To authorize the Post Office Department to hold contractors responsible in damages for the loss, rifling, damage, wrong delivery, depredation upon, or other mistreatment of mail matter due to fault or negligence of the contractor or an agent or employee thereof.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 3962 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by the Act of May 11, 1926 (44 Stat. 499; U.S.C., Supp. VII, title 39, sec. 443), is hereby amended to read as follows:

"The Postmaster General may make deductions from the pay of contractors for failure to perform service according to contract and impose fines upon them for other delinquencies, which deductions or fines may be changed or remitted, in his discretion. Contractors shall also be answerable in damages to the United States for the proper care and transportation of the mails, and be accountable to the United States for any loss or damage resulting to any of such mail or any part of it by reason of the failure to exercise due care on the part of any of the contractor's officers, agents, or employees in the custody, handling, or transportation thereof. He may deduct the price of the trip in all cases where the trip is not performed and not exceeding three times the price if the failure be occasioned by the fault of the contractor or carrier."

Approved, June 13, 1934.

To provide a preliminary examination of the Paint Rock River in Jackson County, Alabama, with a view to the control of its floods.

Approved, June 13, 1934.

To provide for a preliminary examination of the Connecticut River, with a view to the control of its floods and prevention of erosion of its banks in the State of Massachusetts.

Approved, June 13, 1934.