

of the Secretary of the Interior, in such form as to protect the United States against loss, without separate vouchers or receipts, and payable by the proper assistant treasurer or designated depository, except in the case of any pensioner in which the law authorizes the pension to be paid to some person other than the pensioner, or in which the Secretary of the Interior may consider a voucher necessary for the protection of the Government. Such checks shall be transmitted by mail to the payee thereof at his last known address.

Exception.

Delivery of pension mail by postal authorities restricted.

That postmasters, delivery clerks, letter carriers, and all other postal employees are prohibited from delivering any such mail to any person whomsoever, if the addressee has died or removed, or in the case of a widow believed by the postal employee intrusted with the delivery of such mail to have remarried; and the postmaster in every such case shall forthwith return such mail with a statement of the reasons for so doing, and if because of death or remarriage, the date thereof, if known. Checks returned as herein provided on account of the death or remarriage of the pensioner shall be canceled.

Punishment for forging, etc., checks.

SEC. 4. That whoever shall forge the indorsement of the person to whose order any pension check shall be drawn, or whoever with the knowledge that such indorsement is forged shall utter such check, or whoever, by falsely personating such person, shall receive from any person, firm, corporation, or officer or employee of the United States the whole or any portion of the amount represented by such check, shall upon conviction be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars or be imprisoned not more than five years or both.

SEC. 5. That in case of sickness or unavoidable absence of the disbursing clerk for the payment of pensions from his office, the Commissioner of Pensions may, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, authorize the chief clerk of his office or some other clerk employed therein to temporarily act as such disbursing clerk for payment of pensions.

Acting disbursing clerk in case of sickness, etc.

With the approval of the Commissioner of Pensions and the Secretary of the Interior, the disbursing clerk for the payment of pensions may designate and authorize the necessary number of clerks to sign the name of the disbursing clerk for the payment of pensions to official checks.

Clerks to sign checks to be designated.

The disbursing clerk shall give bond with good and sufficient surety for such amount and in such form as the Secretary of the Interior may approve, and such bond shall be held to cover and apply to the acts of the persons authorized to act in his place.

Bond required.

SEC. 6. That nothing in this Act shall be construed as amending or repealing that portion of the sundry civil appropriation Act for the fiscal year eighteen hundred and eighty-three (Statutes at Large, volume twenty-two, page three hundred and twenty-two) concerning the payment of pensions due inmates of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers.

Payment due inmates of Volunteer Soldiers' Homes. Vol. 22, p. 322.

Approved, August 17, 1912.

CHAP. 305.—An Act To extend the limits of the port of entry of Galveston, Texas, to include Port Bolivar, in that State.

August 20, 1912.

[H. R. 22199.]

[Public, No. 272.]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the limits of the port of entry of Galveston, Texas, be, and the same are hereby, extended to include Port Bolivar, in that State.

Galveston, Tex., customs district. Port Bolivar included. H. S., sec. 2578, p. 609.

Approved, August 20, 1912.