notwithstanding any other provisions of law insofar as they may restrict or prohibit loans or other extensions of credit to, or other transactions with, the governments of the countries of the Western Hemisphere or their agencies or nationals: Provided, That no such loans shall be made in violation of international law as interpreted by the Department of State, or of the Act of April 13, 1934 (48 Stat. 574), or of the Neutrality Act of 1939. Upon the written request of the Federal Loan Administrator, with the approval of the President, the bank is authorized, subject to such conditions and limitations as may be set forth in such request or approval, to exercise the powers and perform the functions herein set forth. Such loans may be made and administered in such manner and upon such terms and conditions as the bank may determine.”

SEC. 2. Section 5d of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation Act, as amended, is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following new paragraph:

“The amount of notes, bonds, debentures, and other such obligations which the Reconstruction Finance Corporation is authorized to issue and have outstanding at any one time under existing law is hereby increased by $1,500,000,000.”

SEC. 3. That section 9 of the Act approved January 31, 1935 (49 Stat. 4), as amended, is hereby amended by (a) striking out “June 30 1941” and inserting in lieu thereof “January 22, 1947”; (b) deleting from the first proviso thereof the figure “$200,000,000” and inserting in lieu thereof the figure “$700,000,000” ; and (c) striking out the second proviso thereof.

Approved, September 26, 1940.

[CHAPTER 735] AN ACT

To extend the times for commencing and completing the construction of a bridge across the Mississippi River at or near Memphis, Tennessee.

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 a bridge across the Mississippi River, at or near Memphis, authorized to be built by the Memphis and Arkansas Bridge Commission by an Act of Congress approved August 10, 1939, are hereby extended one and three years, respectively, from August 10, 1940.

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

Approved, September 27, 1940.

[CHAPTER 736] AN ACT

To provide for the advancement on the retired list of any officer of the Navy or Marine Corps retired pursuant to the provisions of section 13 or 15 (e) of the Act of June 23, 1938.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any officer of the Navy or Marine Corps who has heretofore been placed on the retired list pursuant to the provisions of section 13 or 15 (e) of the Act of June 23, 1938 (52 Stat. 944), or both of such sections, shall receive the retired pay of a rear admiral of the upper half.

Approved, October 4, 1940.