

*Provisos.*  
Laws repealed.

Naval Volunteers.  
Service of officers on  
courts-martial.  
Vol. 39, p. 597, re-  
pealed.

Naval Militia.

Service of officers on  
courts-martial.  
Vol. 39, p. 285, re-  
pealed.

Conflicting laws re-  
pealed.

Coast Guard, Lighthouse Service, Coast and Geodetic Survey, and Public Health Service are hereby empowered to serve on naval courts-martial and deck courts under such regulations necessary for the proper administration of justice and in the interests of the services involved, as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Navy: *Provided*, That so much of the Act approved August twenty-ninth, nineteen hundred and sixteen (Thirty-ninth Statutes, page five hundred and fifty-six), as reads as follows:

"That when serving under the call of the President, officers of said Volunteers may serve on courts-martial for the trial of officers and men of the United States Naval or Naval Militia service, or of said Volunteers, but in the cases of courts-martial convened for the trial of officers or enlisted men of the United States Navy or Marine Corps, the majority of the members shall be officers of the Regular Naval service, and officers and enlisted men of the said Volunteers may be tried by courts-martial, the members of which are members of the Regular Naval service, or of said Volunteers, or any or all of the same," is hereby repealed.

*Provided further*, That so much of the Naval Militia Act of February sixteenth, nineteen hundred and fourteen (Thirty-eighth Statutes, page two hundred and eighty-three), as reads as follows:

"That when in the service of the United States officers of the Naval Militia may serve on courts-martial for the trial of officers and men of the Regular or Naval Militia service, but in the cases of courts-martial convened for the trial of officers of the Regular service, the majority of the members shall be officers of the Regular service; and officers and men of the Naval Militia may be tried by courts-martial the members of which are officers of the Regular or Naval Militia service, or both," is hereby repealed.

*And provided further*, That any Act or parts of Acts in conflict with the provisions hereof are hereby repealed.

Approved, October 6, 1917.

October 6, 1917.  
[S. 2527.]

[Public, No. 79.]

Army.  
Chaplains at large.  
Number increased  
during the war.  
Vol. 39, p. 176.

*Proviso.*  
Only citizens eligible.

**CHAP. 94.**—An Act Authorizing appointment of chaplains at large for the United States Army.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the President may appoint for service during the present emergency not exceeding twenty chaplains at large for the United States Army representing religious sects not recognized in the apportionment of chaplains now recognized by law: *Provided*, That no person shall be eligible to such appointment unless he be at the time of his appointment a citizen of the United States.

Approved, October 6, 1917.

October 6, 1917.  
[S. 2531.]

[Public, No. 80.]

Patents.  
Withheld during war  
if disclosure of inven-  
tion detrimental, etc.  
Post, p. 422.

*Proviso.*  
Held to be aban-  
doned if published, etc.

**CHAP. 95.**—An Act To prevent the publication of inventions by the grant of patents that might be detrimental to the public safety or convey useful information to the enemy, to stimulate invention, and provide adequate protection to owners of patents, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That whenever during a time when the United States is at war the publication of an invention by the granting of a patent might, in the opinion of the Commissioner of Patents, be detrimental to the public safety or defense or might assist the enemy or endanger the successful prosecution of the war he may order that the invention be kept secret and withhold the grant of a patent until the termination of the war: *Provided*, That the invention disclosed in the application for said patent may be

held abandoned upon it being established before or by the commissioner that in violation of said order said invention has been published or that an application for a patent therefor has been filed in a foreign country by the inventor or his assigns or legal representatives, without the consent or approval of the Commissioner of Patents, or under a license of the Secretary of Commerce as provided by law.

When an applicant whose patent is withheld as herein provided and who faithfully obeys the order of the Commissioner of Patents above referred to shall tender his invention to the Government of the United States for its use, he shall, if and when he ultimately received a patent, have the right to sue for compensation in the Court of Claims, such right to compensation to begin from the date of the use of the invention by the Government.

Approved, October 6, 1917.

Compensation if invention tendered to the Government by patentee.

Suit authorized.

**CHAP. 96.**—An Act Granting the consent of Congress to the Wolf Creek Lumber Company to maintain a bridge already constructed across Tug River.

October 6, 1917.  
[S. 2663.]

[Public, No. 81.]

*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 Wolf Creek Lumber Company, and its successors and assigns, to maintain and operate, 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, a bridge and approaches thereto already constructed across the Tug River at or near Wolf Creek near Kermit, West Virginia, in the county of Mingo, in the State of West Virginia, which bridge is hereby declared to have been constructed 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.

Tug River.  
Wolf Creek Lumber Company may operate, etc., bridge across, Kermit, W. Va.

Construction approved.

Vol. 34, p. 84.

Amendment.

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

Approved, October 6, 1917.

**CHAP. 97.**—An Act To amend sections twenty-four and two hundred and fifty-six of the Judicial Code, relating to the jurisdiction of the district courts, so as to save to claimants the rights and remedies under the workmen's compensation law of any State.

October 6, 1917.  
[S. 2916.]

[Public, No. 82.]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That clause three of section twenty-four of the Judicial Code is hereby amended to read as follows: "Third. Of all civil causes of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction, saving to suitors in all cases the right of a common-law remedy where the common law is competent to give it, and to claimants the rights and remedies under the workmen's compensation law of any State; of all seizures on land or waters not within admiralty and maritime jurisdiction; of all prizes brought into the United States; and of all proceedings for the condemnation of property taken as prize."

Judicial Code.  
Vol. 36, p. 1091, amended.  
District courts.  
Jurisdiction in admiralty and maritime causes.  
Extended to State workmen's compensation laws.

SEC. 2. That clause three of section two hundred and fifty-six of the Judicial Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Exclusive jurisdiction of United States courts.  
Vol. 36, p. 1161, amended.  
Admiralty and maritime causes.  
State workmen's compensation laws added.

"Third. Of all civil causes of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction, saving to suitors in all cases the right of a common-law remedy where the common law is competent to give it, and to claimants the rights and remedies under the workmen's compensation law of any State."

Approved, October 6, 1917.