SEC. 3. Construction of the Washita project herein authorized may be undertaken in such units or stages as in the opinion of the Secretary best serves the project requirements and the relative needs for water of the several prospective users. Repayment contracts negotiated in connection with each unit or stage of construction shall be subject to the terms and conditions of section 2 of this Act.

SEC. 4. The Secretary may, upon conclusion of a suitable agreement with any qualified agency of the State of Oklahoma or a political subdivision thereof for assumption of the administration, operation, and maintenance thereof at the earliest practicable date, construct or permit the construction of public park and recreational facilities on lands owned by the United States adjacent to the reservoirs of the Washita project, when such use is determined by the Secretary not to be contrary to the public interest, all under such rules and regulations as the Secretary may prescribe. No recreational use of any area to which this section applies shall be permitted which is inconsistent with the laws of the State of Oklahoma for the protection of fish and game. The costs of constructing, operating, and maintaining the facilities authorized by this section shall not be charged to or become a part of the costs of the Washita River Basin project.

SEC. 5. Expenditures for Foss and Fort Cobb Reservoirs may be made without regard to the soil survey and land classification requirements of the Interior Department Appropriation Act, 1954 (43 U. S. C. 390a).

SEC. 6. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated for construction of the works authorized to be constructed by section 1 of this Act the sum of $40,600,000 plus such additional amount, if any, as may be required by reason of changes in the costs of construction of the types involved in the Washita River Basin project as shown by engineering indices. There are also authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be required for the operation and maintenance of said works.

Approved February 25, 1956.

Public Law 420

JOINT RESOLUTION

To amend the joint resolution of March 25, 1953, relating to electrical and mechanical office equipment for the use of Members, officers, and committees of the House of Representatives, to remove officers and committees from certain limitations, and for other purposes.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) subsection (a) of the first section of the joint resolution entitled "Joint Resolution to authorize the Clerk of the House of Representatives to furnish certain electrical or mechanical office equipment for the use of Members, officers, and committees of the House of Representatives", approved March 25, 1953, as amended (2 U. S. C., sec. 112a (a)), is amended by striking out the last sentence thereof.

(b) Subsection (b) of the first section of such joint resolution, as amended (2 U. S. C., sec. 112a (b)), is amended to read as follows: "(b) The value of equipment furnished under this section, together with the value of any equipment purchased under House Resolution 318, Eighty-second Congress, which may be in use in the office of a Member at any one time shall not exceed $2,500. For the purposes of this subsection the value of any article of equipment shall be deemed to be the cost thereof less depreciation, determined in accordance with rules or regulations prescribed by the Committee on House Administration."
(c) Subsection (c) of the first section of such joint resolution, as amended (2 U. S. C., sec. 112a (c)), is amended by striking out "officer, or committee".
(d) Subsection (d) of the first section of such joint resolution, as amended (2 U. S. C., sec. 112a (d)), is amended by striking out "officer, or committee".

SEC. 2. Such joint resolution approved March 25, 1953, is further amended by renumbering sections 2, 3, 4, and 5 as sections 4, 5, 6, and 7, respectively, and by inserting immediately after the first section thereof the following new sections:

"SEC. 2. In addition to the electric typewriters which may be furnished under the first section of this joint resolution, the Clerk of the House of Representatives, upon request of any Member, shall furnish for use in the office of such Member not to exceed two electric typewriters.

"SEC. 3. The cost of electrical or mechanical office equipment furnished under this joint resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the House of Representatives."

Approved February 25, 1956.

Public Law 421

CHAPTER 73

AN ACT

February 27, 1956

To provide for a prorated stationery allowance in the case of a Member of the House of Representatives elected for a portion of a term.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in the case of any Member of the House of Representatives, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner who is elected for a portion of a term, the amount of stationery allowance which such Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner shall be paid shall be an amount, with respect to the year in which he commences his service, which is the same percentage of the total stationery allowance payable for service for all of such year as the number of months of his service in such year (counting the month in which he is elected as one month) is of the total number of months in such year. Such prorated stationery allowance shall be paid from the contingent fund of the House into the revolving fund for stationery allowances established in the eighth paragraph under the heading "Contingent Expenses of the House" under the general heading "House of Representatives" in the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1948.

Approved February 27, 1956.

Public Law 422

CHAPTER 74

AN ACT

February 27, 1956

To increase the amount of telephone and telegraph service furnished to Members of the House of Representatives, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That clause (2) of the first section of the Act entitled "An Act relating to telephone and telegraph service and clerk hire for the House of Representatives", approved June 23, 1949, as amended (2 U. S. C., sec. 46f), is amended to read as follows:

"(2) charges on strictly official telegrams, cablegrams, and radiograms sent by or on behalf of the Member."

63 Stat. 254.