is authorized to appoint any person retired under the last proviso of section 1, Chapter XVII, of the Act entitled "An Act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1919," approved July 9, 1918, a first lieutenant, Medical Corps, United States Army, and to retire such person and place him on the retired list of the Army as a first lieutenant with the retired pay and allowances of that grade.

Approved, March 3, 1927.

CHAP. 304.—An Act To amend section 8 of the Act making appropriations to provide for the expenses of the government of the District of Columbia for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1914, and for other purposes, approved March 4, 1913.

_Par. 42a. That the expenses of any investigation, valuation, revaluation, or proceeding of any nature made by the Public Utilities Commission of any public utility operating in the District of Columbia shall be borne by the public utility investigated, valued, revalued, or otherwise as a special franchise tax in addition to all other taxes imposed by law, and such expenses with 6 per centum interest may be charged to operating expenses and amortized over such period as the Public Utilities Commission shall deem proper and be allowed for in the rates to be charged by such utility. When any such investigation, valuation, revaluation, or other proceeding is begun the said Public Utilities Commission may call upon the utility in question for the deposit of such reasonable sum or sums as, in the opinion of said commission, it may deem necessary from time to time until the said proceeding is completed, the money so paid to be deposited in the Treasury of the United States to the credit of the appropriation account known as “Miscellaneous trust fund deposit, District of Columbia” and to be disbursed in the manner provided for by law for other expenditures of the government of the District of Columbia, for such purposes as may be approved by the Public Utilities Commission. Any unexpended balance of such sum or sums so deposited shall be returned to the utility depositing the same: Provided, That the amount expended by the commission in any valuation or rate case shall not exceed one-half of 1 per centum of the existing valuation of the company investigated, and that the amount expended in all other investigations shall not exceed one-tenth of 1 per centum of the existing valuation for any one company for any one year.

Approved, March 3, 1927.

CHAP. 305.—An Act To provide for the elimination of the Michigan Avenue grade crossing in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

_Par. 222. The provisions of the District of Columbia Viaduct Directing Act (vol. 37, p. 779) are hereby amended by inserting the following: That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia be, and they are hereby, authorized and directed to construct a viaduct and approaches to carry Michigan Avenue over the tracks and right of way of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company in accordance with plans

Approved, March 3, 1927.