CHAP. 557.—An Act Granting the consent of Congress to the city of Rockford, in the county of Winnebago and State of Illinois, to construct, maintain, and operate a bridge and approaches thereto across the Rock River

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 city of Rockford, in the county of Winnebago, in the State of Illinois, to construct, maintain, and operate a bridge and approaches thereto across the Rock River, at a point suitable to the interests of navigation, connecting Peach Street on the west side of the said river in the said city of Rockford with Jefferson Street on the east side of said Rock River in the said city of Rockford, in accordance with the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to regulate the construction of bridges over navigable waters," approved March 23, 1906.

Sec. 2. The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved, March 4, 1925.

CHAP. 558.—Joint Resolution To amend section 10 of the Act entitled "An Act to establish the upper Mississippi River wild life and fish refuge"

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 10 of the Act entitled "An Act to establish the upper Mississippi River wild life and fish refuge," approved June 7, 1924 (Forty-third Statutes at Large, page 650), be, and the same hereby is, amended by striking out that part of said section which reads: "but no money shall be available for the acquisition of any area until the Secretary of Agriculture has ascertained that all of the areas to be acquired under this Act will be acquired within the amounts appropriated or authorized to be appropriated therefor and at an average price not in excess of $5 per acre, and not in excess of the average selling price, during the years 1921, 1922, and 1923, of comparable lands within the vicinity of such areas," and by substituting in lieu thereof the following: "Provided, That the Secretary of Agriculture shall not pay for any land or land and water a price which when added to the price of land or land and water theretofore purchased, shall exceed an average cost of $5 per acre."

Approved, March 4, 1925.

CHAP. 559.—Joint Resolution Authorizing the enlargement of the Federal Veterans' Hospital at Muskogee, Oklahoma, by the purchase of an adjoining city hospital and authorizing the appropriation of $150,000 for that purpose

Whereas the Veterans' Bureau has lately acquired from the State of Oklahoma title to the veterans' hospital located at Muskogee, Oklahoma; and

Whereas the city of Muskogee is the owner of a small hospital on a lot immediately adjoining that of the national hospital site, similar in construction and architecture to that of the Federal hospital and fitting into the scheme of the Government to enlarge and improve said hospital and necessary to its enlargement and improvement; and

Whereas the city of Muskogee, Oklahoma, has graciously offered to sell said hospital to the Government for the sum of $150,000, being considerably less than the cost of its construction, in order and for the purpose of carrying out the scheme of the Veterans' Bureau in connection with said hospital; and
Whereas said additional facilities afforded by the said hospital are now needed and in the immediate future will be needed in the proper care of veterans assigned to said Federal hospital: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the purchase of said city hospital by the Director of the Veterans’ Bureau at a sum of not exceeding $150,000, and the appropriation of $150,000 for that purpose is hereby authorized; the price to be paid therefor to be agreed upon by and between said Director of the Veterans’ Bureau and the city of Muskogee: Provided, That this money shall be taken out of any lump sum appropriated after March 1, 1925, for hospital purposes.

Approved, March 4, 1925.

CHAP. 560.—Joint Resolution To provide for the expenses of delegates of the United States to the Pan American Congress of Highways

Resolved 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 appoint delegates to enable the United States to participate in the Pan American Congress of Highways to meet at Buenos Aires in 1925, and for the expenses of the United States in participating in such conference, including the compensation of employees, travel, and subsistence expenses (notwithstanding the provisions of any other Act), and such miscellaneous and other expenses as the President shall deem proper, there is hereby authorized to be appropriated the sum of $15,000.

Approved, March 4, 1925.

CHAP. 561.—Joint Resolution For the relief of special disbursing agents of the Alaskan Engineering Commission, authorizing the payment of certain claims, and for other purposes, affecting the management of the Alaska Railroad.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the General Accounting Office is hereby authorized and directed to credit in the accounts of special disbursing agents of the Alaskan Engineering Commission the several payments made by them to the Swedish Hospital (Seattle, Washington), Doctor H. V. Wurdemann, A. B. Funk, Saint Joseph’s Hospital, Fairbanks, Alaska, and Doctor J. R. Bowen, amounting to $1,433.60, heretofore disallowed by the General Accounting Office, covering medical, surgical, and hospital services and subsistence furnished under the hospital regulations of said commission to contractors who were injured or taken sick while engaged in the performance of their work in the construction of the railroads in Alaska, and said payments are hereby validated.

Sec. 2. That the General Accounting Office is hereby authorized and directed to credit in the accounts of R. D. Chase, special disbursing agent of the Alaskan Engineering Commission, the sum of $1,197.10, covering payments made to C. F. Clasen, F. H. Coney, W. A. McDonald, Lief Strand, Tom Tellefsen, Walter Wright, and Soter Chamis, employees of said commission, on account of the destruction of their personal effects by fire October 2, 1920, and March 10, 1922, respectively, said payments having been disallowed by the General Accounting Office, and the said payments are hereby validated.