

Disposition if owner fails to redeem.

"SEC. 3. If any such owner to whom compensation has been paid or a tender of compensation has been made shall fail, within a reasonable time after notice (which time shall be specified in the notice but may be extended by the Administrator) to make arrangements satisfactory to the Administrator for such return of the vessel or shall expressly waive the right thereto, the Administrator may advertise the vessel for sale upon competitive sealed bids subject to such terms and conditions as the Administrator may prescribe, including in the case of any vessel used in the commercial fisheries or industries related thereto immediately prior to the acquisition of such vessel by the United States, a requirement that the vessel will not be used for a period of two years from date of sale, other than in the commercial fisheries or industries related thereto: *Provided, however,* That the Administrator may reject any bid which does not equal the purchase price or compensation paid or payable by the United States for such vessel less a reasonable allowance to cover the cost of reconditioning as hereinabove defined.

Rejection of certain bids.

Deduction for expenses.

"SEC. 4. The Administrator may withhold from the funds received for the return or sale of any such vessel the expenses incurred by him in such return or sale, and shall pay over the balance of such receipts to the department or agency by which such vessel was made available."

Approved May 18, 1944.

[CHAPTER 200]

AN ACT

Relating to the appointment of postmasters.

May 20, 1944
[H. R. 1565]
[Public Law 306]

Postal Service.
Appointment of postmasters.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That no postmaster at an office of the fourth class shall be required, in the event such office is advanced to the third class, to pass any competitive or noncompetitive examination as a condition to appointment or service as postmaster at the office so advanced; and no postmaster at an office of the third class shall be required, in the event such office is relegated to the fourth class, to pass any competitive or noncompetitive examination as a condition to appointment or service as postmaster at the office so relegated; and any postmaster or acting postmaster of the fourth or third class who has passed a civil-service examination at any time and has given service satisfactory to the Department may be reappointed without further civil-service examination.

Approved May 20, 1944.

[CHAPTER 201]

JOINT RESOLUTION

To provide assistance to farmers whose property was destroyed or damaged, in whole or in part, by floods and windstorms in 1944, in order to enable them to continue farming operations to produce food for the war effort.

May 20, 1944
[H. J. Res. 280]
[Public Law 307]

Flood and wind-storm damage.
Assistance to farmers.
57 Stat. 542.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the balance of the appropriation of \$15,000,000 made in the Second Deficiency Appropriation Act, 1943, for 1943 flood restoration loans, is hereby also made available until June 30, 1945, to enable the Secretary of Agriculture, in such manner and upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe, to make loans and grants to farmers whose property is destroyed or damaged by floods and windstorms (not to exceed \$1,000,000 in the