The Court of Claims shall advance the cause upon its docket for hearing, and shall have authority to determine and adjudge the rights, both legal and equitable, of the said Ponca Tribe in the premises: Provided, That the court shall hear and determine any legal or equitable defenses, set-offs, or counterclaims including gratuities which the United States may offer against the said Ponca Tribe notwithstanding lapse of time or statutes of limitation, and any tribe or band of Indians deemed necessary to a final determination of any suit hereunder shall be joined as the court may order. The suit or suits instituted hereunder shall be begun within five years from the passage of this Act by the Ponca Tribe of Indians as parties plaintiff against the United States as the party defendant. The petition or petitions may be verified upon information and belief as to the facts therein alleged by the attorney or attorneys employed by the Ponca Tribe under contract approved by the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, as provided by existing law; and no other verification shall be necessary: Provided, That upon the final determination of such suit or suits the Court of Claims shall have jurisdiction to decree the fees to be paid to the attorney or attorneys not to exceed 10 per centum of the amount of the judgment rendered in favor of said Indians and in no event to exceed the sum of $25,000, together with all necessary and proper expenses incurred in preparation and prosecution of the suit; and the same shall be paid out of any sum or sums found due said tribe.

Approved, January 9, 1925.

CHAP. 59.—An Act Conferring jurisdiction on the Court of Claims to determine and report upon the interest, title, ownership, and right of possession of the Yankton Band of Santee Sioux Indians to the Red Pipestone Quarries, Minnesota.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That jurisdiction be, and it hereby is, conferred upon the Court of Claims to determine and report from the finding of facts reported by said court as authorized by section 22 of the Act of April 4, 1910 (Thirty-eighth Statutes at Large, page 284), the interest, title, ownership, and right of possession of the Yankton Band of Santee Sioux Indians in and to the land known as the “Red Pipestone Quarries,” described in said Act of April 4, 1910; and said court shall determine what amount, if any, is legally and equitably due from the United States to the said Yankton Band of Santee Sioux Indians for the said quarries, and enter judgment thereon.

Sec. 2. That the court is hereby further authorized to determine what, if any, other band or bands of Sioux Indians have an interest in and to the said Red Pipestone Quarries, and the amount thereof, if any.

Approved, January 9, 1925.

CHAP. 68.—An Act To amend the Act establishing the eastern judicial district of Oklahoma, to establish a term of the United States District Court for the Eastern Judicial District of Oklahoma at Pauls Valley, Oklahoma.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a term of the United States District Court for the Eastern Judicial District of the State of Oklahoma shall be held annually at Pauls Valley, Oklahoma, for the trial of civil and criminal cases, at such
times as may be fixed by the judges of the eastern judicial district of Oklahoma: Provided, That suitable rooms and accommodations for holding court at Pauls Valley are furnished free of expense to the United States.

Approved, January 10, 1925.

CHAP. 69.—An Act Providing for the holding of the United States district and circuit courts at Poteau, Oklahoma.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a term of the district court of the United States for the eastern district of Oklahoma shall be held in each and every year in the town of Poteau, Oklahoma, beginning on the first Monday in October and continuing till the business is disposed of: Provided, That suitable rooms and accommodations for holding court at Poteau are furnished free of expense to the United States.

Sec. 2. That the clerk of the United States district and circuit courts at Muskogee, Oklahoma, shall be the clerk of the United States district and circuit courts at Poteau, Oklahoma, until provision be made by law for the appointment of deputy clerks at the several places of holding United States district and circuit courts in the State of Oklahoma.

Approved, January 10, 1925.

CHAP. 70.—An Act Giving the consent of Congress to a boundary agreement between the States of New York and Connecticut.

Whereas the commissioners duly appointed on the part of the States of New York and Connecticut, respectively, for the purpose of settling the boundary line between said States, did execute an agreement in the words following, to wit:

"Memorandum of agreement by and between the subscribers, the Governor of the State of Connecticut, and the State engineer of the State of New York.

"Whereas acting under an agreement signed on the 26th day of September, 1908, by the above-named officials the boundary line between the States of New York and Connecticut has been resurveyed from the State of Massachusetts southerly to Long Island Sound, and new monuments have been set, more permanently marking the same; and

"Whereas although as provided in the said agreement the new monuments have been set as nearly on the line of 1860 as the same could be ascertained, yet owing to the more accurate methods employed in the survey a description is now available which more closely defines this boundary as it is monumented; and

"Whereas it is desirable that this more accurate description be recorded in both of the States concerned and that it be recognized as the official description of the said boundary:

"Now, therefore, be it known that the description of the boundary between the States of New York and Connecticut as it has now been ascertained to be, is as follows:

"Commencing at a granite monument (numbered 1) at the northwest corner of the State of Connecticut, marking the corner of Massachusetts, New York, and Connecticut, in latitude forty-two degrees two minutes fifty-eight and four hundred and twenty-seven one-thousandths seconds, and longitude seventy-three