

senate in its deliberations and enactments to the purposes set forth in the governor's call for a special session, and to consider no "proposed act or law, joint or concurrent resolution" foreign to the governor's call.

The senate waited half an hour for the arrival of three Omaha senators before the resolution was offered. Trouble was evidently feared by friends of the resolution, and they did not propose to take chances. Immediately after the roll call Hager of Adams moved a recess of half an hour. Senators Strehlow, Bennett and Moriarity of Douglas were absent when the roll was called. Hager of Adams, who has been charged by other democrats with being a messenger for Senator Mattes, and his supporters in the senate, promptly moved a recess. It was understood the three Douglas senators were on a train bound for Lincoln and would not arrive for some time. Upon their arrival the senate was called to order and Senator Henry offered the following resolution:

"Whereas, The legislature of Nebraska is now in extraordinary session, convened by the governor through the exercise of his constitutional powers and limited in its scope of action by the constitutional restrictions which give the only legal force and effect to the acts of this extraordinary session, to-wit:

"The governor may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the legislature by proclamation, stating therein the purpose for which they are convened, and the legislature shall enter upon no business except that for which they were called together."

"Therefore, on the part of the senate of Nebraska, convened in extraordinary session, be it Resolved, That the senate confine its deliberations and enactments to the purposes definitely set forth in the official call of the governor authorizing this extraordinary session, and that the senate hereby makes of record its purpose to consider no proposed act for a law, joint or concurrent resolution, outside of and foreign to the specific purposes declared by the governor in his official call authorizing the extraordinary session in which the legislature is now convened."

Beal of Custer, democrat, and a candidate for congress in the Sixth district, asked that the resolution lie over one day. Lieutenant Governor Howard decided that no request was necessary as the rules of the senate provide that resolutions shall go over one day unless otherwise disposed of.

The vote on the adoption or rejection of the Henry resolution will be taken as a test vote on the ratification of the national prohibition amendment. The "drys" allege that the amendment being a subject in no way related to state legislation and that the legislature at a special session has power to act upon it. The friends of the amendment hope to win, but it is admitted that the vote may be close. The wets say there are enough votes in the senate to defeat ratification if their forces do not weaken under the ever increasing sentiment in favor of prohibition, state and national.

GOVERNOR NEVILLE REFUSES REQUEST OF HOUSE

[From the Nebraska State Journal, March 28.]

Governor Neville did not transmit to the present special session of the house a request for action on the national amendment for reasons that he deemed sufficient. He says so in a special message in reply to a request from the house for the certified copy of the national prohibitory amendment sent by Secretary of State Lansing. Here is his reply:

"To the Honorable George Jackson, Speaker, and to the Members of the House of Representatives of the Thirty-sixth Session (Extraordinary) of the Legislature of Nebraska:

"I have the resolution of your honorable body, requesting the governor to submit for its consideration any communications which he may have in his possession relative to the acts of congress dealing with the national prohibitory amendment.

"For reasons that I considered sufficient, I did not include in the proclamation calling the legislature into extraordinary session the matter of ratifying the national prohibitory amendment. It is not my intention to submit the question of its ratification for the consideration of the legislature at this session. I shall be very glad, however, if your honorable body so desires, to submit for its information a copy of the communications in my possession with reference to this question, or to submit the original copies for the information of individuals or

committees of the house who would care to examine them in my office.

"KEITH NEVILLE, Governor."

SMASHING VICTORY FOR RATIFICATION

[From the Nebraska State Journal, March 30.]

The lower house of the Nebraska legislature went on record Saturday morning emphatically in favor of ratification of the national prohibitory amendment. But two votes were cast against it when the motion was made that it be ordered engrossed for third reading. It will be passed on Monday afternoon, when the house next meets.

But two of the fifty-seven members present voted against it, but this does not represent all of those who will oppose it on third reading. Possibly half a dozen or more will do so. Those who voted against it to third reading were Keegan, a young man from Omaha, and Mysenburg, a farmer from Butler county. Both are from counties that voted wet in 1916. Mysenburg sent up a written explanation to the effect that he voted no because it had not been included in the governor's call.

Keegan, who had made a motion previously that had nothing to do with the matter before the house, began to jangle with one of the other members. Mr. Jacobson arose and moved that the sergeant at arms take care of him until he regained his equilibrium. Another member inquired of him if he was sober, and he retorted that he was just as sober as the other member.

Fifty-five of the fifty-eight members voted for the motion. Behrens did not respond to the roll call. The great majority of the forty-two absentees are for ratification. The affirmative votes were cast by:

Ainly, Anderson of Boyd, Auten, Axtell, Beal, Cronley, Cronin, Dafeo, Dalbey, Fleetwood, Fries, Fuller, Fufts, Goodall, Gormly, Greenwalt, Hoffmeister, Howard, Hughes, Hunt, Hutton, Jacobson, Erick Johnson, Fred G. Johnson, Knutzen, Lampert, Lemar, Lindberg, Manzer, McAllister, Miller, Mills, Murtey, Naylor, Neff, Nesbit, Norton, Olson, Osterman, Parkinson, Peterson, Radke, Reiffenrath, Reynolds, Rickhard, Rieschick, Stearns, Stream, Taylor, Thomas, Tracewell, Trumble, Waite, Ward, Jackson.

During the discussion of the bill, Keegan, who was the only one to exhibit a desire to take the side of the booze interests, interrogated Mr. Peterson. He wanted to know whether the allies were prohibiting the use of liquor abroad. Mr. Peterson's smashing reply, which brought forth great applause, was:

"When it comes to the establishment of the highest principles of freedom, our nation leads, it does not follow."

Mr. Norton, who made the motion to order the bill to a third reading said there were several reasons why the amendment should be ratified. One is that Nebraska is a dry state, and there is no reason why after the success of the experience with prohibition why Nebraska ought not to be early in line. Ratification now would eliminate the liquor question from the campaign and permit the people to focus their attention on war problems. No greater war measure could be enacted than this. Enough grain was now going into liquor to give a loaf of bread daily to every soldier in the allied armies. Banishing booze would mean greater coal production and saving. The liquor interests were working hand in hand with the pro-German element in this nation. It isn't a question of politics, but what the people want done. They expect this legislature to ratify, and it has the right because the matter was one submitted by congress to the legislature and not to any executive officer.

Mr. Thomas said that it had been said the senate would not ratify. This house then ought to put it up to that body and let them take the responsibility. The liquor interests are on the side of those opposed to the country in this war.

Mr. Taylor said that the world was clamoring for food, and this was a way to see they got it. No business activity had a right to demand its continuance when to do so delayed victory in the war.

Mr. Fufts said that the fact that other states were made the sources of supply for bootleggers who brought liquor into Nebraska in defiance of public sentiment was one reason for making all dry. This is necessary to protect the people of Nebraska from these lawless individuals, as Nebraska could not effectually handle prohibition so long as other states manufactured and sold it.

Mr. Anderson of Boyd said that the two

months between the going into effect of prohibition in Nebraska and South Dakota gave the people in his border county an idea of what it meant for a dry state to be next to a wet one. Prohibition has proved to be a splendid thing, and it ought to be passed along for the benefit of the wives and mothers in other states.

Mr. Peterson, who is also county food administrator in Lancaster, said that his work would prevent him from taking any other stand than in favor of ratification. He had gone up and down the county urging food conservation, and this was a food conservation measure. He warned the members that human beings would die of hunger in this world this year while thousands of men, women and children would die of malnutrition for lack of food. The energies of a free people should be bent for victory. Food will win the war, and he did not hesitate for a second to say that he was for any measure which would not only prevent people from being injured, but would save other people's lives.

Mr. Tracewell said prohibition was right and the people want it. He was proud to put the senate on record.

Mr. Cronin said he had a boy in France, and he wanted to help the boys abroad. Prohibition had been a success.

Mr. Radke said this was a war session. He need not talk to reasonable men on the proposition that we must have food for our men. The house had been called in special session to enact important war measures, but not one of them was half as important as this one. We can get along without the others. We can't without this measure. He pointed out that a pony keg of beer takes as much space in transportation as 2,000 cartridges for machine guns. Displacing the cartridges with beer might deprive machine guns of a supply at a critical moment. He had been in camps and knew liquor was going in.

Mr. Trumble said he had been for prohibition from the beginning, thirty years ago, and was glad to go again on record.

Mr. Hoffmeister said that maybe the governor had forgotten to include it in the call. President Wilson had told the mothers he would take care of the boys they sent and send them back as pure as when they came. No other nation had the stamina and courage to oppose the liquor interests and refuse to permit the sale of liquor within five miles of army camps or to men in uniform. If liquor was not safe for the boys it was not for the men.

Commenting on the action of the lower house on March 30, the Nebraska State Journal said editorially:

"The prompt action of the house of representatives in passing the prohibition ratification resolution with only two dissenting votes will put this question up to the senate this week in a way that can not be ignored. It is the most important of all the war measures now before the legislature of Nebraska. The ratification of this amendment by enough states to put it into effect in the next few months will save millions of dollars worth of grain, which is needed as much as anything else to win a victory in France. The senator who hold back his vote on any pretext is withholding much needed food from the American soldiers and their allies. The plea of doubtful legality has no real bearing on the case. Ratification now may hasten the shipment of food abroad. In no case can it damage or delay the cause that is so close to the heart of America.

"Intense interest has been aroused over the state by the attempt of the senate to escape a record vote on the ratification of the national prohibition amendment. As one of the members of the house said yesterday after the bill had been passed there with only two negative votes, 'This thing is no longer merely a moral question. It has gotten to be even bigger than that. We are fighting now to save grain for our armies and for the allies. We want to prevent the brewers, who are many of them aliens, from making one hundred million dollars a month profit, which they are willing to use if they can in corrupting our politics. The issue in the senate can not be clouded, although any number of people on the outside are trying to mix it up. It is now well understood that any vote cast for the Henry resolution is a vote to dodge the prohibition ratification, by all means now the most important thing before the people of the state. The members of the senate will be warned by the