

Sec. 5. To co-operate with federal authorities.—It shall be the duty of the commissioner to co-operate with and furnish to all federal authorities engaged in similar work all information which he attains from time to time, providing that the furnishing of such information will not materially interfere with the work being carried on by the commissioner.

Sec. 6. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved September 22, 1919.

CHAPTER 48—H. F. No. 86.

An act to appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) for the year ending July 1, 1920, and twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for the year ending July 1, 1921, to be expended under the direction of the Commissioner of Drainage and Waters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. Appropriations for commissioner of drainage and waters.—There is hereby appropriated from any moneys in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to be available during the fiscal year from the passage of this act, and ending 1920, and twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to be available during the fiscal year of July 1, 1920, to July 1, 1921, to be expended under the direction and upon the order of the commissioner of drainage and waters as contemplated by the provisions of sections two (2) and three (3), of chapter four hundred seventy-one (471), Laws of 1919.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage for approval.

Approved September 22, 1919.

CHAPTER 49—H. F. No. 103.

An act to provide relief and assistance for certain officers, soldiers, sailors, marines, nurses, and the surviving wives of certain deceased officers, soldiers, sailors, marines and nurses, providing for issuance of certificates of indebtedness for the raising of necessary funds therefor, and for the retirement of the same by money raised from a tax levy provided therefor, and the creation of a board to issue such certificates and supervise the expenditure and disbursement of funds, and appropriating \$20,000,000.00 therefor, and making it a misdemeanor for any claimant to transfer or to attempt to transfer his right or claim and for any other person to acquire or to attempt to acquire any interest therein before the issuance of the auditor's warrant therefor.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. Definition.—That the word “soldier” as used in this act, shall mean any officer, soldier, sailor, marine or nurse who has been or is a part of the military or naval forces of the United States or of any nation associated with the United States in the war with Germany and who was a resident of the state of Minnesota at the time he was commissioned, enlisted, inducted, appointed or mustered into the military or naval service of the United States, and who has been or may be given an honorable or ordinary discharge or release from such service; provided, however, that the word “soldier,” as used in this act, shall not be construed to mean, and shall not include any person who, at any time during the period of the war with Germany, sought to avoid service because of conscientious objections thereto, or because of alienage or who has been, at any time, guilty of fraud or violation or evasion of the Selective Service Act or of the rules or regulations of the War Department in force thereunder.

Sec. 2. Bonus to be received by each soldier, etc.—That any such soldier shall be entitled to receive from the state of Minnesota, from a fund hereinafter created and called “The Soldiers Bonus Fund” the sum of fifteen dollars (\$15.00), for each and every month and fraction thereof of service given by him as such soldier subsequently to April 6, 1917, and prior to the date upon which peace shall be agreed upon between the United States and the German Government; provided, that the amount received hereunder by any such soldier shall not be less than fifty dollars (\$50.00); and provided, that any sums received by any such soldier as and for tuition under the provisions chapter 338, General Laws 1919 of the state of Minnesota shall be deducted from the amount which such soldier may receive under the provisions of this act; and provided further, that if any soldier who receives any sum under the provisions of this act shall make application for any sum as and for tuition under any act heretofore enacted, the sum paid to such soldier under the provisions of this act shall be deducted from and charged against the amount to which such soldier would have been entitled as and for tuition if he has not received any sum hereunder.

Sec. 3. Procedure.—That before receiving any sum under the provisions of this act, said soldier shall file with the clerk of the district court of the county in which he resides or resided at the time of induction into service, or with the adjutant gen-

eral, application therefor on forms provided by the adjutant general; provided, that when such application is filed with the clerk of the district court it shall be the duty of the said clerk to transmit said application to the adjutant general forthwith. Such application shall state facts sufficient to establish the status of such applicant as soldier as defined herein, and shall be duly verified.

Sec. 4. Soldiers' bonus board.—There is hereby created a board to be known as "The Soldiers' Bonus Board," to consist of the state auditor, the state treasurer, and the adjutant general. It shall be the duty of the said board to examine into such applications and shall make any other examination necessary to establish facts, and approve or disapprove the same. Whenever any such application is approved by said board it shall be the duty of the adjutant general to prepare a voucher and transmit the same to the state auditor; said auditor shall issue a warrant for the amount stated therein, and the state treasurer shall pay such warrant out of said soldiers' bonus fund. No assignment of any right or claim to benefits hereunder made prior to the issuance of the state auditor's warrant herein provided for, shall be valid, and any transfer or attempt to transfer any such right or claim or any part thereof by any beneficiary prior to the issuance of such warrant and the acquiring or attempting to acquire by any other person of any interest in or title to such claim prior to the issuance of such warrant shall be a misdemeanor and punishable as such.

Sec. 5. \$20,000,000 certificates authorized.—The soldiers' bonus board is hereby authorized and empowered to issue and sell certificates of indebtedness to make funds available for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act. Said certificates shall draw interest at a rate not to exceed five per cent per annum payable semi-annually, except the interest due in 1920, which shall be paid in one installment; and shall not be sold for less than the par value thereof. The proceeds of the sale of such certificates, from time to time, shall be paid into a fund hereby created, which fund shall be known as "The Soldiers' Bonus Fund." Said certificates shall mature not more than twelve (12) years from the date thereof, and be in such form and on such terms and conditions, other than those herein specified, as the said board may determine. Such certificates shall be issued in an aggregate amount not exceeding the sum of twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000.00). Said certificates shall be signed by the members of said board and shall be attested by the state auditor under the seal of his office. The state auditor shall keep a record

showing the number, amount, date of issue and date of maturity of each such certificate and the proceeds of the sale thereof shall be deposited with the state treasurer to the credit of the said soldiers' bonus fund. Redemption of said certificates and payment of the interest thereon shall be made from said fund, and any excess remaining in or accruing to said fund after payment in full of all such certificates shall be credited to the revenue fund.

Sec. 6. \$20,000,000 appropriated.—That the said sum of twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000.00), or as much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of the said soldiers' bonus fund for carrying out the provisions of this act.

Sec. 7. Tax levy authorized.—That for the purpose of providing funds with which to pay said certificates of indebtedness as they mature and the interest thereon, the state auditor is hereby authorized and directed to levy and collect in the same manner as other state taxes are levied and collected, for the taxable year of 1919, and for each and every succeeding year, for nine (9) years a sum not exceeding two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) per year and such additional sums as may be needed to meet the interest on such certificates of indebtedness. The sum so levied and collected shall be placed in the said soldiers' bonus fund.

Sec. 8. Employees authorized.—That the soldiers' bonus board, the state auditor, the adjutant general, and the state treasurer, are hereby empowered to employ such assistance and to incur such other expense as may be necessary for the administration and the carrying out of the provisions of this act; and the funds necessary for such administration and carrying out of the provisions of this act shall be expended from said soldiers' bonus fund; such assistants as said board may determine shall give bond in such amount as may be fixed by said board, and shall, whenever practicable, be soldiers as defined in section one of this act.

Sec. 9. Widow to receive compensation in case of death of soldier.—Where any soldier, as herein defined, is at the time of the taking effect of this act, deceased, and leaves a widow him surviving, then and in that event, such widow, if still single, shall be entitled to and shall be paid, out of the fund by this act created, the amount which such deceased soldier would receive hereunder if living.

Sec. 10. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved September 22, 1919.