

Articles guests may retain. Locking of rooms, etc. Limitation of liability for baggage therein.

premium, and which said contract shall be signed by said guest and said proprietor or his clerk: *Provided further*, That nothing herein contained shall apply to such an amount of money and such jewelry or other articles of value as is usual, common, or prudent for guests to retain in their rooms.

SEC. 2. That whenever the proprietor of any hotel or inn shall keep posted in a conspicuous manner on the inside of the entrance door to the sleeping rooms of said hotel or inn a notice printed in distinct English type requiring the guests occupying said rooms to lock or bolt the door of said room and upon leaving said room to lock the door and deposit the key at the office, the proprietor shall not be liable for any baggage stolen from said room if it shall appear that said room was left by the guest unlocked or unbolted, or that the key was not so deposited at the office at the time of the loss of said baggage, unless the loss is directly or indirectly caused by or attributable to the proprietor or his employee or employees.

Approved, December 21, 1920.

December 22, 1920.  
[H. R. 13264.]  
[Public, No. 288.]

CHAP. 3.—An Act To provide for the award of a medal of merit to the personnel of the merchant marine of the United States of America.

Medal of merit, merchant marine. Awarded for distinguished service at sea during World War.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to present, but not in the name of Congress, a medal of merit of appropriate design with a bar and ribbon, together with a rosette or other device to be worn in lieu thereof, to any person who in the merchant marine of the United States between the 6th day of April, 1917, and the 11th day of November, 1918, distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism or distinguished service at sea in the line of duty.

Only one issue to a person.

SEC. 2. That no more than one medal of merit shall be issued to any one person, but for each succeeding deed or service sufficient to justify the award of a medal, the President may award a suitable bar or other suitable emblem or insignia to be worn with the decoration and the corresponding rosette or other device.

Bar for subsequent deed.

Time limit for issuing.

SEC. 3. That, except as otherwise prescribed herein, no medal or bar or suitable emblem or insignia in lieu of said medal shall be issued to any person after three years from the passage of this Act, unless a specific statement or report distinctly setting forth the act or distinguished service and suggesting or recommending official recognition thereof shall have been made and substantiated at the time of the act or service or within three years after the passage of this Act.

Statement of service, etc., required.

Award in case of death.

SEC. 4. That in case an individual who shall distinguish himself dies before the making of the award to which he may be entitled, the award nevertheless may be made and the medal or bar or other emblem or insignia presented to such representative of the deceased as the President may designate.

Regulations, etc.

SEC. 5. The President is authorized to make from time to time any and all rules, regulations, and orders which he shall deem necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this Act.

Approved, December 22, 1920.

December 26, 1920.  
[H. R. 7930.]  
[Public, No. 289.]

CHAP. 4.—An Act To provide for the treatment in hospital of diseased alien seamen.

Alien seamen.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That alien seamen found on arrival in ports of the United States to be afflicted with any of the

disabilities or diseases mentioned in section 35 of the Act of February 5, 1917, entitled "An Act to regulate the immigration of aliens to, and the residence of aliens in, the United States," shall be placed in a hospital designated by the immigration official in charge at the port of arrival and treated, all expenses connected therewith, including burial in the event of death, to be borne by the owner, agent, consignee, or master of the vessel, and not to be deducted from the seamen's wages, and no such vessel shall be granted clearance until such expenses are paid or their payment appropriately guaranteed and the collector of customs so notified by the immigration official in charge: *Provided*, That alien seamen suspected of being afflicted with any such disability or disease may be removed from the vessel on which they arrive to an immigration station or other appropriate place for such observation as will enable the examining surgeons definitely to determine whether or not they are so afflicted, all expenses connected therewith to be borne in the manner hereinbefore prescribed: *Provided further*, That in cases in which it shall appear to the satisfaction of the immigration official in charge that it will not be possible within a reasonable time to effect a cure, the return of the alien seamen shall be enforced on or at the expense of the vessel on which they came, upon such conditions as the Commissioner General of Immigration, with the approval of the Secretary of Labor, shall prescribe, to insure that the aliens shall be properly cared for and protected, and that the spread of contagion shall be guarded against.

Hospital treatment for, arriving at American port with contagious disease, etc. Vol. 39, p. 896.

Expense by vessel owner.

*Proviso.* Removal from vessel for observation.

Retention until cured, etc.

Approved, December 26, 1920.

**CHAP. 7.**—Joint Resolution To create a Joint Committee on the Reorganization of the Administrative Branch of the Government.

December 29, 1920.  
[S. J. Res. 161.]  
[Pub. Res., No. 54.]

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That a joint committee is created, to be known as the Joint Committee on Reorganization, which shall consist of three Members of the Senate to be appointed by the President thereof, and three Members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker thereof. Vacancies occurring in the membership of the committee shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments.

Joint Committee on Reorganization. Composition.

SEC. 2. That it shall be the duty of the Joint Committee on Reorganization to make a survey of the administrative services of the Government for the purpose of securing all pertinent facts concerning their powers and duties, their distribution among the several executive departments, and their overlapping and duplication of authority; also to determine what redistribution of activities should be made among the several services, with a view to the proper correlation of the same, and what departmental regrouping of services should be made, so that each executive department shall embrace only services having close working relation with each other and ministering directly to the primary purpose for which the same are maintained and operated, to the end that there shall be achieved the largest possible measure of efficiency and economy in the conduct of Government business.

Duties conferred. Survey of duplication, etc., of Government administrative services.

Determining efficient regrouping, etc., of department activities.

SEC. 3. That the committee shall, from time to time, report to both the Senate and the House of Representatives the results of its inquiries, together with its recommendations, and shall prepare and submit bills or resolutions having for their purpose the coordination of Government functions and their most efficient and economical conduct, and the final report of said committee shall be submitted not later than the second Monday in December, 1922. The com-

Reports, etc., to be submitted.

Final report.