

[CHAPTER 366]

AN ACT

August 11, 1945
[H. R. 2613]
[Public Law 179]

To authorize the War Food Administrator or the Secretary of Agriculture to adjust boundary disputes by settling claims to certain so-called Sebastian Martin grant lands, in the State of New Mexico.

Sebastian Martin
grant lands, N. Mex.
Adjustment of
claims authorized.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That either the War Food Administrator or the Secretary of Agriculture be, and either of them is hereby, authorized to adjust claims to any portions of the so-called Sebastian Martin grant lands, situated between State Highway Numbered 64 and the western boundary of said grant, and between the fence constructed by the Government on the west side of Ojo Sarco Creek and the eastern boundary of said grant, in the State of New Mexico, which are administered under title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act of July 22, 1937 (50 Stat. 522, 525; 7 U. S. C., secs. 1010-1012).

7 U. S. C., Supp. IV,
§ 1011.

Procedure in settle-
ment of claims in dis-
pute.

SEC. 2. That for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act, if the War Food Administrator or the Secretary of Agriculture shall find, within twenty years after the acquisition by the United States of the lands described in section 1, that the title to any portion or portions of the aforesaid lands is in dispute, and that the person or persons claiming the same or their predecessors in the occupancy thereof and under whom the right thereto is claimed, have been in open, actual, visible, exclusive, hostile, continuous, and adverse possession thereof, for a period of ten years previous to the date on which the United States acquired such land or interest, irrespective of whether color of title during such possession can be established or not, either the War Food Administrator or the Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized to execute and deliver, on behalf of and in the name of the United States, to the person or persons so occupying said lands, whom either of them finds entitled thereto under the provisions of this Act, a quitclaim deed to such land or interest.

Sale of unclaimed
lands.

SEC. 3. Either the War Food Administrator or the Secretary of Agriculture is further authorized, upon a finding by either of them, that any lands situated within the areas described in section 1, which are not claimed by any person or persons as aforesaid, or right to which cannot be established as aforesaid, are not suitable for use and administration in connection with the land-conservation and land-utilization program administered under title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, to sell such lands so situated, under such terms and conditions as either of them deems will best accomplish the purposes of title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act: *Provided, however,* That the consideration to be paid for such lands shall not be less than the value as appraised by authorized representatives of the United States.

Approved August 11, 1945.

[CHAPTER 367]

AN ACT

August 11, 1945
[H. R. 3239]
[Public Law 180]

To exempt certain mechanical pencils having precious metals as essential parts from the tax with respect to jewelry, and so forth.

I. R. C., amend-
ment.
55 Stat. 718.
26 U. S. C., Supp.
IV, § 2400.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 2400 of the Internal Revenue Code (relating to the retailers' excise tax on jewelry, etc.) is amended by striking out "to a fountain pen or smokers' pipe if the only parts of the pen or the pipe" and inserting in lieu thereof "to a fountain pen, mechanical pencil, or smokers' pipe if the only parts of the pen, the pencil, or the pipe".

SEC. 2. The amendment made by this Act shall take effect on the first day of the first month which begins more than ten days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Approved August 11, 1945.

[CHAPTER 368]

AN ACT

To provide for administration of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 by a Surplus Property Administrator.

September 18, 1945
[H. R. 3907]
[Public Law 181]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is hereby established in the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion a Surplus Property Administration which shall be headed by a Surplus Property Administrator. The Administrator shall be appointed by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and shall receive compensation at the rate of \$12,000 per year. The term of office of the Administrator shall be two years.

Surplus Property Administration. Establishment, etc. *Ante*, p. 484.

SEC. 2. (a) Effective at the time the Surplus Property Administrator first appointed under this Act qualifies and takes office, the Surplus Property Board created by section 5 of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is abolished, all of its functions are transferred to, and shall be exercised by, the Surplus Property Administrator, and all of its personnel (except the members thereof), records, and property (including office equipment) are transferred to, and shall become, respectively, the personnel, records, and property of the Surplus Property Administration.

Abolishment of Board.

58 Stat. 768.
50 U. S. C., Supp. IV, § 1614.
Transfer of functions, etc.

(b) So much of the unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, or other funds available for the use of the Surplus Property Board in the exercise of any function transferred by this Act shall be transferred to the Surplus Property Administration for use in connection with the exercise of the functions so transferred.

Transfer of funds.

(c) All regulations, policies, determinations, authorizations, requirements, designations, and other actions of the Surplus Property Board, made, prescribed, or performed before the transfer of functions provided by subsection (a) of this section shall, except to the extent rescinded, modified, superseded, or made inapplicable by the Surplus Property Administrator, have the same effect as if such transfer had not been made; but functions vested in the Surplus Property Board by any such regulation, policy, determination, authorization, requirement, designation, or other action shall, insofar as they are to be exercised after the transfer, be considered as vested in the Surplus Property Administrator.

Regulations, prior actions, etc., of Board.

Functions.

Approved September 18, 1945.

[CHAPTER 369]

AN ACT

To amend the Veterans Regulations to provide additional rates of compensation or pension and remedy inequalities as to specific service-incurred disabilities in excess of total disability.

September 20, 1945
[H. R. 3644]
[Public Law 182]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That subparagraphs (k) to (o) of paragraph II, part I, Veterans Regulation Numbered 1 (a), as amended, are hereby amended, and a new subparagraph (p) added to said paragraph II, to read as follows:

Veterans Regulations, amendments. 38 U. S. C., note foll. § 724; Supp. IV, note foll. § 735.

“(k) If the disabled person, as the result of service-incurred disability, has suffered the anatomical loss or loss of use of one foot, or one hand, or blindness of one eye, having only light perception, the rate of pension provided in part I, paragraph II, subparagraphs

Rates for war-service-incurred disabilities.