March 29, 1939
[Public, No. 16]

AN ACT

To exempt all vessels of the United States of less than two hundred tons gross registered tonnage from the provisions of the Officers' Competency Certificates Convention, 1936 (being International Labor Conference Treaty, Convention Numbered 53, adopted by the International Labor Conference at Geneva in 1936).

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That pursuant to the authority granted in the second clause of Article One of the Officers' Competency Certificates Convention, 1936, ratified by the President of the United States on September 1, 1938, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate of the United States, given June 13, 1938 (being International Labor Conference Treaty, Draft Convention, Numbered 53, adopted by the International Labor Conference at Geneva in 1936), vessels of the United States of less than two hundred tons gross registered tonnage are hereby exempted from the provisions of such convention: Provided, however, That neither the ratification of the said convention by the President of the United States, nor the advice and consent of the United States Senate given thereto, nor any provision of the said convention as ratified, nor any provision of this Act shall be deemed to alter, amend, or repeal any statute of the United States existing at the time of said ratification, or thereafter enacted, with regard to any such vessel of less than two hundred tons gross registered tonnage.

Approved, March 29, 1939.

March 29, 1939
[Public, No. 17]

AN ACT

To extend the time for commencing and completing bridges across Cross Bayou, Twelve Mile Bayou, and Caddo Lake in Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the times for commencing and completing the construction of bridges across Cross Bayou at Shreveport, Louisiana; across Twelve Mile Bayou, approximately three miles north of Shreveport, Louisiana; and across Caddo Lake at or near Mooringsport, Louisiana, authorized to be built by the Louisiana Highway Commission and/or the Parish of Caddo, Louisiana, by an Act of Congress approved August 19, 1937, are hereby extended, with respect to each bridge, one and three years, respectively, from August 19, 1939.

Sec. 2. The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved, March 29, 1939.

March 29, 1939

JOINT RESOLUTION

To amend the joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution to provide that the United States extend to foreign governments invitations to participate in the Third International Congress for Microbiology to be held in the United States during the calendar year 1939."

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution to provide that the United States extend to foreign governments invitations to participate in the Third International Congress for Microbiology to be held in the United States during the calendar year 1939."
States during the calendar year 1939", approved June 25, 1938, is hereby amended by inserting after the word “Microbiologists” the following section:

"Sec. 2. That the sum of $10,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the expenses of organizing and holding the Third International Congress for Microbiology, including personal services in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, without regard to the Classification Act of 1923, as amended; communication services; stenographic reporting, translating, and other services by contract if deemed necessary, without regard to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes (U. S. C., title 41, sec. 5); travel expenses; local transportation; hire of motor-propelled passenger-carrying vehicles; transportation of things; rent in the District of Columbia and elsewhere; printing and binding; entertainment; official cards; purchase of newspapers, periodicals, books, and documents; stationery, membership badges, and such other expenses as may be actually and necessarily incurred by the Government of the United States by reason of observance of appropriate courtesies in connection therewith, and such other expenses as may be authorized by the Secretary of State, including the reimbursement of other appropriations from which payments may have been made for any of the purposes herein specified."

Approved, March 29, 1939.

[CHAPTER 34]

JOINT RESOLUTION

Making an additional appropriation for the fiscal year 1939 for expenditure by the United States Employees’ Compensation Commission in accordance with section 19 of the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1938.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the sum of $2,000,000 is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for expenditure during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1939, by the United States Employees’ Compensation Commission in accordance with the provisions of section 16 of the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1938.

Approved, April 1, 1939.

[CHAPTER 35]

AN ACT

To provide more effectively for the national defense by carrying out the recommendations of the President in his message of January 12, 1939, to the Congress.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act approved June 24, 1936 (49 Stat. 1907), is hereby repealed. Section 8 of the Act of July 2, 1926 (44 Stat. 780), is hereby stricken out and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

"Sec. 8. The Secretary of War is hereby authorized to equip and maintain the Air Corps with not to exceed six thousand serviceable airplanes, and such number of airships and free and captive balloons as he may determine to be necessary for training purposes together with spare parts, equipment, supplies, hangars, and installation necessary for the operation and maintenance thereof; and there is hereby authorized to be appropriated for such purposes an amount not