[CHAPTER 429]

AN ACT

To amend section 224 of the Criminal Code so as to penalize the making of false claims for the loss of insured mail matter.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 224 of the Criminal Code (35 Stat. 1133; U. S. C., title 18, sec. 354) be, and the same is hereby, amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 224. Whoever shall make, allege, or present, or cause to be made, alleged, or presented, or assist, aid, or abet in making, alleging, or presenting, any claim or application for indemnity for the loss of any registered or insured letter, parcel, package, or other article or matter, or the contents thereof, knowing such claim or application to be false, fictitious, or fraudulent; or whoever for the purpose of obtaining or aiding to obtain the payment or approval of any such claim or application, shall make or use, or cause to be made or used, any false statement, certificate, affidavit, or deposition; or whoever shall knowingly and willfully misrepresent, or misstate, or, for the purpose aforesaid, shall knowingly and willfully conceal any material fact or circumstance in respect of any such claim or application for indemnity, shall be fined not more than $500 or imprisoned not more than one year, or both, except in cases where the amount of such claim or application for indemnity is less than $100 there may be imposed a fine only."

Approved, August 5, 1939.

[CHAPTER 430]

AN ACT

To authorize the temporary appointment of a special judge for the District Court of the Virgin Islands.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 26 of the Organic Act of the Virgin Islands of the United States (Act of June 22, 1936, 49 Stat. 1813; U. S. C., title 48, sec. 1405y) be, and the same is hereby, amended by inserting therein immediately following the first sentence thereof the following sentence: "In case of the absence, disability, or disqualification of such judge, the President is authorized to appoint a special judge to discharge the duties of such judge only until the termination of such absence, disability, or disqualification; and the special judge so appointed shall be authorized and empowered to perform the duties of such office during such periods and shall receive compensation at the same rate, for the period of time actually served, and the same allowances for expenses and transportation, as are paid and allowed the judge of said court."

Approved, August 5, 1939.

[CHAPTER 431]

AN ACT

To provide for the public auction of certain town lots within the city of Parker, Arizona.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, authorized to sell at public auction or after publicly advertising for bids, to the highest and best bidder, any unsold lots in the townsite of Parker, Arizona: Provided, That the said Secretary may, in his discretion, reject any or all bids so received: And provided further, That no sale shall be made pur-