redemption of coins, for the prevention of debasement or counterfeiting, for the security of the coins, or for any other purposes, whether such laws are penal or otherwise, shall, so far as applicable, apply to the coinage herein authorized.

Approved, May 15, 1936.

[CHAPTER 400.]

AN ACT

To authorize the procurement, without advertising, of certain War Department property, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whenever proposals are invited for the furnishing of articles of Chemical Warfare or Signal property of the War Department, the character of which or the ingredients thereof are of such a nature that the interests of the public service would be injured by publicly divulging them, the chief of the supply service concerned is authorized to purchase such articles in such manner as he may deem most economical and efficient.

Approved, May 15, 1936.

[CHAPTER 401.]

AN ACT

To provide for a preliminary examination of the Sabine and Neches Rivers, with a view to controlling their floods and regulating, conserving, and utilizing the waters thereof, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to cause a preliminary examination to be made of the Sabine and Neches Rivers, and their tributaries, with a view to controlling their floods and regulating, conserving, and utilizing the waters thereof, in accordance with the provisions of section 8 of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the control of the floods of the Mississippi River and of the Sacramento River, California, and for other purposes", approved March 1, 1912, the cost thereof to be paid from appropriations herefore or hereafter made for examinations, surveys, and contingencies of rivers and harbors.

Approved, May 15, 1936.

[CHAPTER 402.]

AN ACT

To authorize the coinage of 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the one-hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of Bridgeport, Connecticut, as a city.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of the city of Bridgeport, Connecticut, there shall be coined at a mint of the United States to be designated by the Director of the Mint not less than twenty-five thousand silver 50-cent pieces of standard size, weight, and composition and of a special appropriate single design to be fixed by the Director of the Mint, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, but the United States shall not be subject to the expense of making the necessary dies and other preparations for this coinage.

1 So in original.
SEC. 2. The coins herein authorized shall bear the date 1936, irrespective of the year in which they are minted or issued, shall be legal tender in any payment to the amount of their face value, and shall be issued only upon the request of the Bridgeport Centennial, Incorporated, Bridgeport, Connecticut, upon payment by it of the par value of such coins. Such coins may be disposed of at par or at a premium by such Bridgeport Centennial, Incorporated, and the net proceeds shall be used by it in defraying the expenses incidental and appropriate to the commemoration of such event.

SEC. 3. All laws now in force relating to the subsidiary silver coins of the United States and the coining or striking of the same, regulating and guarding the process of coinage, providing for the purchase of material, and for the transportation, distribution, and redemption of coins, for the prevention of debasement or counterfeiting, for the security of the coins, or for any other purposes, whether such laws are penal or otherwise, shall, so far as applicable, apply to the coinage herein authorized.

Approved, May 15, 1936.

[CHAPTER 403.]

AN ACT

For the relief of the State of New Jersey.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the State of New Jersey and David S. Hill, United States property and disbursing officer for New Jersey, are hereby relieved from accountability for certain property belonging to the United States, of the total value of $4,467.76, which property was loaned to such State for use by the New Jersey National Guard and was unavoidably lost or destroyed when issued for use in connection with the Morro Castle disaster on September 8, 1934, and providing for replacement, without cost to the State of New Jersey, of like articles for reissue to and the use of the National Guard of New Jersey.

Approved, May 15, 1936.

[CHAPTER 404.]

AN ACT

Making appropriations for the military and nonmilitary activities of the War Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1937, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the military and nonmilitary activities of the War Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1937, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I—MILITARY ACTIVITIES AND OTHER EXPENSES OF THE WAR DEPARTMENT INCIDENT THERETO

SALARIES, WAR DEPARTMENT

For compensation for personal services in the District of Columbia, as follows:

Office of Secretary of War: Secretary of War, Assistant Secretary of War, and other personal services, $267,280: Provided, That no field-service appropriation shall be available for personal services in the War Department except as may be expressly authorized herein.