

VETERANS' ADJUSTED COMPENSATION.

SEPTEMBER 13, 1922.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. FORDNEY, from the committee of conference, submitted the following

CONFERENCE REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 10874.]

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H. R. 10874) to provide adjusted compensation for the veterans of the World War, and for other purposes, having met, after full and free conference have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the Senate recede from its amendments numbered 1, 47, and 68.

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendments of the Senate numbered 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 46, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 63, 64, 65, 66, and 67, and agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 4:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 4, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by said amendment insert the following:

(b) Such application shall be made on or before January 1, 1928, and if not made on or before such date shall be held void.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 45:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 45, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by said amendment insert the following:

Sec. 510. The certificate shall be canceled (a) if the veteran fails to redeem his certificate before its maturity, or (b) if he is in default upon

any amount due in respect to a loan secured by the certificate and such default continues to his death.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 61:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 61, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

Omit the matter proposed to be inserted by said amendment; and on page 25, line 8, of the House bill strike out "Title VIII.—Land"; and on page 37 of the House bill make the following changes: Line 7, strike out "IX" and insert *VIII*; line 8, strike out "901" and insert *801*; and on page 38 of the House bill make the following changes: Line 6, strike out "902" and insert *802*; line 11, strike out "903" and insert *803*; line 17, strike out "904" and insert *804*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 62:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 62, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

Omit the matter proposed to be inserted by said amendment; and the Senate agree to the same.

J. W. FORDNEY,

W. R. GREEN,

NICHOLAS LONGWORTH,

Managers on the part of the House.

P. J. McCUMBER,

GEO. P. McLEAN,

F. M. SIMMONS,

DAVID I. WALSH,

Managers on the part of the Senate.

STATEMENT OF THE MANAGERS ON THE PART OF THE HOUSE.

The managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H. R. 10874) to provide adjusted compensation for veterans of the World War, and for other purposes, submit the following written statement in explanation of the effect of the action agreed upon by the conferees and recommend the accompanying conference report:

The following amendments are clerical changes, and the House recedes: 15, 19, 33, 34, and 37.

Amendment No. 4: The House bill provided that all applications for the benefits granted the veteran by the act must be made prior to July 1, 1923. The Senate amendment provides that such applications may be made at any time after the passage of the act. The House recedes with an amendment requiring that the applications be made on or before January 1, 1928.

Amendment No. 10: The Senate amendment provides that the findings of the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy as to the number of days of service in the military and naval forces of the veteran shall not be subject to review by the General Accounting Office, and that payments made by the disbursing officers of the War and Navy Departments in accordance with such findings shall be passed to their credit. The House bill contained no provision upon this subject; and the House recedes.

Amendment No. 13: The House bill provided that in case of a veteran serving in both the military and naval forces payments should be made the veteran by the Secretary of War if the last service of the veteran was with the military forces and by the Secretary of the Navy if the last service was with the naval forces. The Senate amendment directs that payments shall be made by the Secretary of War or the Secretary of the Navy, according to the force in which the veteran first served during the compensable period, instead of according to the force in which the veteran last served; and the House recedes.

Amendment No. 14: The House bill provided that the rights conferred by the adjusted service certificates should take effect and the certificates should be dated as of October 1, 1922. The Senate amendment provides that such rights shall take effect and the certificate be dated as of the 1st day of January or July, whichever first occurs, next succeeding the date of filing the application, but in no case before January 1, 1923; and the House recedes.

The following amendments are the additional changes necessary in the adjusted service certificate title in order to carry out the action agreed upon by the conferees in respect to amendment No. 14, and the House recedes: 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 28, 29, 30, 31, 35, 39, and 43.

Amendment No. 27: The House bill provided that in case of the continued default of the veteran as to the payment of any loan made him by a bank and the subsequent payment by the Secretary of the Treasury to the bank of the amount due it, the Secretary should thereupon cancel the note and the certificate and pay to the veteran, if living, the difference between 80 per cent of the loan basis of the certificate and amount paid the bank, and that if the veteran died before such difference was paid, it should be paid to the beneficiary, or, if no beneficiary, to the estate of the veteran. The Senate amendment provides that in such case the certificate shall not be canceled, but shall be held by the Secretary and restored to the veteran if at any time prior to its maturity he repays the amount paid by the United States to the bank, together with interest thereon at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent per annum, compounded annually; and the House recedes.

The following amendments are additional changes necessary to carry out the action agreed upon by the conferees in respect to amendment No. 27, and the House recedes: 26, 32, 40, 41, 42, and 44.

Amendment No. 36: The House bill provided that if a loan is made by the Government upon an adjusted service certificate during the three years prior to October 1, 1928, the amount of the loan should not exceed 85 per cent of the sum of the adjusted service credit plus interest thereon from October 1, 1922, to the date of the loan, at the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent per annum, compounded annually. If the loan is made at any time thereafter the House bill provided that it should not exceed 70 per cent of the sum of 125 per cent of the adjusted service credit plus interest thereon from October 1, 1922, to the date of the making of the loan, at the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent per annum, compounded annually. The Senate amendment provides that if the loan is made at any time during the three years after the date of the certificate it shall not exceed 50 per cent of the adjusted service credit plus interest from the date of the certificate to the making of the loan at the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent per annum, compounded annually. If made at any time during the second three-year period after the date of the certificate the loan should not exceed 85 per cent of the sum of the adjusted service credit plus interest as above; and if the loan is made at any time more than six years after the date of the certificate it should not exceed 70 per cent of the sum of 125 per cent of the adjusted service credit plus interest as above; and the House recedes.

Amendment No. 38: This amendment carries out the action agreed upon by the conferees in respect to amendment No. 36; and the House recedes.

Amendment No. 45: The Senate amendment provides that the adjusted service certificate shall be canceled if the veteran fails to redeem it before maturity, or if he fails to make any payment due on the loan and such default continues to his death. The House bill provided for the absolute cancellation of the certificate in case of default. (See subdivision (c) section 502 and subdivision (b) section 504.) The House recedes with an amendment making slight clerical changes for the purpose of clarity.

Amendment No. 47: The House bill provided that the amount of the payment for farm and home aid should be 125 per cent of the adjusted service credit. The Senate amendment provides that the amount of such aid shall be graduated from 100 per cent to 140 per

cent, depending on the year in which the payment of first installment thereof is made; and the Senate recedes.

Amendment No. 49: The Senate amendment provides that farm or home aid may be used for the purpose of paying off indebtedness existing on a home or farm prior to the date of the application by the veteran for the aid. The House bill had no provision on the subject; and the House recedes.

Amendment No. 61: The amendment makes clerical changes; and the House recedes with an amendment making further clerical changes.

Amendment No. 62: The House bill provided for the creation of a national veterans' settlement board to administer the provisions of the bill with respect to farm and home aid and land reclamation. Reclamation projects are to be established by the board and made available to settlement by veterans and repatriates only, the individual veteran or repatriate to reimburse the Government for the cost of reclaiming the lands by amortization payments covering a period not exceeding 25 years. The moneys from such reimbursements are to be covered into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts. The amount of the adjusted service credit of the veteran was to be deducted from the price to the veteran of the reclaimed land. The provision constituted one of the five options available to the veteran under the act.

The Senate amendment strikes out the House provision, and provides land settlement advantages which are to be exercised but not as an option in lieu of the other advantages granted by the act, but as an additional privilege. Reclamation projects are to be established under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior in cooperation with municipal drainage and irrigation districts. The district agrees to reimburse the Government for all expenditures made by it and to issue bonds so obligating itself. The bonds are to be deposited with the Federal Farm Loan Board and to be offered at public sale at such time as the value of the reclaimed lands is twice the par value of the bonds. The moneys repaid by the districts, however, are to constitute a revolving fund, and \$350,000,000 is authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of this fund. The veteran has a preference right to employment in the construction work on reclamation projects and also a preference for a period of 60 days in making entry on the reclaimed land.

The House recedes with an amendment striking out the new provisions proposed to be inserted by the Senate amendment. The effect of the agreement is that the bill contains neither a veterans' land settlement nor a general reclamation feature.

The following amendments are changes necessary to carry out the action agreed upon by the conferees in respect to amendment No. 62, and the House recedes: 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 46, 48, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 63, 64, 65, 66, and 67.

The following amendment is an amendment necessary to carry out the action agreed upon by the conferees in respect to amendment No. 62, and the Senate recedes: 1.

Amendment No. 68: The House bill provided (see sec. 904) that an amount sufficient to defray the expenditures required by the act was authorized to be appropriated. The Senate amendment retains

the House provision, but in addition provides that the interest received by the United States on obligations of foreign governments is first to be used in meeting such expenditures; and the Senate recedes.

J. W. FORDNEY,
W. R. GREEN,
NICHOLAS LONGWORTH,
Managers on the part of the House.

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