[CHAPTER 725] JOINT RESOLUTION

To authorize Commander Howard L. Vickery to hold the office of a member of the United States Maritime Commission.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That notwithstanding any provision of law contrary hereto or inconsistent herewith, Commander Howard L. Vickery, being a commissioned officer on the active list, United States Navy, is authorized to hold the office of a member of the United States Maritime Commission without loss of or prejudice to his status as a commissioned officer on the active list of the United States Navy, and if appointed to such civil office he shall receive, in addition to his pay and allowances as such commissioned officer, an amount equal to the difference between such pay and allowances as such commissioned officer and the salary prescribed by law for such civil office.

Approved, September 24, 1940.

[CHAPTER 726] JOINT RESOLUTION

Making additional appropriations for the Military Establishment for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1941.

Resolved 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 Establishment for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1941, namely:


Acquisition of Land: For acquisition of land, including rights pertaining thereto, leasehold and other interests therein, and temporary use thereof, without regard to the provisions of Sections 355, 1136, and 3648, Revised Statutes, as amended, (10 U. S. C. 1339; 40 U. S. C. 255; 31 U. S. C. 529), $8,744,000.

Approved, September 24, 1940.

[CHAPTER 727] AN ACT

To provide for the disposition of certain photographed records of the United States Government, 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 any agency of the United States Government shall have photographed or microphotographed all or any part of the records kept by or in the agency in a manner and on film that complies with the minimum standards of quality approved for permanent photographic records by the National Bureau of Standards, and whenever such photographs or microphotographs shall be placed in conveniently accessible files and provision made for preserving, examining, and using the same, the head of such agency may, with the approval of the Archivist of the United States, cause the original records from which the photographs or microphotographs have been made or any part thereof to be dis-
posed of according to methods prescribed by law, provided records of the same specific kind in the particular agency have been previously authorized for disposition by Congress.

Sec. 2. Photographs or microphotographs of any record photographed or microphotographed as herein provided shall have the same force and effect as the originals thereof would have had, and shall be treated as originals for the purpose of their admissibility in evidence. Duly certified or authenticated copies of such photographs or microphotographs shall be admitted in evidence equally with the original photographs or microphotographs.

Approved, September 24, 1940.

[CHAPTER 728]

AN ACT

Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to issue patents for lands held under color of title.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That if within five years after passage of this Act it shall be shown to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Interior that a tract or tracts of public land in Monroe County in the State of Michigan, not exceeding in the aggregate one hundred and sixty acres, has or have been held in good faith and in peaceable, adverse possession by a citizen of the United States, his ancestors or grantors, for more than twenty years prior to the approval of this Act under claim or color of title, and that improvements have been placed on such land or some part thereof has been reduced to cultivation, the Secretary shall, upon the payment of $1.25 per acre, cause a patent or patents to issue for such land to any such citizen: Provided, That the term "citizen", as used herein, shall be held to include a corporation organized under the laws of the United States or any State or Territory thereof: Provided further, That coal and all other minerals contained therein are hereby reserved to the United States; that said coal and other minerals shall be subject to sale or disposal by the United States under applicable leasing and mineral land laws, and permittees, lessees, or grantees of the United States shall have the right to enter upon said lands for the purpose of prospecting for and mining such deposits.

Approved, September 24, 1940.

[CHAPTER 729]

AN ACT

To extend the age limits for applicants for appointment as midshipmen at the United States Naval Academy.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That hereafter all candidates for admission to the Naval Academy must be not less than seventeen years of age nor more than twenty-one years of age on April 1 of the calendar year in which they enter the academy: Provided, That for entrance in the year 1941, the minimum age shall be not less than sixteen years.

Sec. 2. All laws or parts of laws inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Approved, September 24, 1940.