

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that our representatives in congress be asked to support the said bill in every manner within their power to insure its speedy enactment into law.

Approved March 18, 1919.

RESOLUTION NO. 7.

A concurrent resolution memorializing the congress of the United States to co-operate with the Dominion of Canada in the enlarged canalization of the St. Lawrence river for the passage of ocean-going vessels into the Great Lakes, thus connecting the heart of the continent with both the coastwise and foreign commerce of the high seas.

WHEREAS, the public's right to have the waterways so improved and so used as to return the fullest benefit to the people, in the reduction of distribution costs, is a natural right that should be developed by the improvement of the waterways system so far as such improvement is economically wise.

WHEREAS, the connection of the Great Lakes with tide water so as to admit the passage of ocean-going vessels to the heart of the continent, enabling the empire of the central west to reach the markets of the world without breaking bulk, would in the opinion of this body be of inestimable value and economic importance, and

WHEREAS, the extent to which the Great Lakes region and these rich vast sections are to serve the world in ores, grain, butter, meats, livestock and manufactures, depends upon reaching the markets of the world at minimum cost and her ability to lead her products at ports as the Great Lakes and send them to every market of the world without breaking bulk.

WHEREAS, in view of the serious experience of our country with congestion of traffic upon our railroads and at Atlantic seaports during the stress of war, and now under the strain of peace, any movement to bring the "Atlantic to the heart of the continent" becomes a matter of vital economic importance, and

WHEREAS, the government of Canada has now under consideration, and well along towards completion, a ship canal extending from Port Colburn on Lake Erie, a distance of 25 miles, to Port Weller on Lake Ontario, with locks of sufficient capacity to accommodate ships of 30 feet draft, 800 feet in length and 80 feet wide, and

WHEREAS, work on this canal, which was suspended during the war, has now been resumed, and will be carried on to completion as rapidly as possible, and

WHEREAS, the remaining link in the chain to be completed necessary to admit ocean-going vessels to the ports on the Great Lakes in the enlarged canalization of the St. Lawrence river from Montreal West, and

WHEREAS, the improvement of the St. Lawrence river, as aforesaid, can only be done through co-operation with the Dominion of Canada.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the house of representatives at the state of Minnesota, the senate concurring, that we earnestly and urgently petition the congress of the United States to take such steps as may be deemed best and most expeditious looking to the early enlarged canalization of the St. Lawrence river by joint arrangement with the Dominion of Canada so as to admit the passage of ocean-going vessels, thus connecting the Great Lakes with tidewater via the St. Lawrence river and Welland canal now being completed by the government of Canada.

Approved March 18, 1919.

RESOLUTION NO. 8.

A joint resolution memorializing the war department to discharge certain persons now in the military or naval services of the United States.

WHEREAS, an armistice between the Allied Powers and the Central Powers has been formally entered into, and in all probability a treaty of peace will be signed without any further hostilities, and

WHEREAS, many persons in the military and naval service of the United States are now being employed in France in building high-ways, breaking rock, and in reconstruction work, and

WHEREAS, such work could more appropriately be performed by German and Austrian prisoners of war and by conscientious objectors, whom, it is authentically reported, are now the subjects of unusually considerate treatment, and are being discharged in great numbers with back pay, which is in reality a bonus, and

WHEREAS, there are many residents of Minnesota who enlisted in the army engineer corps, and who are now being held in France to assist in road building and other reconstruction work, and are apparently rewarded for their meritorious and brilliant services with additional duties, and

WHEREAS, the keeping of these enlisted men and officers in France for the purpose of breaking rock and building turnpikes is unfair and unnecessary, and results in many hardships, and causes great discontent, and is not in accord with the government's promises at the time these men entered military and naval service.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED by the senate of the state of Minnesota, the house concurring, that the war department of the United States of America be and the same is hereby urgently petitioned and requested to take such measures as may be necessary to secure the immediate release and discharge of all persons from Minnesota in the army engineer corps and in other military and naval branches of the service, now being employed in road building and recon-