

[CHAPTER 127]

AN ACT

To authorize the acquisition, improvement, and maintenance of the Gulf County Canal, Florida.

June 17, 1943
[H. R. 1403]
[Public Law 75]

Gulf County Canal,
Fla.

56 Stat. 703.

Adoption as Federal
Project.

Dredging.

Appropriation au-
thorized.

Availability of other
funds.
56 Stat. 1005.

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 promote the national defense and to promptly facilitate and protect the transport of materials and supplies needful to the Military Establishment by authorizing the construction and operation of a pipe line and a navigable barge channel across Florida, and by deepening and enlarging the Intracoastal Waterway from its present eastern terminus to the vicinity of the Mexican border", approved July 23, 1942, is amended by striking out section 2 thereof and adding at the end thereof the following:

"SEC. 2. The Gulf County Canal and its right-of-way which connects the channel extending from the Apalachicola River to Saint Andrews Bay, Florida, with Saint Josephs Bay, Florida, is hereby adopted as a Federal project and authorized to be prosecuted as speedily as may be consistent with budgetary requirements, under the direction of the Secretary of War and supervision of the Chief of Engineers, in accordance with the plans and subject to the conditions recommended in the report submitted in House Document Numbered 257, Seventy-sixth Congress: *Provided, That,* with the consent of the Board of County Commissioners of Gulf County, Florida, and pending fulfillment of the condition specified in said document that the existing canal and its right-of-way be conveyed to the United States free of cost, the said canal may be dredged to provide at an estimated cost of \$112,000, the dimensions of nine feet deep and one hundred feet wide, as recommended in said document.

"SEC. 3. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated the sum of \$93,112,000 to carry out the provisions of this Act."

SEC. 2. The balance of any sums appropriated prior to the enactment of this Act for purposes of carrying out the provisions of section 1 of such Act approved July 23, 1942, which are not needed for such purposes, shall be available for expenditure for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of section 2 of such Act, as amended by this Act.

Approved June 17, 1943.

[CHAPTER 128]

AN ACT

Authorizing the acquisition and conversion or construction of certain auxiliary vessels for the United States Navy, and for other purposes.

June 17, 1943
[H. R. 1563]
[Public Law 76]

Navy.
Acquisition of aux-
iliary vessels.
Post, p. 604.

Naval vessels au-
thorized for other
agencies.
Approval and trans-
fer.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States is hereby authorized to acquire and convert or to undertake the construction of one million tons of auxiliary vessels of such size, type, and design as he may consider best suited for the purposes of the prosecution of the war, such vessels to be in addition to those heretofore authorized.

SEC. 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law any vessel intended for operation by the United States Navy, the construction or acquisition and conversion of which was heretofore or is hereafter authorized for the Maritime Commission, the War Shipping Administration, or any other agency of the Government, shall be subject to the approval of the Navy Department in all

matters of design and construction or conversion, and the control, custody, and sole right to possession of such vessel shall be transferred to the Navy Department upon the completion of such construction or conversion: *Provided*, That the authority contained in this section shall be limited to the tonnage authorization contained in section one hereof and to similar authorizations heretofore or hereafter enacted.

SEC. 3. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sums as may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Act.

Appropriation authorized.
Post, p. 209.

Approved June 17, 1943.

[CHAPTER 129]

JOINT RESOLUTION

To continue the temporary increases in postal rates on first-class matter, and for other purposes.

June 17, 1943
[H. J. Res. 134]
[Public Law 77]

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 1001 (a), as amended (relating to temporary increase in first-class postage rate), of the Revenue Act of 1932, and section 2, as amended (authorizing the President to modify certain postage rates), of the Act entitled "An Act to extend the gasoline tax for one year, to modify postage rates on mail matter, and for other purposes", approved June 16, 1933, are further amended by striking out "July 1, 1943" wherever appearing therein and inserting in lieu thereof "July 1, 1945", and by striking out "June 30, 1943" wherever appearing therein and inserting in lieu thereof "June 30, 1945".

Postage rates on first-class matter.
47 Stat. 285; 48 Stat. 254; 55 Stat. 210.
39 U. S. C., Supp. II, § 280 note.

Approved June 17, 1943.

[CHAPTER 130]

AN ACT

To amend section 511 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended, relating to ship construction reserve funds, and for other purposes.

June 17, 1943
[S. 163]
[Public Law 78]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 511 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended, is hereby amended as follows:

Merchant Marine Act, 1936, amendment.
54 Stat. 1106.
46 U. S. C. § 1161.

(a) The first sentence of subsection (b) of such section is amended to read as follows: "For the purposes of promoting the construction of vessels necessary to carrying out the policy set forth in title I of this Act, any citizen of the United States who is operating a vessel or vessels in the foreign or domestic commerce of the United States or in the fisheries or owns in whole or in part a vessel or vessels being so operated, or who, at the time of purchase or requisition of the vessel by the Government, was operating a vessel or vessels so engaged or owned in whole or in part a vessel or vessels being so operated or had acquired or was having constructed a vessel or vessels for the purpose of operation in such commerce or in the fisheries, may establish a construction reserve fund, for the construction or acquisition of new vessels, to be composed of deposits of proceeds from sales of vessels, indemnities on account of losses of vessels, earnings from the operation of vessels, and receipts, in the form of interest or otherwise, with respect to amounts previously deposited."

Ship construction reserve funds.
Establishment.
49 Stat. 1985.
46 U. S. C. § 1101.

(b) The second sentence of subsection (c) of such section is amended to read as follows: "For the purposes of this subsection

Time limitations for deposits.