Provided, however, That any installment of any such assessment not paid within the time provided in said Act shall thereafter bear interest at the rate of 12 per centum per annum: And provided further, That the advertisement by publication of the intention of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia to perform the work and the formal hearing in respect thereto required by law as to alley and sidewalk improvements shall not be required as to roadway, curbing, and gutter improvements.

Sec. 10. Any property owner, aggrieved by any assessment levied hereunder, may, within sixty days after service of notice of such assessment, file with the Commissioners of the District of Columbia a protest in writing against such assessment, accompanied by affidavits if he so desires, and if said commissioners find that the property of such owner so protesting is not benefited by the improvement for which said assessment is levied, or is benefited less than the amount of such assessment, or is unequally or inequitably assessed with relation to other property abutting such improvement, said commissioners shall abate, reduce, or adjust such assessment in accordance with such finding. In computing the sixty days provided in the said Act of Congress approved August 7, 1894, within which such assessment may be paid without interest, there shall be excluded therefrom the time between the date of the filing of any such protest and the date of action thereon by the commissioners.

Sec. 11. The Commissioners of the District of Columbia are hereby directed to cancel all assessments for improvements completed within three years prior to the date of the approval of this Act, levied under the authority of the Acts of July 21, 1914 (38 Stat. 524), and September 1, 1916 (39 Stat. 716), relating to assessments for the paving of streets, avenues, and roads, or under the Act of August 7, 1894 (28 Stat. 250), relating to assessments for laying curbs; and the commissioners are further directed to reassess the cost of such improvements against the abutting property in accordance with the provisions of this Act, which assessments shall become a lien upon the abutting property and be collected in the manner provided herein. Where assessments for such improvements have been paid in whole or in part the commissioners shall refund, within the limits of appropriations by Congress therefor, to the persons paying the same, the excess, if any, of such payments over the amounts of the reassessments levied hereunder.

Sec. 12. Should any section or provision of this Act be decided by the courts to be unconstitutional or invalid, the validity of the Act as a whole or of any part thereof other than the part decided to be unconstitutional shall not be affected.

Sec. 13. All laws and parts of laws inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.

Approved, February 20, 1931.

CHAP. 247.—An Act Authorizing an appropriation of the sum of $15,000 to defray the expenses of the Pan American Commercial Conference, to be held in Washington, District of Columbia, in 1931.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of $15,000 to enable the Pan American Union to meet the expenses of the Pan American Commercial Conference to be held in Washington, District of Columbia,
in 1931; this money to be paid by order of the Secretary of State to the Pan American Union, and to be expended in the same manner and under the same conditions as the appropriation of the United States of the quota for the support of the Pan American Union.

Approved, February 20, 1931.

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**CHAP. 248.**—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of War to exchange with the Rosslyn Connecting Railroad Company lands on the Virginia shore of the Potomac River near the west end of the Arlington Memorial Bridge.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in order to enable the Arlington Memorial Bridge project to be carried out in a satisfactory manner and to remove any interference with the plans for said bridge or its approaches on the Virginia side of the Potomac River arising from the location of the tracks of the Rosslyn Connecting Railroad Company, the Secretary of War, with the consent of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission, is authorized to effect such an exchange of lands with the Rosslyn Connecting Railroad Company as may be necessary or desirable for that purpose and will permit the relocation of the tracks of said railroad company in accord with the plans for said bridge and its approaches; and to that end the Secretary of War is authorized to convey to the Rosslyn Connecting Railroad Company such lands of the United States on the west side of the Potomac River, including lands within the administrative control and jurisdiction of the Secretary of War, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission, as may be agreed upon in said exchange in consideration of the conveyance to the United States by said railroad company of such lands of an approximately equivalent area as the Secretary of War shall deem necessary or desirable to carry out the purpose of this Act and permit the removal of the tracks of the Rosslyn Connecting Railroad Company to a location in accord with said Memorial Bridge project: Provided, That the title to the lands conveyed in exchange by the Rosslyn Connecting Railroad Company shall be satisfactory to the Secretary of War.

Approved, February 20, 1931.

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**CHAP. 249.**—Joint Resolution Authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to cooperate with the Territories of the United States under the provisions of sections 1 and 2 of the Act of Congress entitled "An Act to provide for the protection of forest lands, for the reforestation of denuded areas, for the extension of national forests, and for other purposes, in order to promote the continuous production of timber on lands chiefly suitable therefor."

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of Agriculture be, and he is hereby, authorized to cooperate with the Territories of the United States on the same terms and conditions as with States under sections 1 and 2 of the Act of Congress entitled "An Act to provide for the protection of forest lands, for the reforestation of denuded areas, for the extension of national forests, and for other purposes, in order to promote the continuous production of timber on lands chiefly suitable therefor," approved June 7, 1924.

Approved, February 20, 1931.