AN ACT

To authorize the Federal Works Administrator to construct a building for the General Accounting Office on square 518 in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in lieu of completing the construction of the building authorized by the First Supplemental Civil Functions Appropriation Act, 1941 (54 Stat. 1036), for the use and occupancy of the General Accounting Office, the Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized to construct upon square 518 in the District of Columbia a building for the use and occupancy of the General Accounting Office under a limit cost of $22,850,000, exclusive of funds heretofore obligated or expended for the account of the building hereby superseded: Provided, That to the extent practicable, the excavations and construction work heretofore performed upon said site for the building hereby superseded may be utilized for the building herein authorized: Provided further, That all powers granted the Federal Works Administrator with respect to the building for the General Accounting Office in the District of Columbia by said First Supplemental Civil Functions Appropriation Act, 1941, are hereby continued and may be exercised for the purposes of this Act within the limits herein fixed.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to purchase or rent not to exceed twenty thousand acres of land or interests therein in suitable locations in the State of California, for the management and control of migratory waterfowl and other wildlife in connection therewith, from moneys to be appropriated by Congress from time to time: Provided, That for expenditure during the fiscal year 1950 and thereafter, there are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act within the limit of cost of $22,850,000 herein fixed.

Approved May 18, 1948.

AN ACT

For the acquisition and maintenance of wildlife management and control areas in the State of California, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to purchase or rent not to exceed twenty thousand acres of land or interests therein in suitable locations in the State of California, for the management and control of migratory waterfowl and other wildlife in connection therewith, from moneys to be appropriated by Congress from time to time: Provided, That no sums appropriated under this authority for the acquisition of lands shall be expended for such purpose unless and until the State of California shall have set aside and made available for expenditure funds for the purchase of equivalent acreages as determined by the Secretary of the Interior.

Sec. 2. The Secretary of the Interior may do all things and make all
expenditures necessary to secure the safe title in the United States to the areas which may be acquired under this Act, including purchase of options when deemed necessary, and expenses incident to the location, examination, and survey of such areas and the acquisition of title thereto, but no payments shall be made for any such areas until the title thereto shall be satisfactory to the Attorney General. The acquisition of such areas by the United States shall in no case be defeated because of rights-of-way, easements, exceptions, and reservations which from their nature will, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Interior, in no manner interfere with the use of the areas so encumbered for the purposes of this Act.

Sec. 3. Sections 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, and 15 of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act of February 18, 1929 (45 Stat. 1222; 16 U. S. C. 715), as amended, are hereby made applicable for the purposes of this Act in the same manner and to the same extent as though they were enacted as part of this Act, except that lands acquired hereunder may be administered primarily as wildlife management areas not subject to the prohibition against the taking of birds or nests or the eggs thereof, as contained in section 10 of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act, and hunting thereon may be regulated, at the option of the Fish and Game Commission of the State of California, in such cooperative manner as is deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act subject, however, to the provisions of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of July 3, 1918 (49 Stat. 1555; 16 U. S. C. 703–711), as amended.

Sec. 4. Funds made available under this or any other Act for the administration, maintenance, and development of any areas acquired under this Act, shall be available also for the construction of dams, dikes, ditches, buildings, and other necessary improvements and for the purchase, planting, growing, and harvesting of grains and other crops for the feeding of waterfowl and other wildlife frequenting the localities where such lands may be purchased or rented.

Approved May 18, 1948.

[CHAPTER 305]

AN ACT


Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the second sentence of section 2 of the Act of July 23, 1947 (61 Stat. 409), is amended by striking out the period at the end of the sentence and adding the following: “and upon retirement any officer who is serving, or has served not less than two and one-half years as assistant commandant or engineer in chief (unless entitled to retire at a higher rank or pay under other provisions of law) shall retire with the rank of rear admiral and with the retired pay of a rear admiral (upper half)”. Approved May 19, 1948.

[J.R. 4992]

[Public Law 535]

Coast Guard.


[CHAPTER 309]

AN ACT

For the relief of Jeffersonville Flood Control District, Jeffersonville, Indiana, a municipal corporation.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That upon written notice from the Secretary of the Navy that the Jeffersonville Flood Control District has complied with the provisions of section 2 of this