

Condemnation proceedings.

Appeal.

Payment of determined value into court.

Distribution to owners.

Appropriation.

The Attorney General or the claimants to the said North Island are authorized to make application for the determination and appraisal of any rights private parties may have in the said island over and beyond any rights thereto in the United States to the District Court of the United States for the Southern District of California; the proceedings to be prosecuted in accordance with the laws of the State of California relating to the condemnation of property for public use. Either party may take an appeal from the judgment of such court direct to the Supreme Court of the United States within ninety days after such judgment is rendered. Upon the final ascertainment of the value of any right, title, or interest adjudged to be in any private claimants to the said island there shall be paid into court the value of the same as so determined, together with interest thereon at the rate of six per centum per annum from date possession thereof was taken as herein authorized; and thereupon the United States shall be vested with title to said lands. The amount so paid shall be distributed by order of the court to the owner or owners of such right, title, or interest in said island as their respective interests may be determined by the court. The amount necessary to pay the awards in favor of private claimants is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise specifically appropriated. to be disbursed under orders of the Secretary of War.

Approved, July 27, 1917.

July 28, 1917.
[S. 1811.]

[Public, No. 32]

Public lands.
Service in time of war
accepted for homestead
residence, etc., require-
ments.

Enlistment term
equivalent to residence
if discharged for dis-
ability.

Proviso.
Residence before
issue of patent.

Heirs of settlers, etc.,
dying in service to re-
ceive patent.

CHAP. 44.—An Act For the relief of homestead entrymen or settlers who enter the military or naval service of the United States in time of war.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any settler upon the public lands of the United States; or any entryman whose application has been allowed; or any person who has made application for public lands which thereafter may be allowed under the homestead laws, who, after such settlement, entry, or application, enlists or is actually engaged in the military or naval service of the United States as a private soldier, officer, seaman, marine, national guardsman, or member of any other organization for offense or defense authorized by Congress during any war in which the United States may be engaged, shall, in the administration of the homestead laws, have his services therein construed to be equivalent to all intents and purposes to residence and cultivation for the same length of time upon the tract entered or settled upon; and hereafter no contest shall be initiated on the ground of abandonment, nor allegation of abandonment sustained against any such settler, entryman, or person unless it shall be alleged in the preliminary affidavit or affidavits of contest and proved at the hearing in cases hereinafter initiated that the alleged absence from the land was not due to his employment in such military or naval service; that if he shall be discharged on account of wounds received or disability incurred in the line of duty, then the term of his enlistment shall be deducted from the required length of residence, without reference to the time of actual service: *Provided*, That no patent shall issue to any homestead settler who has not resided upon, improved, and cultivated his homestead for a period of at least one year.

SEC. 2. That any settler upon the public lands of the United States; or any entryman whose application has been allowed; or any person who has made application for public lands which thereafter may be allowed under the homestead laws, who dies while actually engaged in the military or naval service of the United States as a private soldier, officer, seaman, marine, national guardsman, or member of any other organization for offense or defense authorized by Congress

during any war in which the United States may be engaged, then his widow, if unmarried, or in case of her death or marriage, his minor orphan children, or his or their legal representatives, may proceed forthwith to make final proof upon such entry or application thereafter allowed, and shall be entitled to receive Government patent for such land; and that the death of such soldier while so engaged in the service of the United States shall, in the administration of the homestead laws, be construed to be equivalent to a performance of all requirements as to residence and cultivation upon such homestead.

Approved, July 28, 1917.

CHAP. 45.—An Act To authorize the county of Cass, in the State of Indiana, to construct a bridge across the Wabash River east of the city of Logansport, at a point known as Cedar or Rock Island, in said Wabash River.

July 28, 1917.
[S. 2106.]

[Public, No. 33.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the county of Cass, State of Indiana, is hereby authorized to construct, maintain, and operate a bridge and approaches thereto across the Wabash River, at a point suitable to the interests of navigation, at a place east of the city of Logansport, at a point known as Cedar or Rock Island, in said Wabash River, in the State of Indiana, in accordance with the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to regulate the construction of bridges over navigable waters," approved March twenty-third, nineteen hundred and six.

Wabash River.
Cass County, Ind.,
may bridge, near Lo-
gansport.

Construction.
Vol. 34, p. 84.

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

Amendment.

Approved, July 28, 1917.

CHAP. 46.—An Act Granting the consent of Congress to the Pritchard-Wheeler Lumber Company, of Wisner, Louisiana, to construct a bridge across Bayou Macon, in Louisiana, at a point east of the town of Wisner, Louisiana.

July 28, 1917.
[S. 2667.]

[Public, No. 34.]

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 Pritchard-Wheeler Lumber Company, of Wisner, Louisiana, and to its successors and assigns, to construct, maintain, and operate a bridge and approaches thereto across the Bayou Macon at a point suitable to the interests of navigation, at or near a point east of the town of Wisner, Louisiana, in the parish of Franklin, in the State of Louisiana, in accordance with the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to regulate the construction of bridges over navigable waters," approved March twenty-third, nineteen hundred and six.

Bayou Macon.
Pritchard-Wheeler,
Lumber Company may
bridge, Wisner, La.

Construction.
Vol. 34, p. 84.

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

Amendment.

Approved, July 28, 1917

CHAP. 47.—An Act To authorize the construction, maintenance, and operation of a bridge across Little River, at or near the foot of the gar hole about one-half mile south of the Jonesboro, Lake City and Eastern Railway bridge across Little River, Arkansas.

August 3, 1917.
[S. 2685.]

[Public, No. 35.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the county of Mississippi, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Arkansas, its successors and assigns, be, and they are hereby, authorized to construct, maintain, and operate a bridge and ap-

Little River.
Mississippi County,
Ark., may bridge.