

manner as they shall require, an annual budget itemizing the appropriations necessary to the proper discharge of the duties imposed by law upon the board and for the support and maintenance of the institutions under its management. The board shall also submit to the commissioners an annual report of its activities and the work carried on under its direction, together with its recommendations for securing more efficient and humane care for all persons in need of public assistance. The board shall study from time to time the social and environmental conditions of the District of Columbia and shall incorporate in its reports the results thereof and recommendations designed to further safeguard the interests and well-being of the children of the District of Columbia and to diminish and ameliorate poverty and disease and to lessen crime. Except in the placement of children in institutions under the public control, the board shall when practicable place them in institutions or homes of the same religious faith as the parents: *Provided*, That whenever the board shall for any reason place the child with any organization, institution, or individual other than of the same religious faith as that of the parents of the child, the board shall set forth the reason for such action in the record of the case. Inmates of public institutions shall be given the fullest opportunity for the practice of their religion.

Report of activities.

Studies of social conditions in relation to children to be made.

Children to be placed in institutions, etc., of religious faith of parents.

Proviso.
Record if placed elsewhere.

Religious freedom to inmates of institutions.

Effective July 1, 1926.

SEC. 14. The provisions of this Act shall take effect on and after July 1, 1926.

SEC. 15. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

Inconsistent laws repealed.

Approved, March 16, 1926.

CHAP. 59.—An Act Granting the consent of Congress to the State of Georgia and the counties of Long and Wayne, in said State, to construct a bridge across the Altamaha River, in the State of Georgia, at a point near Ludowici, Georgia.

March 16, 1926.
[H. R. 6710.]

[Public, No. 43.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the consent of Congress is hereby granted to the State of Georgia, and the counties of Long and Wayne in said State, to construct, maintain, and operate a bridge and approaches thereto across the Altamaha River at a point suitable to the interests of navigation, near Ludowici, Long County, State of Georgia, in accordance with the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to regulate the construction of bridges over navigable waters," approved March 23, 1906: *Provided*, That such bridge shall not be constructed or commenced until the plans and specifications thereof shall have been submitted to and approved by the Secretary of War and the Chief of Engineers as being also satisfactory from the standpoint of the volume and weight of the traffic which will pass over it.

Altamaha River, Georgia, etc., may bridge, near Ludowici.

Construction.
Vol. 34, p. 84.*Proviso.*
Traffic requirements.

SEC. 2. The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Amendment.

Approved, March 16, 1926.

CHAP. 60.—An Act For the purpose of reclaiming certain lands in Indian and private ownership within and immediately adjacent to the Lummi Indian Reservation, in the State of Washington, and for other purposes.

March 18, 1926.
[H. R. 60.]

[Public, No. 49.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is hereby authorized to be appropriated the sum of \$65,000, or so much thereof as may be required, for reclaiming by construction of dikes

Lummi Indian Reservation, Wash.
Reclamation of lands in, authorized.
Post, p. 856.

- approximately four thousand acres of lands in Indian and private ownership within and immediately adjacent to the Lummi Indian Reservation, in the State of Washington: *Provided*, That the total cost of the project shall be distributed equitably among the lands in Indian ownership and the lands in private ownership that may be benefited in accordance with the benefits received as designated by the Secretary of the Interior.
- Proviso.**
Cost distributed among lands benefited.
- Reimbursement of charge against Indian lands.**
- Repayment contract required of private owners of benefited lands.**
- Public notice of cost and assessment against benefited lands.**
- Installment payments.**
- Rule, etc., to be prescribed.**
- SEC. 2.** The construction charge properly assessable against the Indian lands shall be reimbursed to the Treasury of the United States under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe, and there is hereby created a lien against all such lands, which lien shall be recited in any patent issued therefor, prior to the reimbursement of the total amount chargeable against such lands.
- SEC. 3.** No part of the sum provided for herein shall be expended for construction on account of any lands in private ownership until an appropriate repayment contract in accordance with the terms of this Act and in form approved by the Secretary of the Interior shall have been properly executed by the landowners whose lands may be benefited by the project.
- SEC. 4.** The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized and directed to declare by public notice the cost of the project and the equitable share to be assessed against the lands benefited in accordance with their respective benefits, which cost shall be repaid in annual installments, the first installment to be 5 per centum of the total charge and be due and payable on the 1st day of December of the third year following the date of such public notice, the remainder of the said cost with interest on deferred amounts against land in private ownership from the date of said public notice to be 4 per centum per annum, to be payable on each December 1 thereafter, on the same basis as the first installment, until the obligation is paid in full.
- SEC. 5.** The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to perform any and all acts and to make such rules and regulations as may be necessary and proper for the purpose of carrying the provisions of this Act into full force and effect.

Approved, March 18, 1926.

March 18, 1926.
[H. R. 6374.]

[Public, No. 50.]

CHAP. 61.—An Act To authorize the employment of consulting engineers on plans and specifications of the Coolidge Dam.

San Carlos Irrigation project, Ariz.
Consulting engineers for Coolidge Dam, authorized.
Vol. 43, p. 475.
Post, p. 944.

Compensation, etc., limited.

Proviso.
Retired Army officer may be employed.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in carrying into effect the provisions of the Act of June 7, 1924 (Forty-third Statutes at Large, page 476), entitled "An Act for the continuance of construction work on the San Carlos Federal irrigation project in Arizona and for other purposes," the Secretary of the Interior is authorized, in his judgment and discretion, to employ for consultations on plans and specifications for the Coolidge Dam, as he may deem necessary, the services of not more than three experienced engineers, determined by him to have the necessary qualifications, without regard to civil service requirements, and at rates of compensation to be fixed by him for each respectively, but not to exceed \$50 per day and necessary traveling expenses including a per diem of not to exceed \$4 in lieu of subsistence for each engineer, respectively, not exceeding in the aggregate more than \$3,500 for any engineer so employed for the time employed and actually engaged upon such work: *Provided*, That a retired officer of the Army may be employed by the Secretary of the Interior as consulting engineer in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

Approved, March 18, 1926.