aid roads.

Provides for appointment of health insurance commissioner and appropriation of \$20,000 for his department.

Labor.

The amended workmen's compensation act brings all employers in the state within provisions of existing law.

Amends workmen's compensation act to comply with new administrative code, increasing salaries to arbitrators from \$1,900 to \$2,400 a year and preventing county or municipal employees, etc., from recovering double benefits through pension and compensation. A law.

Provides that election precincts or districts be rearranged, when more than 100 voters in precinct, to reduce vote to standard of 400.

Provides heavy penalties for distribution of anonymous matter attacking candidates for office.

Permits cities to establish free loaning houses and maintain multifamily truck farms.

Permits judges to vacate commitments to house of correction within 30 days of sentence.

To admit Torreys system title deeds to building and loan association loans.

Establishes \$100 fine as penalty for tampering in any way with a motor vehicle standing at a curb.

Raises age limit of children who may be kept in truant or parental school from fourteen to sixteen years.

Bans corporations from practicing law.

Provides for state censorship of motion pictures.

To prohibit high school fraternities.

The "third-degree" bill prohibiting the use of strong-arm methods on prisoners for extracting confessions.

Creates a court of claims.

Provides that no candidate for office shall give pledges to any organization in return for support.

Provides for the establishment of an Illinois state farm for male offenders more than sixteen, where offense is punishable by jail or house of correction sentences. A law.

Provides local improvement law to provide that 5 per cent of special assessments shall be applied toward all costs of collection, etc.

The absent voters' bill provides that registered electors may vote by mail in general or primary elections for state officers.

Under the constitution all bills signed by the governor take effect July 1 unless subject to a referendum or carrying an emergency clause.

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