CHAP. 498.—An Act To authorize an appropriation for the purchase of land adjoining Fort Bliss, Texas.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War is hereby authorized to acquire, by purchase or condemnation, additional land in the vicinity of and for use in connection with the present military reservation at Fort Bliss, Texas. The unexpended balance, namely, $275,000, of the amount appropriated for this purpose by the Act of March 4, 1925 (43 Stat. 1313, 1344), is hereby authorized to be made available, and an additional appropriation of $6,305.70 is hereby authorized, making a total of $281,305.70 herein authorized to carry out the provisions of this Act, or so much of said sum as may be necessary.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of War shall, by due advertisement in such manner as he deems best calculated to give the widest necessary publicity, call for offers of land for use in connection with said Fort Bliss, Texas, and if after negotiation he is able to buy said land, or any part or parcel or tract thereof, at such price or prices as he shall deem to be the fair and reasonable market value of the land, then he is authorized to purchase said land for said purpose at such prices; and if any of said offers of land are at prices deemed by the Secretary of War to be above the reasonable market value of such parcel or tract of land, and if after the negotiation the Secretary of War is unable to purchase the same at fair and reasonable prices as herein defined, then in such case the Secretary of War is authorized to request the Attorney General of the United States to institute condemnation proceedings for the acquiring of such tracts or parcels of land as may be necessary for such purpose.

Approved, June 17, 1930.

CHAP. 499.—An Act Granting the consent of Congress to the Niagara Frontier Bridge Commission, its successors and assigns, to construct, maintain, and operate a toll bridge across the east branch of the Niagara River at or near the city of Niagara Falls, New York.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the consent of Congress is hereby granted to the Niagara Frontier Bridge Commission, a State commission created by act of the Legislature of the State of New York, chapter 594 of the Laws of 1929, its successors and assigns, to construct, maintain, and operate a toll bridge and approaches thereto across the east branch of the Niagara River, at a point suitable to the interests of navigation, from the city of Niagara Falls, in the county of Niagara and State of New York, at a point east of Evershed Avenue in said city of Niagara Falls, to Grand Island, in the county of Erie and State of New York, in accordance with the provisions of the Act entitled “An Act to regulate the construction of bridges over navigable waters,” approved March 23, 1906.

SEC. 2. That this Act shall be null and void unless the construction of said bridge is commenced within two years and completed within five years from the date of approval hereof.

SEC. 3. If tolls are charged for the use of such bridge, the rates of toll shall be so adjusted as to provide a fund sufficient to pay the reasonable cost of maintaining, repairing, and operating the bridge and its approaches under economical management, and to provide a sinking fund sufficient to amortize the cost of the bridge and its approaches, including reasonable interest and financing cost, as
soon as possible under reasonable charges, but within a period of not to exceed twenty years from the completion thereof. After a sinking fund sufficient for such amortization shall have been so provided, such bridge shall thereafter be maintained and operated free of tolls, or the rates of toll shall thereafter be so adjusted as to provide a fund of not to exceed the amount necessary for the proper maintenance, repair, and operation of the bridge and its approaches under economical management. An accurate record of the costs of the bridge and its approaches, the expenditures for maintaining, repairing, and operating the same, and of the daily tolls collected, shall be kept and shall be available for the information of all persons interested.

Sec. 4. That the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved, June 17, 1930.

CHAP. 500.—An Act Granting the consent of Congress to the Niagara Frontier Bridge Commission, its successors and assigns, to construct, maintain, and operate a toll bridge across the east branch of the Niagara River at or near the city of Tonawanda, New York.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the consent of Congress is hereby granted to the Niagara Frontier Bridge Commission, a State commission, created by act of the Legislature of the State of New York, chapter 594 of the laws of 1929, its successors and assigns, to construct, maintain, and operate a toll bridge and approaches thereto across the east branch of the Niagara River, at a point suitable to the interests of navigation, from the town of Tonawanda, about midway between the southerly city limits of the city of Tonawanda and the northerly city limits of the city of Buffalo, to Grand Island, in the county of Erie and State of New York, in accordance with the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to regulate the construction of bridges over navigable waters," approved March 23, 1906.

Sec. 2. That this Act shall be null and void unless the construction of said bridge is commenced within two years and completed within five years from the date of approval hereof.

Sec. 3. If tolls are charged for the use of such bridge, the rates of toll shall be so adjusted as to provide a fund sufficient to pay the reasonable cost of maintaining, repairing, and operating the bridge and its approaches under economical management, and to provide a sinking fund sufficient to amortize the cost of the bridge and its approaches, including reasonable interest and financing cost, as soon as possible under reasonable charges but within a period of not to exceed twenty years from the completion thereof. After a sinking fund sufficient for such amortization shall have been so provided such bridge shall thereafter be maintained and operated free of tolls, or the rates of toll shall thereafter be so adjusted as to provide a fund of not to exceed the amount necessary for the proper maintenance, repair, and operation of the bridge and its approaches under economical management. An accurate record of the costs of the bridge and its approaches, the expenditures for maintaining, repairing, and operating the same, and of the daily tolls collected, shall be kept and shall be available for the information of all persons interested.

Sec. 4. That the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved, June 17, 1930.