To enable the Secretary of Labor to foster, promote, and develop the welfare of the wage earners of the United States, including juniors legally employed, to improve their working conditions, to advance their opportunities for profitable employment by regularly collecting, furnishing, and publishing employment information as to opportunities for employment; maintaining a system for clearing labor between the several States; cooperating with and coordinating the public employment offices throughout the country, including personal services in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, and for their actual necessary traveling expenses while absent from their official station, together with their per diem in lieu of subsistence, when allowed pursuant to section 13 of the Sundry Civil Appropriation Act approved August 1, 1914; supplies and equipment, telegraph and telephone service, and miscellaneous expenses, $205,000, of which amount not to exceed $31,600 may be expended for personal services in the District of Columbia.

Approved, April 29, 1926.

CHAP. 196.—Joint Resolution Authorizing certain military organizations to visit France, England, and Belgium.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Richmond Light Infantry Blues Battalion, of Richmond, Virginia, the First Company Governor’s Foot Guard, of Hartford, Connecticut, the Second Company, Governor’s Foot Guard, of New Haven, Connecticut, and the Putnam Phalanx, of Hartford, Connecticut, are authorized to accept the invitation to visit France, England, and Belgium during the month of May, 1926, as military organizations of their respective States recognized by the United States, under such conditions as may be imposed by the Governments of the countries aforesaid to be visited.

Sec. 2. That the visits herein authorized shall be without expense to the United States.

Approved, April 29, 1926.

CHAP. 197.—An Act To amend section 27 of the general leasing Act approved February 25, 1920 (Forty-first Statutes at Large, page 437).

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 27 of the general leasing Act approved February 25, 1920 (Forty-first Statutes at Large, page 437), is hereby amended to read as follows:

That no person, association, or corporation, except as herein provided, shall take or hold coal, phosphate, or sodium leases or permits during the life of such leases or permits in any one State exceeding in aggregate acreage 2,560 acres for each of said minerals; no person, association, or corporation shall take or hold at one time oil or gas leases or permits exceeding in the aggregate 7,680 acres granted hereunder in any one State, and not more than 2,560 acres within the geologic structure of the same producing oil or gas field; and no person, association, or corporation shall take or hold at one time any interest or interests as a member of an association or associations or as a stockholder of a corporation or corporations holding a lease or leases, permit or permits, under the provisions hereof, which, together with the area embraced in any direct holding of a lease or leases,
permit or permits, under this Act, or which, together with any other interest or interests as a member of an association or associations or as a stockholder of a corporation or corporations holding a lease or leases, permit or permits, under the provisions hereof for any kind of mineral leases hereunder, exceeds in the aggregate an amount equivalent to the maximum number of acres of the respective kinds of minerals allowed to any one lessee or permittee under this Act.

Any interests held in violation of this Act shall be forfeited to the United States by appropriate proceedings instituted by the Attorney General for that purpose in the United States district court for the district in which the property, or some part thereof, is located, except that any ownership or interest forbidden in this Act which may be acquired by descent, will, judgment, or decree may be held for two years and not longer after its acquisition: Provided, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to limit sections 18, 18a, 19, and 22 or to prevent any number of lessees under the provisions of this Act from combining their several interests so far as may be necessary for the purposes of constructing and carrying on the business of a refinery, or of establishing and constructing as a common carrier a pipe line or lines of railroads to be operated and used by them jointly in the transportation of oil from their several wells, or from the wells of other lessees under this Act, or the transportation of coal or to increase the acreage which may be acquired or held under section 17 of this Act: Provided further, That any combination for such purpose or purposes shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior on application to him for permission to form the same. And provided further, That if any of the lands or deposits leased under the provisions of this Act shall be subleased, trusteed, possessed, or controlled by any device permanently, temporarily, directly, indirectly, tacitly, or in any manner whatsoever, so that they form a part of, or are in anywise controlled by any combination in the form of an unlawful trust, with consent of lessee, or form the subject of any contract or conspiracy in restraint of trade, etc., to control the price or prices thereof or of any holding of such lands by any individual, partnership, association, corporation, or control, in excess of the amounts of lands provided in this Act, the lease thereof shall be forfeited by appropriate court proceedings.

Approved, April 30, 1926.