CHAP. 47.—An Act To create a commission authorized under certain conditions to refund or convert obligations of foreign Governments held by the United States of America, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a World War Foreign Debt Commission is hereby created consisting of five members, one of whom shall be the Secretary of the Treasury, who shall serve as chairman, and four of whom shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Sec. 2. That, subject to the approval of the President, the commission created by section 1 is hereby authorized to refund or convert, and to extend the time of payment of the principal or the interest, or both, of any obligation of any foreign Government now held by the United States of America, or any obligation of any foreign Government hereafter received by the United States of America (including obligations held by the United States Grain Corporation, the War Department, the Navy Department, or the American Relief Administration), arising out of the World War, into bonds or other obligations of such foreign Government in substitution for the bonds or other obligations of such Government now or hereafter held by the United States of America, in such form and of such terms, conditions, date or dates of maturity, and rate or rates of interest, and with such security, if any, as shall be deemed for the best interests of the United States of America: Provided, That nothing contained in this Act shall be construed to authorize or empower the commission to extend the time of maturity of any such bonds or other obligations due the United States of America by any foreign Government beyond June 15, 1947, or to fix the rate of interest at less than 4 per centum per annum: Provided further, That when the bond or other obligation of any such Government has been refunded or converted as herein provided, the authority of the commission over such refunded or converted bond or other obligation shall cease.

Sec. 3. That this Act shall not be construed to authorize the exchange of bonds or other obligations of any foreign Government for those of any other foreign Government, or cancellation of any part of such indebtedness except through payment thereof.

Sec. 4. That the authority granted by this Act shall cease and determine at the end of three years from the date of the passage of this Act.

Sec. 5. That the annual report of this commission shall be included in the Annual Report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the state of the finances, but said commission shall immediately transmit to the Congress copies of any refunding agreements entered into, with the approval of the President, by each foreign Government upon the completion of the authority granted under this Act.

Approved, February 9, 1922.

CHAP. 48.—An Act To relinquish, release, remise, and quitclaim all right, title, and interest of the United States of America in and to all the lands contained within sections seventeen and twenty, township three south, range one west, Saint Stephens meridian, Alabama.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the United States of America hereby forever relinquish, releases, and quitclaims all right, title, and interest in and to all the lands now held under claim or color of title by individual or private ownership or municipal ownership and situated in the State of Alabama within the boundaries of sections seventeen and twenty, township three south, range one west,
Saint Stephens meridian, Alabama, whether or not patents issued therefor by the United States would be construed to include all the lands included within the boundaries of said sections.

The true intent of this Act is hereby declared to be to concede and abandon all right, title, and interest of the United States to those persons, estates, firms, or corporations who would be the true and lawful owners of said lands under the laws of Alabama, including the laws of prescription, in the absence of said interest, title, and estate of the said United States.

Approved, February 13, 1922.

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CHAP. 49.—An Act Providing for the sale and disposal of public lands within the area heretofore surveyed as Tenderfoot Lake, State of Wisconsin.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That on the survey of any public lands found to exist within the area heretofore surveyed as Tenderfoot Lake, in sections seven, eight, seventeen, and eighteen, township forty-three north, range eight east, fourth principal meridian, in the State of Wisconsin, the owners of adjacent lands shall have a preference right to purchase such lands so surveyed for a period of sixty days after the filing of the official plats of such surveys, at $1.25 per acre: Provided, That such privilege shall not extend to any lands so surveyed inuring to the State of Wisconsin under the Act of September 28, 1850 (Ninth Statutes, page 519): Provided further, That nothing herein contained shall have the effect of defeating the rights of any other person or persons which may have attached to such lands or any part thereof.

Sec. 2. That the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to make all necessary rules and regulations to carry this Act into effect.

Approved, February 13, 1922.

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CHAP. 50.—Joint Resolution Relative to payment of tuition for Indian children enrolled in Montana State public schools.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That nothing contained in the provisions of section 10 of the Act of February 14, 1920 (Forty-first Statutes at Large, page 421), and of section 10 of the Act of March 3, 1921 (Forty-first Statutes at Large, page 1237), shall be construed to preclude the payment of tuition for Indian children enrolled and educated in Montana State public schools, pursuant to annual or existing appropriations of public money for payment of such tuition.

Approved, February 13, 1922.

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CHAP. 51.—An Act To amend an Act entitled “An Act for the retirement of employees in the classified civil service, and for other purposes,” approved May 22, 1920.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 11 of the Act entitled “An Act for the retirement of employees in the classified civil service, and for other purposes,” approved May 22, 1920, is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof three new paragraphs to read as follows: