[CHAPTER 794]

AN ACT

To authorize the maintenance and operation of fish hatcheries in connection with the Grand Coulee Dam project.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in connection with fish hatcheries built or to be built as a part of the fish-protection program required on the Grand Coulee Dam project, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to contract with the State of Washington for the maintenance and operation of any of them at the expense of said State.

Approved, October 9, 1940.

[CHAPTER 795]

AN ACT

Authorizing the Indiana State Toll Bridge Commission to construct, maintain, and operate a toll bridge across the Wabash River at or near Mount Vernon, Posey County, Indiana.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in order to promote interstate commerce, improve the Postal Service, and provide for military and other purposes, the Indiana State Toll Bridge Commission is hereby authorized to construct, maintain, and operate a bridge and approaches thereto across the Wabash River, at a point suitable to the interests of navigation, at or near Mount Vernon, Posey County, Indiana, in accordance with the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to regulate the construction of bridges over navigable waters", approved March 23, 1906, and subject to the conditions and limitations contained in this Act.

Sec. 2. There is hereby conferred upon the Indiana State Toll Bridge Commission all such rights and powers to enter upon lands and to acquire, condemn, occupy, possess, and use real estate and other property needed for the location, construction, maintenance, and operation of such bridge and its approaches, as are possessed by railroad corporations for railroad purposes or by bridge corporations for bridge purposes in the State in which such real estate or other property is situated, upon making just compensation therefor, to be ascertained and paid according to the laws of such State, and the proceedings therefor shall be the same as in the condemnation or expropriation of property for public purposes in such State.

Sec. 3. The said Indiana State Toll Bridge Commission is hereby authorized to fix and charge tolls for transit over such bridge, and the rates of toll so fixed shall be the legal rates until changed by the Secretary of War under the authority contained in the Act of March 23, 1906.

Sec. 4. In fixing the rates of toll to be charged for the use of such bridge, the same shall be so adjusted as to provide a fund sufficient to pay for the reasonable cost of maintaining, repairing, and operating the bridge and its approaches under economical management, and to provide a sinking fund sufficient to amortize the cost of such bridge and its approaches, including reasonable interest and financing cost, as soon as possible, under reasonable charges, but within a period of not to exceed twenty years from the completion thereof. After a sinking fund sufficient for such amortization shall have been so provided, such bridge shall thereafter be maintained and operated free of tolls. An accurate record of the cost of the bridge and its approaches, the expenditures for maintaining, repairing, and operating the same, and of the daily tolls collected shall be kept and shall be available for the information of all persons interested.
SEC. 5. The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved, October 9, 1940.

[CHAPTER 796]

AN ACT

To restrict or regulate the delivery of checks drawn against funds of the United States, or any agency or instrumentality thereof, to addresses outside the United States, its Territories, and possessions, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That hereafter no check or warrant drawn against funds of the United States, or any agency or instrumentality thereof, shall be sent from the United States (including its Territories and possessions and the Commonwealth of the Philippine Islands) for delivery in a foreign country in any case in which the Secretary of the Treasury determines that postal, transportation, or banking facilities in general, or local conditions in the country to which such check or warrant is to be delivered, are such that there is not a reasonable assurance that the payee will actually receive such check or warrant and be able to negotiate the same for full value.

SEC. 2. Any check or warrant, the sending of which is prohibited under the provisions of section 1 hereof, shall be held by the drawer until the close of the calendar quarter next following its date, during which period such check or warrant may be released for delivery if the Secretary of the Treasury determines that conditions have so changed as to provide a reasonable assurance that the payee will actually receive the check or warrant and be able to negotiate it for full value. At the end of such quarter, unless the Secretary of the Treasury shall otherwise direct, the drawer shall transmit all checks and warrants withheld in accordance with the provisions of this Act to the drawee thereof, and forward a report stating fully the name and address of the payee; the date, number, and amount of the check or warrant; and the account against which it was drawn, to the Bureau of Accounts of the Treasury Department. The amounts of such undelivered checks and warrants so transmitted shall thereupon be transferred by the drawee from the account of the drawer to a special deposit account with the Treasurer of the United States entitled "Secretary of the Treasury, Proceeds of Withheld Foreign Checks", at which time such checks and warrants shall be marked "Paid into Withheld Foreign Check Account". Thereafter the drawee shall deliver such checks and warrants, together with other paid checks and warrants, to the Comptroller General of the United States, who shall allow credit therefor in the accounts of the drawer and the drawee.

In the case of checks representing payments under laws administered by the Veterans' Administration, when the amount transferred to the special deposit account on behalf of any individual payee equals $1,000, the amounts of any further checks, except checks under contracts of insurance, payable to such payee under such laws shall be covered into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts. The deposit in the special deposit account or the covering into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts, pursuant to the provisions of this section, of the amount of any check issued under laws administered by the Veterans' Administration shall be considered for all purposes, including determinations of rights under section 305 of the World War Veterans' Act, 1924, as amended, as payment to the person entitled thereto.