

ing June 30, 1934, and like amounts for like purposes for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1934, and ending June 30, 1935, to enable the Veterans' Welfare Commission to "carry on" over the biennium.

If we understand your position aright, it is that as the amounts allowed for salaries and expenses are altogether insufficient to permit the Commission to function efficiently in behalf of the veterans and as the amounts allowed for relief are no more than a drop in the bucket anyway, some, or all of the latter should be used to pay a part of such salaries and expenses as the work of the Commission may necessitate.

Much as we may desire to do so, we cannot assent to, or sanction the proposed arrangement for it has neither constitutional nor judicial support. "No money," says the Constitution, "shall be paid out of the treasury except upon appropriations made by law, and on warrant drawn by the proper officer in pursuance thereof, except interest on the public debt." (Sec. 34, Art. V.) And again, "\* \* \* no money shall be drawn from the treasury but in pursuance of specific appropriations made by law." (Sec. 10, Art. XII).

These provisions are clear and unambiguous and mean just what they say. Therefore, money appropriated by the legislature for one purpose may not be expended for another and different purpose, even though there be some connection between them. (In re Pomeroy, 51 Mont. 119; First National Bank v. Sanders County, 85 Mont. 450; Henderson v. Hovey, 27 Pac. 177; Boyd v. Dunbar, 75 Pac. 695.)

It would be unfortunate, indeed, if the economy practiced in this instance by the last legislative assembly should result in seriously crippling the Commission in the fine work it has been doing for the veterans of Montana, over a period of 12 or 14 years, but when all is said and done the law-making body, acting within the Constitution, is supreme in matters relating to appropriations; it knows no master except the combined conscience of its members; its work, be it for good or evil, controls us all.

We do not think the appropriation bill in question here was intended to amend or does amend the Veterans Welfare Commission Act.

### Opinion No. 315

#### Appropriations—Veterans' Welfare Commission.

HELD: Money appropriated by the legislature for one purpose for the Veterans' Welfare Commission may not be expended for another and different purpose, even though there be some connection between them.

August 19, 1933.

We have carefully read your exhaustive request of recent date relating to the appropriation of funds made by the Twenty-third Legislative Assembly for the Veterans' Welfare Commission.

It appears that the legislature appropriated \$3,500.00 for salaries and expenses and \$3,500.00 for gifts and relief to war veterans for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1933, and end-