

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION TO CONSIDER AND REPORT ON A FURTHER APPROPRIATE SITE FOR ANOTHER FITTING MEMORIAL TO THE MEN AND WOMEN OF MASSACHUSETTS WHO SERVED IN ALL WARS IN WHICH MASSACHUSETTS HAS PARTICIPATED.

[Ways and Means — Joint.]

NOVEMBER 29, 1930.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives.

The Massachusetts War Memorial Investigating Commission, appointed under authority of chapter 411 of the Acts of 1930, submits a preliminary report, as follows.

The act creating the Commission reads:

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 3. There is hereby established a special commission of nine members, five of whom shall be appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, one of whom shall be a member of the senate appointed by the president thereof, and three of whom shall be members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker thereof. The governor shall name the chairman. Said commission, which shall be known as the Massachusetts War Memorial Investigating Commission, is hereinafter called the investigating commission.

SECTION 4. The investigating commission shall consider and report on a further appropriate site for another fitting memorial to the men

and women of Massachusetts who served in all wars in which Massachusetts has participated, and as to the type and design of said memorial, and shall cause to be prepared drawings and estimates of the cost of said memorial, including the cost of the site, grading and other incidentals.

SECTION 5. The investigating commission shall be provided with quarters in the state house, shall hold one or more public hearings, and for traveling and other expenses and for expert, clerical and other assistance may expend, subject to the approval of the governor and council, such sum not exceeding fifteen thousand dollars as the general court may hereafter appropriate. The investigating commission shall report to the general court its findings and recommendations, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry its recommendations into effect, by filing the same with the clerk of the house of representatives not later than the first Wednesday of December of the current year, and at the same time shall file a copy thereof with the budget commissioner. *[Approved May 29, 1930.]*

On July 30, 1930, His Excellency Frank G. Allen appointed as members of the Commission:

Winthrop Murray Crane, Jr., of Pittsfield, chairman.

William Emerson of Boston.

Mrs. Bessie Hanken of Revere.

John J. O'Connell of Amherst.

Carroll J. Swan of Brookline.

On June 16, 1930, Hon. Gaspar G. Bacon, President of the Senate, appointed as the Senate member of the Commission:

Hon. Charles Ward Johnson of Worcester.

On June 18, 1930, Hon. Leverett Saltonstall, Speaker of the House of Representatives, appointed as the House members of the Commission:

Representative Horace T. Cahill of Braintree.

Representative Daniel J. Coakley of Chicopee.

Representative Martin Swanson of Worcester.

Subsequently, the Commission lost the services of two of its members, the chairman, Mr. Crane, and Mr. Emerson, both of whom resigned. To fill the vacancy, His Excellency, on August 13, 1930, appointed Charles B. Wheeler of Pittsfield as chairman, and on October

22, 1930, appointed Hallam L. Movius of Boston to fill that left by the resignation of Mr. Emerson.

The chairman was designated by His Excellency, as provided for in the act. To complete the organization, at its first meeting the Commission elected Joseph H. Dyson of Worcester as secretary.

The Commission has diligently pursued its duties, has held six public hearings, in Boston, Lowell, New Bedford, Worcester, Pittsfield and Springfield, and a number of executive sessions. It has invited expressions of opinions from all veterans' organizations in the State, as well as from private individuals. It has conducted research into the efforts of previous commissions to determine what plans have been found unacceptable. It has carefully considered all suggestions placed before it, and now finds that further time for study is required.

Accordingly, the Commission urgently recommends immediate action by the General Court in accordance with the proposed resolve herewith presented.

This resolve would extend the time of filing the report of the Commission on a further appropriate site for another fitting memorial to the men and women of Massachusetts who served in all wars in which Massachusetts has participated. It would extend the time for the completion of the Commission's work to on or before March 15, 1931.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES B. WHEELER, *Chairman,*

For the Commission.

JOSEPH H. DYSON,

Secretary.

RESOLVE AUTHORIZING CONTINUATION OF
COMMISSION.

Resolved, That the special unpaid commission established under sections three, four and five of chapter four hundred and eleven of the acts of nineteen hundred and thirty, to consider and report on a further appropriate site for another fitting memorial to the men and women of Massachusetts who served in all wars in which Massachusetts has participated, is hereby revived and continued. The report of said commission, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry its recommendations into effect, shall be filed with the clerk of the house of representatives on or before the fifteenth day of March in the year nineteen hundred and thirty-one.