JOINT RESOLUTION

Authorizing and requesting the President to accept the invitation of the Government of Norway to the Government of the United States to participate in an International Exhibition of Polar Exploration, which will be held at Bergen, Norway, in 1940; and authorizing an appropriation to cover the expenses of such participation.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President is hereby authorized and requested to accept the invitation extended by the Government of Norway to the Government of the United States to participate in an International Exhibition of Polar Exploration, which is to be held at Bergen, Norway, in 1940.

Sec. 2. The President is authorized to appoint a commissioner to represent the United States at the exhibition, who will serve in this capacity without compensation; or the President is authorized to designate, upon the nomination of the Secretary of State, a permanent Government official as commissioner to represent the United States at the exhibition, who will serve in this capacity without additional compensation. The expenses of the commissioner and such staff as he may need to assist him will be met out of funds provided for the purposes of Government participation in the exhibition. The duties of the commissioner and his assistants shall be prescribed by the Secretary of State. The other departments of the Government are authorized and directed to cooperate with the Secretary of State or his authorized representatives in preparing the exhibit.

Sec. 3. The Secretary of State is authorized to employ such assistants as may be deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution, and to fix their reasonable compensation without regard to the civil-service laws and regulations and the Classification Act of 1923, as amended; to purchase such materials, contract for such labor and other services as may be necessary, without regard to the provisions of section 3709 of the Revised Statutes (U. S. C., title 41, sec. 5). The Secretary of State may delegate to the commissioner or other officer any of the powers vested in him by this resolution as may be deemed advisable.

Sec. 4. In order to defray the expenses of representation of the United States at the exhibition, including personal services in the District of Columbia or elsewhere; transportation of things; traveling and subsistence expenses; rent and heating, lighting and maintenance services; printing and binding; selection, purchase, assembling, preparation, transportation, arrangement, safekeeping, demonstration, removing, repairing, and altering of an exhibit or exhibits, including the preparation of an exhibit plan; official cards; entertainment; hire, maintenance, and operation of motor-propelled passenger-carrying vehicles; communication service; purchase or rental of furniture and equipment; stationery and supplies, books of reference, and periodicals, newspapers and other appropriate publications, maps, reports, documents, plans, specifications, and manuscripts; and ice and drinking water for office use: Provided, That arrangements for telephone services, rents, and subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals may be made in advance; and such other expenses as may be necessary in the opinion of the Secretary of State to carry out the purposes of this resolution; the sum of $15,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to remain available until expended for the purposes of this joint resolution, and any unexpended balances shall be covered into
Expenditures subject to approval of Secretary of State.

Delegation of authority.

Limitation.

Audit of accounts, etc.

Exhibits by Government agencies.

SEC. 4. The Treasury of the United States. All expenditures shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of State and payable upon his certification: Provided further, That he is authorized in his discretion to delegate this authority to the commissioner or such other officer as he may deem advisable. Such expenditures shall not be subject to the provisions of any law regulating or limiting expenditure of public money other than this resolution, but this provision shall not be construed to waive the submission of accounts and vouchers to the General Accounting Office for audit, or permit any indebtedness to be incurred in excess of the amount authorized to be appropriated.

SEC. 5. The heads of the various executive departments and independent offices and establishments of the Government are authorized and directed to assist the Secretary of State, or such other officers of the Government as may be designated or appointed by the Secretary of State, to assemble the exhibit, in the procurement, installation, and display of an exhibit, or exhibits; to lend such materials, articles, manuscripts, documents, papers, specimens, and exhibits as the Secretary of State shall deem to be in the interest of the United States in carrying out the purposes of this resolution; and to contract for such labor or other services as may be requested by the Secretary of State, without regard to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes (U. S. C., title 41, sec. 5).

SEC. 6. The commissioner or officer in charge of the preparation of the exhibit, with the approval of the Secretary of State, may receive from any source contributions of material to aid in carrying out the general purposes of this resolution, and at the close of the exhibition or when the connection of the Government of the United States therewith ceases shall, under the direction of the Secretary of State, return the articles so contributed to the source from which they came, or dispose of them, or such portion thereof as may be unused, and account therefor.

SEC. 7. Any expenses incident to the restoration of any of the property assembled under the provisions of this resolution, to such a condition which will permit its use at subsequent exhibitions or celebrations, and for the continued employment of personnel necessary to close out the fiscal and other records and to prepare the reports, may be paid from the appropriation authorized herein.

SEC. 8. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of State to transmit to the Congress within six months after the close of the exhibition a detailed statement of all expenditures, together with such other reports as may be deemed proper, which reports shall be prepared and arranged with a view to concise statement and convenient reference.

Approved, August 7, 1939.

[CHAPTER 550]

AN ACT

To amend the Act entitled "An Act for the retirement of employees of the Alaska Railroad, Territory of Alaska, who are citizens of the United States", approved June 29, 1936, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That subsection (c) of section 11 of the Act entitled "An Act for the retirement of employees of the Alaska Railroad, Territory of Alaska, who are citizens of the United States", approved June 29, 1936, is amended to read as follows:

"(c) In case an annuitant shall die without having received in annuities purchased by the employee's contributions as provided in