CHAP. 397.—An Act To validate payments for commutation of quarters, heat, and light, and of rental allowances on account of dependents.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Controller General of the United States is hereby authorized and directed to allow credit in the accounts of disbursing officers for payments of commutation of quarters, heat, and light under the Act approved April 16, 1918 (Fortieth Statutes, page 530), because of a dependent parent, and as rental and subsistence allowance under the Act of June 10, 1922 (Forty-second Statutes, page 625), because of a dependent mother, made in good faith by disbursing officers prior to July 1, 1923: Provided, That where the payee responded to a needy family condition in an amount at least equal to the allowances obtained by him no collection shall be made on account of payment of the allowances to him prior to July 1, 1923; and amounts heretofore collected as refund of the allowances obtained in such cases prior to July 1, 1923, notwithstanding the protest of the payee, either by stoppage of pay, payment in cash, allotment of pay, or offset, shall be refunded; but this proviso shall not be applicable where the payee has admitted there was no dependency on him, or where he has refused to furnish evidence of the dependency, or where the payee has voluntarily refunded the payments in whole or in part, or has submitted no claim for the allowances in the nature of a protest against offset of his pay as refund of the payments.

Approved, May 26, 1926.

CHAP. 398.—An Act To admit to the United States, and to extend naturalization privileges to, alien veterans of the World War.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) as used in this Act, the term “alien veteran” means an individual, a member of the military or naval forces of the United States at any time after April 5, 1917, and before November 12, 1918, who is now an alien not ineligible to citizenship; but does not include (1) any individual at any time during such period or thereafter separated from such forces under other than honorable conditions, (2) any conscientious objector who performed no military duty whatever or refused to wear the uniform, or (3) any alien at any time during such period or thereafter discharged from the military or naval forces on account of his alienage.

(b) Terms defined in the Immigration Act of 1924 shall, when used in this Act, have the meaning assigned to such terms in that Act.

SEC. 2. An alien veteran shall for the purposes of the Immigration Act of 1924 be considered as a nonquota immigrant, but shall be subject to all the other provisions of that Act and of the immigration laws, except that—

(a) He shall not be subject to the head tax imposed by section 2 of the Immigration Act of 1917;

(b) He shall not be required to pay any fee under section 2 or section 7 of the Immigration Act of 1924;

(c) If otherwise admissible, he shall not be excluded under section 3 of the Immigration Act of 1917, unless excluded under the provisions of that section relating to—

(1) Persons afflicted with a loathsome or dangerous contagious disease, except tuberculosis in any form;

(2) Polygamy;
(3) Prostitutes, procurers, or other like immoral persons;
(4) Contract laborers;
(5) Persons previously deported;
(6) Persons convicted of crime.

Sec. 3. The unmarried child under eighteen years of age, the wife, or the husband, of an alien veteran shall, for the purposes of the Immigration Act of 1924, be considered as a nonquota immigrant when accompanying or following within six months to join him, but shall be subject to all the other provisions of that Act and of the immigration laws.

Sec. 4. The foregoing provisions of this Act shall not apply to any alien unless the immigration visa is issued to him before the expiration of one year after the enactment of this Act.

Sec. 5. An alien veteran admitted to the United States under this Act shall not be subject to deportation on the ground that he has become a public charge.

Sec. 6. Nothing in the immigration laws shall be construed as subjecting any person to a fine for bringing to a port of the United States an alien veteran who is admissible under the terms of this Act, even though such alien would be subject to exclusion if this Act had not been enacted.

Sec. 7. An alien veteran shall, if residing in the United States, be entitled, at any time within two years after the enactment of this Act, to naturalization upon the same terms, conditions, and exemptions which would have been accorded to such alien if he had petitioned before the armistice of the World War, except that such alien shall be required to appear and file his petition in person and to take the prescribed oath of allegiance in open court.

Approved, May 26, 1926.

CHAP. 399.—An Act To make additions to the Absaroka and Gallatin National Forests, and the Yellowstone National Park, and to improve and extend the winter feed facilities of the elk, antelope, and other game animals of Yellowstone National Park and adjacent land, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That as a means of providing within township 8 south, ranges 7 and 8 east, and township 9 south, ranges 7, 8, and 9 east, Montana principal meridian, the winter range and winter feed facilities indispensable for the adequate and proper protection, preservation, and propagation of the elk, antelope, and other game animals of the Yellowstone National Park and adjacent lands, the Secretary of the Interior, in his discretion, and subject to the limitation hereinafter prescribed may, and is hereby, authorized to perform the following acts:

(a) Accept and deposit in a special fund in the Treasury, and expend for the acquisition of lands as herein authorized, private funds donated for such purpose.

(b) Acquire by purchase, or by acceptance of donations or bequests, such lands in private or State ownership within the townships above described as he may deem necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act.

Sec. 2. That the Secretary of the Interior be, and is hereby, authorized in his discretion to accept, on behalf of the United States, title to any lands held in private or State ownership within the townships herein above described, and in exchange therefor may patent not to exceed an equal value of national forest land in the State of Montana, surveyed and nonmineral in character, or the Secretary of Agriculture may authorize the grantor to cut and