[CHAPTER 605]

AN ACT
To extend the public-land laws of the United States to certain lands, consisting of islands, situated in the Red River in Oklahoma.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the public-land laws of the United States be, and the same are hereby, extended to the public lands in that part of the Red River between the medial line and the south bank of the river, in Oklahoma, between the ninety-eighth meridian and the east boundary of the territory established as Greer County by the Act of May 4, 1896 (29 Stat. 113): Provided, That such lands shall not be subject to disposition, settlement, or occupation until after the same have been classified and opened to entry, and other disposal by the Secretary of the Interior according to law.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized and directed to recognize equitable claims to such lands based on settlement made prior to January 1, 1934, and all homestead entries of such lands, the allowance of which was erroneous because the lands were not subject to entry, and all suspended entries and applications to make final proof, are hereby validated if otherwise regular, as of the date of the regular application.

SEC. 3. Except as to existing valid rights, the Act of March 4, 1923 (42 Stat. 1448) is hereby repealed.

Approved June 22, 1948.

[CHAPTER 607]

AN ACT
Requiring all mails consigned to an airport from a post office or branch, or from an airport to a post office or branch, within a radius of thirty-five miles of a city in which there has been established a Government-owned vehicle service to be delivered by Government-owned motor vehicles.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all mail consigned from an airport to a post office at which there is established a Government-owned motor-vehicle service operated by driver-mechanics in the motor-vehicle service of the Post Office Department or from such a post office to an airport, shall, if possible, be transported by such Government-owned motor vehicle: Provided, That such mails need not be so transported when the distance between the post office and the airport is in excess of thirty-five miles.

SEC. 2. Nothing in this Act shall be construed as prohibiting the delivery of such mails by helicopter or similar aircraft.

SEC. 3. This Act shall become effective ninety days after enactment.

Approved June 23, 1948.

[CHAPTER 608]

AN ACT
To amend the Railroad Retirement Act of 1937, as amended, and the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, as amended, 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 (a) of section 3 of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1937, as amended, is amended by changing “2” to “2.40”, “1½” to “1.80”, and “1” to “1.20”.

Subsection (e) of section 3 of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1937, as amended, is amended by changing “$3” to “$3.60” and “$50” to “$60”. 
SEC. 2. Subsection (f) of section 5 of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1937, as amended, is amended by inserting "(1)" before "Upon", by striking out "this subsection" wherever it occurs and inserting in lieu thereof "this paragraph", and by adding at the end thereof the following new paragraph:

"(2) Whenever it shall appear, with respect to the death of an employee on or after January 1, 1947, that no benefits, or no further benefits, other than benefits payable to a widow or parent upon attaining age sixty-five at a future date, will be payable under this section or, pursuant to subsection (k) of this section, under section 202 of the Social Security Act, as amended, there shall be paid to such person or persons as the deceased employee may have designated by a writing filed with the Board prior to his death, or if there be no designation, to the person or persons in the order provided in paragraph (1) of this subsection or, in the absence of such person or persons, to his estate, a lump sum in an amount equal to the sum of 4 per centum of his compensation paid after December 31, 1936, and prior to January 1, 1947, and 7 per centum of his compensation after December 31, 1946 (exclusive in both cases of compensation in excess of $300 for any month), minus the sum of all benefits paid to him, or to others by reason of his death, under this Act and, pursuant to subsection (k) of this section, under section 202 of the Social Security Act, as amended: Provided, however, That if the employee is survived by a widow or parent who may upon attaining age sixty-five be entitled to further benefits under this section, or pursuant to subsection (k) of this section, under section 202 of the Social Security Act, as amended: Provided, however, That if the employee is survived by a widow or parent who may upon attaining age sixty-five be entitled to further benefits under this section, or pursuant to subsection (k) of this section, under section 202 of the Social Security Act, as amended:

Filing of irrevocable election.

"Benefits."
“(a) Every employer shall pay a contribution, with respect to having employees in his service, equal to the percentage determined as set forth below of so much of the compensation as is in excess of $300 for any calendar month paid by him to any employee for services rendered to him after June 30, 1939.”

SEC. 5. (a) Subsection (a) of section 8 of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, as amended, is further amended by substituting a colon for the period at the end thereof and adding the following:

“1. With respect to compensation paid prior to January 1, 1948, the rate shall be 3 per centum;

“2. With respect to compensation paid after December 31, 1947, the rate shall be as follows:

“If the balance to the credit of the railroad unemployment insurance account as of the close of business on September 30 of any year, as determined by the Board, is:

- $450,000,000 or more----------------------- ½ percent.
- $400,000,000 or more but less than $450,000,000--- 1 percent.
- $350,000,000 or more but less than $400,000,000--- 1½ percent.
- $300,000,000 or more but less than $350,000,000--- 2 percent.
- $250,000,000 or more but less than $300,000,000--- 2½ percent.
- Less than $250,000,000------------------------- 3 percent.

As soon as practicable following the enactment of this Act, the Board shall determine and proclaim the balance to the credit of the account as of the close of business on September 30, 1947, and on or before December 31 of 1948 and of each succeeding year, the Board shall determine and proclaim the balance to the credit of the account as of the close of business on September 30 of such year.”

(b) Contributions paid under subsection (a) of section 8 of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, as amended, prior to the enactment of the foregoing amendment thereof which are in excess of those required by said subsection as so amended shall be subject to adjustment or refund in accordance with the provisions of subsections (d) and (e) of said section 8.

SEC. 6. Subsection (f) of section 8 of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

“(f) The contributions required by this Act shall be collected by the Board and shall be deposited by it with the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, such part thereof as equals 0.2 per centum of the total compensation on which such contributions are based to be deposited to the credit of the fund and the balance to be deposited to the credit of the account.”

SEC. 7. Subsection (a) of section 10 of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, as amended, is amended by substituting the following for subdivision (i) of the second sentence of said subsection: “(i) such part of all contributions collected pursuant to section 8 of this Act as is in excess of 0.2 per centum of the total compensation on which such contributions are based, together with all interest collected pursuant to section 8 (g) of this Act;”.

SEC. 8. Subsection (a) of section 11 of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, as amended, is amended by substituting the following for subdivision (i) of the second sentence of said subsection: “(i) such part of all contributions collected pursuant to section 8 of this Act as equals 0.2 per centum of the total compensation on which such contributions are based;”.

Approved June 23, 1948.