

pointed, have completed not less than 3 years of service as a warrant officer and shall, on the same date, be eligible for appointment in the rank of lieutenant, lieutenant (junior grade), or ensign, be not more than 40, 35, or 32 years of age, respectively: *Provided*, That the foregoing age limitations shall not apply until 1 year subsequent to the date of approval of this act.

Sec. 3. No candidate shall be appointed who is not recommended by a commanding officer under whom he has served as a commissioned warrant or warrant officer nor unless he shall have established his mental, moral, physical, and professional qualifications, in accordance with standard to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Navy, before, and shall have been recommended by a board of medical examiners and a naval examining board: *Provided*, That any candidate who shall have twice failed to establish his qualifications for an appointment pursuant to this act shall thereafter be ineligible for further consideration for such appointment to any of the ranks provided herein.

Sec. 4. Each officer upon appointment shall take rank after the junior officer of the same rank in the line or appropriate staff corps on the date of appointment and each officer appointed to a staff corps shall be commissioned in the grade in which the said junior officer is then serving.

Sec. 5. Each officer appointed pursuant to this act to the grade of lieutenant in the line of the Navy shall be carried as an extra number in that grade only and, while in such grade, shall become eligible for consideration for promotion to the next higher grade by a line selection board when the officer next senior to him becomes eligible.

Sec. 6. The Secretary of the Navy, under such regulations as he may prescribe, may revoke the commission of any officer on the active list appointed pursuant to this act who, at the date of revocation, has had less than 7 years of continuous commissioned service in the Navy, including service as a commissioned warrant officer, and any officer whose commission is so revoked shall be discharged from the naval service.

Sec. 7. Except as herein otherwise provided, officers appointed under the authority of this act shall be governed by the provisions of existing laws and of laws hereafter enacted relating to line and staff officers of the Navy, as may be appropriate.

Sec. 8. The provisions of this act, except as may be necessary to adapt the same thereto, shall apply to the Marine Corps in like manner and to the same extent and with the same relative conditions in all respects as are provided for the Regular Navy.

Sec. 9. All existing laws or parts of existing laws authorizing the permanent appointment of commissioned warrant and warrant officers to the grade or rank of ensign or above in the line and staff corps of the Regular Navy, and all other laws or parts of laws insofar as they are inconsistent with or in conflict with the provisions of this act, are hereby repealed.

With the following committee amendments:

Page 2, line 10, strike out the word "age."
Page 3, line 23, strike out the period, insert a colon, and the following:

Provided, That no officer appointed pursuant to this act shall suffer any reduction in pay and allowances to which he would have been entitled had he not been so appointed.

The SPEAKER. The question is on agreeing to the amendments.

The committee amendments were agreed to.

The bill as amended was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AMENDMENT TO NEUTRALITY ACT OF 1939 (H. DOC. NO. 617)

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States, which was read, and, with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

I recommend that the Neutrality Act of 1939 be amended to provide that section 7 shall not be operative when the United States is at war.

Section 7 now in effect prevents essential financial transactions between persons within the United States and our cobelligerents. In my opinion there was never any intention that this section should operate during our belligerency. I hope that the Congress will act promptly in this matter to legalize transactions essential in the effective prosecution of the war.

There is attached a draft resolution designed to accomplish the purpose of this recommendation.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 9, 1942.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Resolved, etc., That section 7 of the Neutrality Act of 1939 (Public Res. No. 54, 76th Cong.) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new paragraph:

"(e) This section shall not be operative when the United States is at war."

REPORT OF GOVERNOR OF PANAMA CANAL

The SPEAKER also laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States which was read, and with the accompanying papers referred to the Committee on the Merchant Marine and Fisheries:

To the Congress of the United States:

I transmit herewith, for the information of the Congress, the Annual Report of the Governor of the Panama Canal for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1941.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 9, 1942.

REPORT OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS, PANAMA RAILROAD COMPANY

The SPEAKER also laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States which was read and, with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on the Merchant Marine and Fisheries:

To the Congress of the United States:

I transmit herewith, for the information of the Congress, the Ninety-second Annual Report of the Board of Directors of the Panama Railroad Company for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1941.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 9, 1942.

JUVENILE COURT, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (H. DOC. NO. 612)

The SPEAKER also laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States, which was read and, with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

I transmit herewith, for the information of the Congress, a communication from the judge of the juvenile court of the District of Columbia, together with a report covering the work of the juvenile court during the fiscal year 1940-41.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 9, 1942.

VETO MESSAGE—REGISTRATION OF CERTAIN PROPAGANDA AGENCIES (H. DOC. NO. 611)

The SPEAKER also laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States, which was read:

To the House of Representatives:

I return herewith, without my approval, H. R. 6269, "To amend the act entitled 'An act to require the registration of certain persons employed by agencies to disseminate propaganda in the United States, and for other purposes,' approved June 8, 1938, as amended."

This bill was drafted in peacetime to protect a nation at peace. It was properly designed to force the disclosure of the activities of foreign agents who may abuse the hospitality of our country or weaken our national unit by fostering discord and distrust.

The bill, however, obviously was not drafted with a view to the situation created by the Axis assault upon our country and our entry into the war in fighting partnership with 25 united nations and in active cooperation with other nations whose defense we deem vital to our own defense.

To achieve victory we must be certain that there is a minimum of interference with the strengthening and perfecting of joint action. Active collaboration of a military or economic nature with friendly countries requires the fullest and most constant exchange of representatives between us.

Just as we are anxious to see nothing interfere with the functioning of our representatives in friendly countries, so we must do everything we can to facilitate their functioning with us in the common cause. It is far from clear that the requirements of this legislation would not in many instances be unnecessary, inappropriate, and onerous in respect to the representatives of friendly nations who are constantly coming to and from the United States to cooperate with us.

I recommend that this bill be adjusted to meet these changed conditions resulting from our entry into the war. Such adjustment might be achieved by granting broad discretionary powers to the Attorney General during the emergency, to enable him to administer the bill so as to meet these new conditions.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 9, 1942.

The SPEAKER. The objections of the President will be spread at large upon the Journal.

Mr. SUMNERS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move that the President's message be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed.

The motion was agreed to.