Mystic, Connecticut, the Joseph Conrad for use by the Marine Historical Association of Mystic, Connecticut, as a museum and for youth-training purposes to be in large part devoted to creating interest in the merchant marine and maritime matters. The transfer of said ship to carry a provision that in the event the Maritime Commission should need the ship for training purposes, then it shall be transferred to the Maritime Commission. The Maritime Commission is also authorized to place in the museum pictures, relics, flags, displays, and documents, for the purpose of creating interest in the American merchant marine and maritime matters. In the event the Marine Historical Association of Mystic, Connecticut, should fail to accept under this Act, the Maritime Commission is authorized to give and deliver the said ship to the city of Saint Petersburg, Florida, for museum and youth-training purposes.

Approved July 9, 1947.

[CHAPTER 219]

AN ACT

To amend the Civil Service Retirement Act of May 29, 1930, as amended, to provide annuities for investigatory personnel of the Federal Bureau of Investigation who have rendered at least twenty years of service.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 1 (b) of the Civil Service Retirement Act of May 29, 1930, as amended, is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

“(i) Any special agent, special agent in charge, inspector, Assistant Director, assistant to the Director, Associate Director, or the Director, who is at least fifty years of age and who has rendered twenty years of service or more as a special agent, or as aforesaid above, in the Federal Bureau of Investigation may, on his own application and with the consent of the Attorney General, retire from the service and such annuity of such employee shall be equal to 2 per centum of his average basic salary for the five years next preceding the date of his retirement, multiplied by the number of years of service, not exceeding thirty years.”

Approved July 11, 1947.

[CHAPTER 220]

AN ACT

To authorize the preparation of preliminary plans and estimates of cost for an additional office building for the use of the United States Senate.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Architect of the Capitol, subject to the direction and supervision of the Senate Office Building Commission created by the Sundry Civil Appropriation Act of April 28, 1904 (33 Stat. 481), the membership of which is hereby increased from three to five members, to be appointed by the President of the Senate, is authorized and directed to prepare preliminary plans and estimates of cost for an additional office building for the use of the United States Senate.

Sec. 2. The Architect of the Capitol is authorized to make such expenditures as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act, and there is hereby authorized to be appropriated for such purpose the sum of $25,000.

Approved July 11, 1947.
[CHAPTER 221]

AN ACT

To amend the Act entitled "An Act to define the area of the United States Capitol Grounds, to regulate the use thereof, and for other purposes", approved July 31, 1946.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 14 (b) of the Act entitled "An Act to define the area of the United States Capitol Grounds, to regulate the use thereof, and for other purposes", approved July 31, 1946 (60 Stat. 718), is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(b) Regulations authorized to be promulgated under this section shall be promulgated by the Capitol Police Board and such regulations may be amended from time to time by the Capitol Police Board whenever it shall deem it necessary: Provided, That until such regulations are promulgated and become effective, the traffic regulations of the District of Columbia shall be applicable to the United States Capitol Grounds."

SEC. 2. Section 14 (c) of said Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(c) All regulations promulgated under the authority of this section shall be promulgated by the Capitol Police Board, be printed in one or more of the daily newspapers published in the District of Columbia, and shall not become effective until the expiration of ten days after the date of such publication, except that whenever the Capitol Police Board deems it advisable to make effective immediately any regulation relating to parking, diverting of vehicular traffic, or the closing of streets to such traffic, the regulation shall be effective immediately upon placing at the point where it is to be in force conspicuous signs containing a notice of the regulation. Any expenses incurred under this subsection shall be payable from the appropriation 'Uniforms and Equipment, Capitol Police'."

Approved July 11, 1947.

[CHAPTER 222]

AN ACT

To establish a procedure for facilitating the payment of certain Government checks, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, with the exception of checks issued on account of public-debt obligations and transactions regarding the administration of banking and currency laws, the amounts of all original and substitute checks drawn on the Treasurer of the United States, including those drawn by wholly owned and mixed-ownership Government corporations, or drawn by authorized officers of the United States on designated depositaries, which have not been paid prior to the close of the fiscal year next following the fiscal year in which the checks were issued, shall be transferred from the account of the drawer or the account then available for the payment thereof to a special-deposit account or accounts on the books of the Treasurer of the United States.

(b) With the exception of checks issued on account of public-debt obligations and transactions regarding the administration of banking and currency laws, any original or any substitute checks heretofore or hereafter drawn on the Treasurer of the United States, including those drawn by wholly owned and mixed-ownership Government corporations, or drawn by authorized officers of the United States on designated depositaries which have not been paid prior to the close of the fiscal
year next following the fiscal year in which the checks were issued and checks issued in payment of claims settled by the General Accounting Office on account of any of such checks shall be payable from the special-deposit account or accounts established pursuant to this section: Provided, That in the following classes of cases any original or substitute check shall be payable from the special-deposit account or accounts only after settlement by the General Accounting Office: (1) Where the check is drawn on a designated depositary, (2) where the owner or holder of the check has died or is incompetent, (3) where on presentation of the check for payment the Treasurer of the United States is on notice of a doubtful question of law or fact, and (4) where the check is over ten years old: And provided further, That the limitation imposed in respect to certain claims or demands against the United States by the Act of October 9, 1940 (54 Stat. 1061; U. S. C., title 31, secs. 71a, 237), shall not be deemed to apply to original or substitute checks heretofore or hereafter drawn on the Treasurer of the United States, including those drawn by wholly owned and mixed-ownership Government corporations, or drawn by authorized officers of the United States on designated depositaries, but nothing contained in this Act shall be deemed to affect the limitation imposed in respect to claims on account of certain checks by section 2 of the Act of June 22, 1926 (44 Stat. 761; U. S. C., title 31, sec. 122).

Sec. 2. The balances deposited to the credit of the outstanding-liabilities account of any fiscal year pursuant to section 21 of the Permanent Appropriation Repeal Act, 1934 (48 Stat. 1235; U. S. C., title 31, section 725t), and which have not been covered into the surplus fund of the Treasury shall be transferred to the foregoing special-deposit account or accounts and together with the amounts transferred thereto under the provisions of section 1 shall be available to pay any check payable from such account or accounts.

Sec. 3. The Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to take such action as may be necessary to transfer at appropriate intervals from the foregoing special-deposit account or accounts to the appropriate receipt account or accounts on the books of the Treasury any amounts not required to effect the purposes of this Act and with the concurrence of the Comptroller General to make such rules and regulations as he may deem necessary or proper for the administration of the provisions of this Act.

Sec. 4. (a) Sections 306, 307, 308, 309, and 310 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, as amended (U. S. C., title 31, secs. 149, 150, 151, 152, 153), and section 21 of the Permanent Appropriation Repeal Act, 1934 (48 Stat. 1235; U. S. C., title 31, section 725t), are hereby repealed.

(b) Section 5 of the Act of July 1, 1916, as amended (U. S. C., title 31, sec. 154), is hereby amended to read as follows:

"At the termination of each fiscal year the General Accounting Office shall report to the Secretary of the Treasury all checks issued by any disbursing officer of the Government or its wholly owned or mixed-ownership corporations, as shown by his accounts rendered to the General Accounting Office, or otherwise, which shall then have been outstanding and unpaid for one full fiscal year after the fiscal year in which issued, stating in such report the date, number, and amount of each check and the symbol on which it was drawn."

(c) Subsection (a) of section 3646 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, as amended (U. S. C., 1940 edition, Supp. V, title 31, sec. 528 (a)) is further amended by deleting the phrase "before the close of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the original check was issued" and inserting in lieu thereof the phrase "prior to the expiration of ten years from the date on which the original check was issued" and by inserting immediately following the phrase "from
the account of the drawer" the phrase "or the account available for payment of the original check".

(d) Subsections (c) and (e) of section 3646 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, as amended (U. S. C., 1940 edition, Supp. V, title 31, secs. 528 (c) and (e)), are respectively, further amended by deleting the phrase "before the close of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the original check was issued" and inserting in lieu thereof the phrase "prior to the expiration of ten years from the date on which the original check was issued."

(e) Subsection (f) of section 3646 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, as amended (U. S. C., 1940 edition, Supp. V, title 31, sec. 528 (f)) is further amended to read as follows:

"(f) Substitutes issued under this section drawn on the Treasurer of the United States, except those for checks issued on account of public-debt obligations and transactions regarding the administration of banking and currency laws, shall be deemed to be original checks and shall be payable under the same conditions as original checks. Substitutes for checks issued on account of public-debt obligations and transactions regarding the administration of banking and currency laws shall be payable directly by the Treasurer of the United States without limitation of time."

(f) Subsection (g) of section 3646 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, as amended (U. S. C., 1940 edition, Supp. V, title 31, sec. 528 (g)) is further amended by deleting the phrase "by any corporation or other entity" and inserting in lieu thereof "by any wholly owned or mixed-ownership Government corporation or by any entity".

Sec. 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 1947.

Approved July 11, 1947.

[CHAPTER 223]

AN ACT

To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell certain lands in Alaska to the city of Sitka, Alaska.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized to sell at their reasonably appraised value to the city of Sitka, Alaska, the following-described lands and improvements thereon: The tract of land formerly occupied by the Alaska Agricultural Experiment Station more particularly shown on the official survey map of the city of Sitka as the United States Reserve for Agricultural Investigations and Weather Service.

Approved July 11, 1947.

[CHAPTER 224]

AN ACT

To transfer Blair County, Pennsylvania, from the middle judicial district of Pennsylvania to the western judicial district of Pennsylvania.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Blair County, Pennsylvania, of the middle judicial district of Pennsylvania, be, and it is hereby, detached from said judicial district and attached to the western judicial district of Pennsylvania: Provided, That the transfer herein provided shall not affect any case or proceedings now pending.

Approved July 11, 1947.
[CHAPTER 225]

AN ACT

To amend the Act of June 14, 1938, so as to authorize the Cairo Bridge Commission to issue its refunding bonds for the purpose of refunding the outstanding bonds issued by the commission to pay the cost of a certain toll bridge at or near Cairo, Illinois.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 5 of the Act entitled "An Act to authorize the Cairo Bridge Commission, or the successors of said commission, to acquire by purchase, and to improve, maintain, and operate a toll bridge across the Mississippi River at or near Cairo, Illinois", approved June 14, 1938 (Public Numbered 601, Seventy-fifth Congress, 52 Stat. 679), is amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 5. The power granted to the commission by this Act to issue its negotiable bonds for the payment of the cost of said bridge and its approaches and the necessary lands, easements, and appurtenances thereto, shall include the power to refund said bonds, including the payment of any redemption premium thereon, by the issuance of negotiable refunding bonds of the commission, bearing interest at a lower rate or rates, in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the principal amount of outstanding bonds to be refunded plus the amount of the redemption premium payable on said outstanding bonds at the date of the redemption thereof. All of the provisions of sections 4 and 5 of said Act of April 13, 1934, relating to the bridge constructed, to the bonds issued, and to the trust agreement entered into under the authority of said Act, and relating to the collection of bridge tolls and to the application of such tolls, shall apply to the bridge acquired and to the bonds issued or to be issued under the authority of this Act."

Approved July 11, 1947.

[CHAPTER 226]

AN ACT

To authorize the establishment of a band in the Metropolitan Police force.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is hereby authorized to be established in the Metropolitan Police Department a band to perform at such municipal or civic functions and events as may be authorized by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia. The Major and Superintendent of Police is authorized in his discretion to detail, without additional compensation, such officers and members of the Metropolitan Police force as may request such a detail to participate in the activities of such band. The said Commissioners are authorized to employ, without reference to the civil-service laws, one director for such band with compensation at a rate not to exceed the rate of compensation to which a lieutenant in the Metropolitan Police force is entitled.

Sec. 2. Notwithstanding the limitations of existing law, the said Commissioners may appoint to, and employ in, the position of director of such band, any retired officer of the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard, and such retired officer shall be entitled to receive, in addition to his retired pay, the compensation authorized by this Act to be paid to such director, such additional compensation to be payable from District of Columbia appropriations.

Sec. 3. Appropriations to carry out the purpose of this Act is hereby authorized.

Approved July 11, 1947.
To authorize the preparation of preliminary plans and estimates of cost of for the erection of an addition or extension to the House Office Buildings and the remodeling of the fifth floor of the Old House Office Building.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Architect of the Capitol, subject to the direction and supervision of the House Office Building Commission, is authorized and directed to prepare preliminary plans and estimates of cost for (1) the erection of an addition or extension to the House Office Buildings for the use of the United States House of Representatives, including accommodations for parking of automobiles; (2) the remodeling of the fifth floor of the Old House Office Building to provide additional office accommodations for Members of the House of Representatives; and (3) the renewal of plumbing in the Old House Office Building.

Sec. 2. The Architect of the Capitol is authorized to make such expenditures as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act, and there is hereby authorized to be appropriated for such purpose the sum of $25,000.

Approved July 11, 1947.

To amend the Code of Laws of the District of Columbia, with respect to abandonment of condemnation proceedings.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 490 of chapter XV of the Code of Laws for the District of Columbia, as amended (D. C. Code, 1940 edition, sec. 16–610), is amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 490. It shall be optional with the Commissioners to abide by the verdict of the jury and occupy the land appraised by them, or, within a reasonable time to be fixed by the court in its order confirming the verdict, to abandon the same: Provided, however, That if such condemnation proceeding shall be abandoned, the court shall award to the owner or owners of the property involved therein such sum or sums as will in the opinion of the court reimburse such owner or owners for all reasonable costs and expenses, including reasonable counsel fees, incurred by him or them in such proceeding; and the sum or sums so awarded shall constitute a judgment or judgments against the District of Columbia: Provided further, That no such owner shall be entitled to such reimbursement in any case where the proceeding is abandoned at the request or with the consent of the owner of such property."

Approved July 11, 1947.

To amend the Act of July 24, 1941 (55 Stat. 603), as amended, so as to authorize naval retiring boards to consider the cases of certain officers, 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 8 (d) of the Act of July 24, 1941 (55 Stat. 604; 34 U. S. C. 350g (d)), is hereby amended to read as follows:

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“(d) An officer of the retired list of the Regular Navy or Marine Corps who incurs physical disability while serving on active duty in the same rank as that held by him on the retired list shall, if not otherwise entitled thereto, receive 75 per centum of the active-duty pay to which he was entitled while serving in that rank”.

SEC. 2. Subsection 8 (e) of the Act of July 24, 1941 (55 Stat. 604; 34 U. S. C. 350g (e)), as amended, is hereby further amended by striking out the words “the next” as they appear in line 4 thereof and substituting therefor the word “such”.

SEC. 3. Subsection 8 (g) of the Act of July 24, 1941 (55 Stat. 605; 34 U. S. C. 350g (g)), is hereby amended to read as follows:

“(g) The provisions of this section shall not apply in any case if the proceedings of the naval retiring board be commenced subsequent to a date one year after the termination of the temporary appointment or release from active duty of the individual concerned, whichever may occur later, except in the case of an individual whose temporary appointment shall have been terminated prior to the date of enactment of this amendment, or who, prior to such date, shall have been released from active duty”.

SEC. 4. This Act shall become effective as of August 10, 1946, and no back pay for any period prior thereto shall accrue to any person by reason of enactment of this Act.

Approved July 11, 1947.

[CHAPTER 230]

AN ACT

To make it unlawful in the District of Columbia to corruptly influence participants or officials in contests of skill, speed, strength, or endurance, and to provide a penalty therefor.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That subchapter 5 of chapter 19 of the Act entitled “An Act to establish a code of law for the District of Columbia”, approved March 3, 1901, as amended, is amended by adding at the end thereof a new section to read as follows:

“SEC. 869e. CORRUPT INFLUENCE IN CONNECTION WITH ATHLETIC CONTESTS.—(a) It shall be unlawful to pay or give, or to agree to pay or give, or to promise or offer, any valuable thing to any individual—

“(1) with intent to influence such individual to lose or cause to be lost, or to attempt to lose or cause to be lost, or to limit or attempt to limit his or his team’s margin of victory or score in, any professional or amateur athletic contest in which such individual is or may be a contestant or participant; or

“(2) with intent to influence such individual, in the case of any professional or amateur athletic contest in connection with which such individual (as a manager, coach, owner, second, jockey, trainer, handler, groom, or otherwise) has or will have any duty or responsibility with respect to a contestant, participant, or team who or which is engaging or may engage therein, to cause or attempt to cause (A) the loss of such athletic contest by such contestant, participant, or team; or (B) the margin of victory or score of such contestant, participant, or team to be limited; or

“(3) with intent to influence such individual, in the case of any professional or amateur athletic contest in connection with which such individual is to be or may be a referee, judge, umpire, linesman, starter, timekeeper, or other similar official, to cause or