CHAP. 173.—An Act To further amend and modify the War Risk Insurance Act.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 23 of the War Risk Insurance Act, as amended, is hereby further amended so that said section, as amended, shall read as follows:

“Sec. 23. (1) That, except as provided in subdivision (2) of this section, when by the terms of the War Risk Insurance Act and any amendments thereto, any payment is to be made to a minor, other than a person in the military or naval forces of the United States, or to a person mentally incompetent, or under other legal disability adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction, such payment shall be made to the person who is constituted guardian, curator, or conservator by the laws of the State or residence of claimant, or is otherwise legally vested with responsibility or care of the claimant or his estate: Provided, That prior to receipt of notice by the United States Veterans' Bureau that any such person is under such other legal disability adjudged by some court of competent jurisdiction, payment may be made to such person direct: Provided further, That for the purpose of payments of benefits under Article III of the War Risk Insurance Act, as amended, where no guardian, curator, or conservator of the person under a legal disability has been appointed under the laws of the State or residence of the claimant, the director shall determine the person who is otherwise legally vested with responsibility or care of the claimant or his estate.

(2) If any person entitled to receive payments under this Act shall be an inmate of any asylum or hospital for the insane maintained by the United States, or by any of the several States or Territories of the United States, or any political subdivision thereof, and no guardian, curator, or conservator of the property of such person shall have been appointed by competent legal authority, the director, if satisfied after due investigation that any such person is mentally incompetent, may order that all moneys payable to him or her under this Act shall be held in the Treasury of the United States to the credit of such person. All funds so held shall be disbursed under the order of the director and subject to his discretion either to the chief executive officer of the asylum or hospital in which such person is an inmate, to be used by such officer for the maintenance and comfort of such inmate, subject to the duty to account to the United States Veterans' Bureau and to repay any surplus at any time remaining in his hands in accordance with regulations to be prescribed by the director; or to the wife (or dependent husband if the inmate is a woman), minor children, and dependent parents of such inmate, if mentally competent, etc., appointed purpose of payments of benefits under Article III of the War Risk Insurance Act, as amended where no guardian curator, or conservator of the person under a legal disability has been appointed under the laws of the State or residence of the claimant, the director shall determine the person who is otherwise legally vested with responsibility or care of the claimant or his estate.

Approved, March 2, 1923.

CHAP. 174.—An Act To fix the annual salary of the collector of customs for the district of North Carolina.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the salary of the collector of customs for the district of North Carolina is hereby fixed at $5,000 per annum.

Approved, March 2, 1923.