

Mining of potash. **SEC. 9.** The second sentence of section 3 of the Act entitled "An Act to promote the mining of potash on the public domain", approved February 7, 1927, as amended (44 Stat. 1057, 30 U. S. C., sec. 283), is amended to read as follows: "Any lease issued under this Act shall be for a term of twenty years and so long thereafter as the lessee complies with the terms and conditions of the lease and upon the further condition that at the end of each twenty-year period succeeding the date of the lease such reasonable adjustment of the terms and conditions thereof may be made therein as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior unless otherwise provided by law at the expiration of such periods. Leases shall be conditioned upon a minimum annual production or the payment of a minimum royalty in lieu thereof, except when production is interrupted by strikes, the elements, or casualties not attributable to the lessee. The Secretary of the Interior may permit suspension of operations under any such leases when marketing conditions are such that the leases cannot be operated except at a loss. The Secretary upon application by the lessee prior to the expiration of any existing lease in good standing shall amend such lease to provide for the same tenure and to contain the same conditions, including adjustment at the end of each twenty-year period succeeding the date of said lease, as provided for in this Act."

Period of lease.

Condition.

Suspension of operations.

Amendment of lease.

Approved June 3, 1948.

[CHAPTER 380]

AN ACT

June 3, 1948
[S. 1035]
[Public Law 577]

To provide for the acquisition of the hospital at Camp White, Medford, Oregon, and Schick General Hospital, Clinton, Iowa, for use as domiciliary facilities by the Veterans' Administration.

Veterans' Administration.
Camp White Hospital.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is authorized and directed to acquire from the War Assets Administration the tract of land with improvements thereon formerly used for hospital purposes at Camp White, Medford, Oregon, and known as Camp White Hospital, and to operate and maintain thereon a facility for domiciliary care for veterans.

Schick General Hospital.

SEC. 2. That the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is authorized and directed to acquire from the War Assets Administration the tract of land with improvements thereon formerly used for hospital purposes at Clinton, Iowa, and known as Schick General Hospital, and to operate and maintain thereon a facility for domiciliary care for veterans.

Approved June 3, 1948.

[CHAPTER 381]

AN ACT

June 3, 1948
[H. R. 1608]
[Public Law 578]

To amend an Act entitled "An Act to authorize the Postmaster General to contract for certain powerboat service in Alaska, and for other purposes", approved August 10, 1939 (53 Stat. 1338).

30 U. S. C. § 487a.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act entitled "An Act to authorize the Postmaster General to contract for certain powerboat service in Alaska, and for other purposes", approved August 10, 1939 (53 Stat. 1338), is amended by striking out "\$125,000" and inserting in lieu thereof "\$250,000".

Approved June 3, 1948.

[CHAPTER 382]

AN ACT

To reduce in area the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge in Essex County, Massachusetts, and for other purposes.

June 3, 1948
[H. R. 3578]
[Public Law 579]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge in Essex County, Massachusetts, is hereby reduced in area by eliminating therefrom those portions of the refuge designated and known as the Crane Pond, Downfall, and Mill Creek Areas, and the Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed to dispose of all of the interests of the United States in such areas in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, Mass.
Reduction of area.

SEC. 2. (a) Within ninety days following the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall mail, to each prior owner of such lands within the three areas designated in section 1 as have been acquired by the United States by direct purchase or the ownership of which has been determined and compensation therefor paid to the prior owner thereof in the condemnation proceeding entitled "United States v. 12,367.47 Acres More or Less of Land Situate in Essex County, Massachusetts, Civil No. 7010, in the District Court of the United States for the District of Massachusetts", or in any other condemnation proceeding instituted by the United States for the acquisition of lands for the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, a notice stating in effect that title to the lands acquired from such prior owner will be reconveyed to that prior owner upon payment to the United States, within sixty days after the receipt of such notice, of an amount equal to the purchase price paid by the United States for such lands. Upon receipt of payment from the prior owner of the lands in question, the Secretary of the Interior shall convey all right, title, and interest of the United States in such land to the prior owner thereof.

Reconveyance of land to prior owner.

(b) With respect to such other lands as lie within the three areas designated in section 1 and are included in the condemnation proceeding or proceedings referred to, and compensation for the taking of which has not been paid to the prior owners thereof, the Attorney General of the United States is authorized and directed to exclude the same from the condemnation proceedings entitled "United States v. 12,367.47 Acres More or Less of Land Situate in Essex County, Massachusetts, Civil No. 7010, in the District Court of the United States for the District of Massachusetts", or any other condemnation proceeding instituted by the United States for the acquisition of lands for the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, in accordance with the provisions of the Act of October 21, 1942 (56 Stat. 797; 40 U. S. C., Supp. 258f), within ninety days following the date of enactment of this Act or within such additional period as the court in such proceeding may determine to be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Act.

Exclusion from condemnation proceedings.

40 U. S. C. § 258f.

(c) Such lands lying within the boundaries of the areas designated in section 1, the title to which cannot be returned to the prior owners thereof in accordance with the provisions of this section, shall be disposed of in such manner and at such prices as the Secretary of the Interior may deem to be in the best interests of the United States.

Lands not returned to prior owners.

SEC. 3. All moneys paid to the United States in accordance with the provisions of section 2, for the reconveyance of lands to prior owners or in connection with the disposition of such lands as provided therein, all moneys on deposit with the District Court of the United

Credit to certain appropriations.