

showing the actual original cost of constructing such bridge and approaches, including the actual cost of acquiring interests in real property and actual financing and promotion costs. Within three years after the completion of such bridge, the Secretary of War may investigate the actual cost of such bridge, and for such purpose the said G. S. Beckwith, his heirs, legal representatives and assigns, shall make available to the Secretary of War all of his or their records in connection with the financing and construction thereof. The findings of the Secretary of War as to such actual original cost shall be conclusive, subject only to review in a court of equity for fraud or gross mistake.

Investigation by Secretary of War.

Findings of Secretary conclusive.

SEC. 6. The right to sell, assign, transfer, and mortgage all the rights, powers, and privileges conferred by this Act is hereby granted to the said G. S. Beckwith, his heirs, legal representatives, and assigns, and any corporation to which such rights, powers, and privileges may be sold, assigned, or transferred, or which shall acquire the same by mortgage foreclosure or otherwise, is hereby authorized and empowered to exercise the same as fully as though conferred herein directly upon such corporation.

Authority to sell, etc.

SEC. 7. The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Amendment.

Approved, May 5, 1926.

CHAP. 246.—Joint Resolution To authorize the American National Red Cross to continue the use of temporary buildings now erected on square numbered 172, in Washington, District of Columbia.

May 5, 1926.
[S. J. Res. 55.]
[Pub. Res., No. 25.]

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That authority be, and is hereby, given to the central committee of the American National Red Cross to continue the use of such temporary buildings as are now erected upon square numbered 172, in the city of Washington, for the use of the American Red Cross in connection with its work in cooperation with the Government of the United States until such time as hereafter may be designated by Congress: Provided, That the United States shall be put to no expense of any kind by reason of the exercise of the authority hereby conferred.

American Red Cross.
Use of temporary buildings, Washington, D. C., by, may be continued.
Vol. 43, p. 975.

Proviso.
No Government expense for.

Approved, May 5, 1926.

CHAP. 250.—An Act For the acquisition of buildings and grounds in foreign countries for the use of the Government of the United States of America.

May 7, 1926.
[H. R. 10200.]
[Public, No. 186.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of State is empowered, subject to the direction of the commission hereinafter established, to acquire by purchase or construction in the manner hereinafter provided, within the limits of appropriations made pursuant to this Act, in foreign capitals and in other foreign cities, sites and buildings, and to alter, repair, and furnish such buildings, for the use of the diplomatic and consular establishments of the United States, or for the purpose of consolidating, to the extent deemed advisable by the commission, within one or more buildings, the embassies, legations, consulates, and other agencies of the United States Government there maintained, which buildings shall be appropriately designated by the commission, and the space in which shall be allotted by the Secretary of State under the direction of the commission among the several agencies of the United States Government.

Foreign Service Buildings Act, 1926.
Acquisition of buildings, etc., in foreign countries authorized for use of the Government.

Allotment of space in buildings.

Foreign Service
Buildings Commission
established.
Composition.

SEC. 2. (a) There is hereby established a joint commission, to be known as the Foreign Service Buildings Commission, and to be composed of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Commerce, the chairman and the ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, and the chairman and the ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives. A member of the commission may continue to serve as a member thereof until his successor has qualified.

Duties of Commission.

(b) It shall be the duty of the commission to consider, formulate, and approve plans and proposals for the acquisition and utilization of the sites and buildings authorized by section 1, and of sites and buildings heretofore acquired or authorized for the use of the diplomatic and consular establishments in foreign countries, including the initial furnishings of such buildings and the initial alteration and repair of purchased buildings and grounds. The commission established by the Act entitled "An Act making appropriations for the Diplomatic and Consular Service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1922," approved March 2, 1921, is hereby abolished.

Former commission
abolished.
Vol. 41, p. 1214.

Rules to be prescribed.
Annual report.

(c) The commission shall prescribe rules and regulations for carrying into effect the provisions of this Act, and shall make an annual report to the Congress.

Use for offices, residences, etc.

SEC. 3. Buildings and grounds acquired under this Act or heretofore acquired or authorized for the use of the diplomatic and consular establishments in foreign countries may, subject to the direction of the commission, be used, in the case of buildings and grounds for the diplomatic establishment, as Government offices or residences or as such offices and residences; or, in the case of other buildings and grounds, as such offices or such offices and residences. The contracts for all work of construction, alteration, and repair under this Act are authorized to be negotiated, the terms of the contracts to be prescribed, and the work to be performed, where necessary, in the judgment of the commission, without regard to such statutory provisions as relate to the negotiation, making, and performance of contracts and performance of work in the United States.

Contracts for construction repair, etc., authorized.

Foreign Service
Building Fund.
Total authorized for.
Post, p. 866.

SEC. 4. For the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this Act there is hereby authorized to be appropriated an amount not exceeding \$10,000,000, and the appropriations made pursuant to this authorization shall constitute a fund to be known as the Foreign Service Building Fund, to remain available until expended. Under this authorization not more than \$2,000,000 shall be appropriated for any one year, but within the total authorization provided in this Act the Secretary of State, subject to the direction of the commission, may enter into contracts for the acquisition of the buildings and grounds authorized by this Act. In the case of the buildings and grounds authorized by this Act, after the initial alterations, repairs, and furnishing have been completed, subsequent expenditures for such purposes shall not be made out of the appropriations authorized by this Act.

Annual limitation.

Fund not available after completion of initial alterations, etc.

Plans to be formulated for use of Commission.

SEC. 5. The Secretary of State is empowered, subject to the direction of the commission, to collect information and to formulate plans for the use of the commission and to supervise and preserve the diplomatic and consular properties of the United States in foreign countries and the properties acquired under this Act. In the collection of such information and in the formulation of such plans he may, subject to the direction of the commission, obtain such special architectural or other expert technical services as may be necessary and pay therefor, not exceeding in any case 5 per centum of the cost of construction or remodeling of the properties in respect to which said special services are rendered,

Employment of special architectural and technical services
Compensation.

from such appropriations as Congress may make under this Act, without regard to civil service laws or regulations and the provisions of the Classification Act of 1923.

SEC. 6. The authority granted to acquire sites and buildings by purchase shall, in cases where it is impossible to acquire title, be construed as authority to acquire the property by lease for a term sufficiently long, in the judgment of the commission, to be practically equivalent to the acquisition of title.

Leases authorized if titles not obtainable.

SEC. 7. The Act entitled "An Act providing for the purchase or erection, within certain limits of cost, of embassy, legation, and consular buildings abroad," approved February 17, 1911, is repealed, but such repeal shall not invalidate appropriations already made under the authority of such Act.

Former authorization for buildings repealed. Vol. 39, p. 917, repealed.

SEC. 8. This Act may be cited as the "Foreign Service Buildings Act, 1926."

Title of Act.

Approved, May 7, 1926.

CHAP. 251.—An Act To authorize the transfer to the jurisdiction of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia of a certain portion of the Anacostia Park for use as a tree nursery.

May 7, 1926.
[S. 2853.]
[Public, No. 187.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Director of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital is hereby authorized and directed to transfer to the jurisdiction of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia the following-described United States land, being a part of Anacostia Park, for use as a tree nursery, viz: Beginning at the northeast corner of parcel 239/1 (sewage disposal plant), thence running with the northern line of said parcel, south eighty-eight degrees twenty-five minutes thirty seconds west, one hundred and fifty-two and thirty-nine one-hundredths feet to the southeast corner of that part of section B assigned to the Army Air Service, and shown by map on file in the United States Engineer Department designated "File B-38-66," and dated March 14, 1921; thence running with the eastern line of said portion of section B north zero degrees five minutes twenty-nine seconds east one thousand two hundred and thirty-four and twenty-five one-hundredths feet to intersect the outer face of the sea wall on the left bank of the Anacostia River, said point of intersection being the northeast corner of the aforementioned portion of section B as assigned to the Army Air Service; thence leaving said portion and running with the outer face of the said sea wall, and deflecting to the right with the arc of a circle the radius of which is six hundred and ninety-six and two-tenths feet, northeasterly five hundred and eighty-one and ninety-six one-hundredths feet to a point of tangency; thence still with said outer face south seventy-one degrees fifty minutes fifty-four seconds east five hundred and twenty-one and fifty-two one-hundredths feet, more or less; thence leaving the said sea wall and running due south one thousand five hundred and ninety-eight feet, more or less, to intersect the original high water line of the Anacostia River; thence with said line north sixty-three degrees eleven minutes west one hundred and sixty-seven and sixty-one one-hundredths feet, north fifty-six degrees nine minutes west one hundred and nine and thirteen one-hundredths feet, north fifty-seven degrees fifty-six minutes west ninety-five and eighty-six one-hundredths feet, north forty-six degrees thirty-eight minutes west one hundred and seventy-three and forty-seven one-hundredths feet, north forty-seven degrees thirty-one minutes west one hundred and thirty-nine and fifty-seven

District of Columbia.
Portion of Anacostia Park transferred to, for a tree nursery.

Description.