

CHAP. 306.—An Act To authorize the Secretary of Commerce to continue the system of pay and allowances, and so forth, for officers and men on vessels of the Department of Commerce in operation as of July 1, 1929.

February 26, 1931.
[S. 5962.]
[Public, No. 735.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of Commerce is authorized, in his discretion, to continue the system of pay and allowances, including allowances for longevity, for officers and men on vessels of the Department of Commerce, that was in operation as of July 1, 1929, until such time as legislation shall be enacted pursuant to section 2 of the Act approved May 28, 1928 (45 Stat. 785), or similar legislation affecting the classification of vessel employees in the field service of the Government.

Department of Commerce.
Pay, etc., of officers, etc., on vessels of, to continue.

Vol. 45, p. 785.

Approved, February 26, 1931.

CHAP. 307.—An Act To expedite the construction of public buildings and works outside of the District of Columbia by enabling possession and title of sites to be taken in advance of final judgment in proceedings for the acquisition thereof under the power of eminent domain.

February 26, 1931.
[H. R. 14255.]
[Public, No. 736.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in any proceeding in any court of the United States outside of the District of Columbia which has been or may be instituted by and in the name of and under the authority of the United States for the acquisition of any land or easement or right of way in land for the public use, the petitioner may file in the cause, with the petition or at any time before judgment, a declaration of taking signed by the authority empowered by law to acquire the lands described in the petition, declaring that said lands are thereby taken for the use of the United States. Said declaration of taking shall contain or have annexed thereto—

Acquisition of public building sites for public use.
Ante, p. 828.

Declaration of taking to be filed.

Statements, etc., annexed.

- (1) A statement of the authority under which and the public use for which said lands are taken.
- (2) A description of the lands taken sufficient for the identification thereof.
- (3) A statement of the estate or interest in said lands taken for said public use.
- (4) A plan showing the lands taken.
- (5) A statement of the sum of money estimated by said acquiring authority to be just compensation for the land taken.

Upon the filing said declaration of taking and of the deposit in the court, to the use of the persons entitled thereto, of the amount of the estimated compensation stated in said declaration, title to the said lands in fee simple absolute, or such less estate or interest therein as is specified in said declaration, shall vest in the United States of America, and said lands shall be deemed to be condemned and taken for the use of the United States, and the right to just compensation for the same shall vest in the persons entitled thereto; and said compensation shall be ascertained and awarded in said proceeding and established by judgment therein, and the said judgment shall include, as part of the just compensation awarded, interest at the rate of 6 per centum per annum on the amount finally awarded as the value of the property as of the date of taking, from said date to the date of payment; but interest shall not be allowed on so much thereof as shall have been paid into the court. No sum so paid into the court shall be charged with commissions or poundage.

Title to vest in United States, upon deposit of just compensation.

Compensation to be ascertained.

Interest.

No commission charges.

Upon the application of the parties in interest, the court may order that the money deposited in the court, or any part thereof, be paid forthwith for or on account of the just compensation to be

Payment upon application of parties in interest.