

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 20, 1917

Mr. Nelson introduced the following bill, which was referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds and ordered to be printed.

A BILL

FEBRUARY 20, 1917.—Referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds and ordered to be printed.

By Mr. NELSON.

To increase the limit of cost for the proposed new Federal building and the site thereof.

A BILL

64TH CONGRESS, 2D Session, H. R. 20997.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FEBRUARY 20, 1917.

Mr. LUNDBERGH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

A BILL

To provide for an advisory referendum vote before a declaration of war by Congress.

- 1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
- 2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
- 3 That whenever the President of the United States shall
- 4 sever diplomatic relations with any foreign Government
- 5 without the consent of Congress previously obtained the
- 6 Director of the Bureau of the Census shall ascertain and
- 7 report to Congress the number of persons voting for and
- 8 against a declaration of war as hereinafter provided.

9 SEC. 2. That immediately upon the severance of diplo-

10 matic relations as aforesaid the Secretary of State shall

11 notify the Public Printer, who shall, within eight days

12 thereafter, cause to be printed and mailed to each post office

1 in the United States in the inverse order of distances from
 2 Washington, District of Columbia, a sufficient number of
 3 blank ballots to enable each adult, without regard to sex,
 4 residing within the limits of city delivery, rural delivery,
 5 and other postal service from such office (including its
 6 stations and branches from which mail deliveries are made),
 7 to vote for or against a declaration of war. The said ballots
 8 shall be printed in pairs, one original and one marked "Du-
 9 plicate," and shall be of such size and shape and bear such
 10 local identification marks as the Director of the Bureau of the
 11 Census may determine to be most suitable to enable the votes
 12 to be counted by congressional districts as rapidly as possible;
 13 and each ballot shall be printed in substantially the following
 14 form, namely:

15 "Shall the United States declare war against the
 16 Government of _____ (here insert name of country),
 17 with which Government our President has severed diplo-
 18 matic relations?

19 " (Signed) _____.

20 "Residing at _____ (place of residence).

21 "State of _____, in the _____ congressional district.

22 "Post office _____.

23 "Yes. No.

24 "Mark an X in one of the squares, and, on the oppo-
 25 site side, the address of the Bureau of the Census, Wash-

1 ington, District of Columbia, and the words "Official
 2 business." "

3 SEC. 3. That the Public Printer shall forward with the
 4 ballots sent to each post office printed notices announcing
 5 to the public that the ballots are available for distribution
 6 during a period of five days beginning at a date specified
 7 not more than ten days after receipt by the Public Printer
 8 of the notification from the Secretary of State; and each
 9 postmaster, or his deputy, shall immediately on receipt of
 10 the ballots cause the said printed notices to be posted in
 11 conspicuous places in the post office and in each branch or
 12 station under his jurisdiction. For a period of five days
 13 from the date specified in the notice the postmaster or his
 14 deputy shall distribute the ballots either directly or through
 15 the regular carrier service to persons entitled to vote on the
 16 question, in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

17 SEC. 4. That every citizen of the United States eighteen
 18 years of age and over, without regard to sex, shall be entitled
 19 to obtain one original and one duplicate of the ballots at the
 20 post office where he or she receives mail if there is no free
 21 delivery, or from the letter carrier if there is city delivery,
 22 or from a rural mail carrier if such person receives mail on
 23 a rural route from that office; and each such person shall be
 24 entitled to mark one original and one duplicate ballot and
 25 to mail the original ballot to the Bureau of the Census,

