

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. ELLENDER, from the Committee on Claims:

S. 1324. A bill for the relief of the Wisconsin Electric Power Co.; with an amendment (Rept. No. 540); and

H. R. 3039. A bill for the relief of Mrs. C. W. Selby; without amendment (Rept. No. 541).

By Mr. WAGNER, from the Committee on Banking and Currency:

S. 1146. A bill to amend section 31 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; without amendment (Rept. No. 542).

By Mr. MURRAY, from the Committee on Military Affairs:

S. Res. 195. Resolution requesting an investigation concerning Government property and materials no longer needed for war purposes; without amendment (Rept. No. 543); and

S. Res. 198. Resolution to investigate the matter of the termination of Government procurement contracts; with amendments, and, under the rule, the resolution was referred to the Committee to Audit and Control the Contingent Expenses of the Senate.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Colorado, from the Committee on Military Affairs:

S. 296. A bill for the relief of Hector H. Perry; without amendment (Rept. No. 544).

By Mr. SHIPSTEAD, from the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry:

S. Res. 197. Resolution authorizing the employment of assistants and the expenditure of funds in a proposed investigation of the administration of the Rural Electrification Act (submitted by Mr. SMITH on October 25, 1943); with amendments (Rept. No. 545), and, under the rule, the resolution was referred to the Committee to Audit and Control the Contingent Expenses of the Senate.

REPORTS ON DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE PAPERS

Mr. BARKLEY, from the Joint Select Committee on the Disposition of Executive Papers, to which were referred for examination and recommendation a list of records transmitted to the Senate by the Archivist of the United States that appeared to have no permanent value or historical interest, submitted a report thereon pursuant to law.

BILLS INTRODUCED

Bills were introduced, read the first time, and, by unanimous consent, the second time, and referred as follows:

(Mr. BARKLEY introduced Senate bill 1543, which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, and appears under a separate heading.)

By Mr. WALSH:

S. 1544. A bill authorizing the acquisition and conversion or construction of certain auxiliary vessels, landing craft, and district craft for the United States Navy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

(Mr. WAGNER (for himself, Mr. GEORGE, and Mr. CLARK of Missouri), introduced Senate bill 1545, which was referred to the Committee on Finance, and appears under a separate heading.)

By Mr. O'DANIEL (for Mr. MCCARRAN):

S. 1546. A bill to amend an Act relating to the incorporation of Providence Hospital, Washington, D. C., approved April 8, 1864; to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

By Mr. CLARK OF MISSOURI:

S. 1547. A bill to amend the National Service Life Insurance Act, 1940, as amended; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MCKELLAR:

S. 1548. A bill to limit the jurisdiction of the district courts of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SOCIAL SECURITY FOR DEMOBILIZED MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES

Mr. WAGNER. Mr. President, in behalf of the distinguished senior Senator from Georgia [Mr. GEORGE], the distinguished senior Senator from Missouri [Mr. CLARK], and myself I ask unanimous consent at this time to introduce for reference to the Finance Committee and explain briefly a bill carrying out the recommendations made in the President's message regarding social security for servicemen.

There being no objection, the bill (S. 1545) to amend the Social Security Act, to give insurance credits under the Federal old-age and survivors' insurance provisions of that act for military service, and to provide unemployment allowances for members of the armed forces after their demobilization, introduced by Mr. WAGNER (for himself, Mr. GEORGE, and Mr. CLARK of Missouri) was received, read twice by its title, and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. WAGNER. Mr. President, the bill is in the form of amendments to the Social Security Act. Somewhat similar provisions are written into the broad social-security measure, Senate bill 1161, introduced on June 3 by the Senator from Montana [Mr. MURRAY] and myself. The technical background of such legislation was discussed at length by the Chairman of the Social Security Board, in memoranda printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of October 25 and October 26.

OLD-AGE AND SURVIVORS' INSURANCE

Under the bill just introduced, every member of our armed forces receives a credit toward old-age and survivors' insurance under the Social Security Act, for each month of active service since September 16, 1940, the date of the Selective Service Act. The credit is related to a uniform wage base of \$160 per month. The same wage basis was provided for railroad employees now in the armed forces, under 1942 amendments to the Railroad Retirement Act. The sums needed to cover both the employee and the employer tax contribution, at this rate of wage, are authorized to be appropriated to the Federal Old-Age and Survivors' Trust Fund.

This credit is provided whether or not the serviceman was previously covered by the Social Security Act. It extends to every member of the armed forces, including the Army, Navy, marines, Coast Guard, or any of their components, such as WAVES, WAC's, and SPARS. The only exceptions are members of the armed forces who are already receiving such military service credits under amendments to the Railway Retirement or Civil Service Retirement Acts.

UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES

The bill provides for payment of unemployment allowances for each week of unemployment, up to 52 weeks, occurring during the 15-month period after the individual serviceman or woman is demobilized. No allowance would be paid, however, for any week during which the individual is receiving Federal mustering-out pay or educational allowances, such as provided for in the bill just intro-

duced by the senior Senator from Kentucky.

The unemployment allowance is \$15 a week for a single man or woman, \$5 additional for a dependent wife, and \$2.50 additional for each dependent child. The maximum allowance per week is \$25. The allowance would be paid to every eligible serviceman who is discharged or relieved from active duty under other than dishonorable conditions after the effective date of this part of the bill. We also make special provision for those demobilized in the recent past, who may become unemployed hereafter.

This benefit is surrounded with the usual safeguards under unemployment insurance laws. The applicant must register with and report to a public employment office, or attend a suitable free training course. Partial wages earned during any week, in excess of \$3 are deducted from the amount of the benefit. No benefit would be paid if the applicant failed to report for suitable work, unless good cause were shown. The bill provides, however, that unemployment allowances should not be cut off if the veteran becomes disabled or ill after a period of unemployment had commenced. This is a modified form of disability insurance, especially necessary for demobilized veterans who have not quite shaken off the strain of military life.

Any serviceman whose claim for an allowance has been denied is entitled to a fair hearing before an impartial tribunal and to the usual court review given in unemployment insurance cases.

RELATION TO STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE LAWS

The Social Security Board is authorized to administer the unemployment allowances. The Board may utilize the available facilities and services of other Federal departments and agencies, and may enter into agreements with appropriate State or other public or private agencies or institutions to utilize their services or facilities. However, any State unemployment agency which desires to enter into and operate under such an agreement or cooperative working arrangement shall be permitted to do so, under express provision of the bill.

While the State agencies have their place in the administration of these unemployment allowances, the benefit amount is uniform for every serviceman with the same number of dependents, regardless of the State he came from, the amount he might have received under any State law, or whether he was covered by a State law before he entered military service. This uniformity is a matter of simple justice and equity for those who have served in our armed forces. It is the only sound course available in the present circumstances, with 51 different State laws varying widely as to coverage, amount, and duration of benefits.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed a table showing these variations in detail.

There being no objection, the table was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows: