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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, *June 2, 1896*

The President of the United States having returned to the House of Representatives in which it originated the bill (H. R. 7977) "An Act making appropriations for the construction, repair, and preservation of certain public works on rivers and harbors, and for other purposes," with his objections thereto the House proceeded in pursuance of the Constitution to reconsider the same; and

Resolved, That the said bill pass, two-thirds of the House of Representatives agreeing to pass the same.

Attest: A MCDOWELL *Clerk.*

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES, *June 3, 1896.*

The Senate having proceeded, in pursuance of the Constitution, to reconsider the bill entitled "An Act making appropriations for the construction, repair, and preservation of certain public works on rivers and harbors, and for other purposes," returned to the House of Representatives by the President of the United States, with his objections, and sent by the House of Representatives to the Senate, with the message of the President returning the bill:

Resolved, That the bill do pass, two thirds of the Senate agreeing to pass the same.

Attest: WM. R. COX *Secretary.*

June 3, 1896.

CHAP. 315.—An Act To establish and provide for the maintenance of a free public library and reading room in the District of Columbia.

District of Columbia. Free library and reading room established.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a free public library and reading room is hereby established and shall be maintained in the District of Columbia, which shall be the property of the said District and a supplement of the public educational system of said District.

Actions.

All actions relating to such library, or for the recovery of any penalties lawfully established in relation thereto, shall be brought in the name of the District of Columbia, and the Commissioners of said District are

Acceptance of gifts, etc.

authorized on behalf of said District to accept and take title to all gifts, bequests, and devises for the purpose of aiding in the maintenance or endowment of said library; and the Commissioners of said District are further authorized to receive as component parts of said library collections of books and other publications that may be transferred to them.

Privileges.

SEC. 2. That all persons who are permanent or temporary residents of the District of Columbia shall be entitled to the privileges of said library, including the use of the books contained therein, as a lending or circulating library, subject to such rules and regulations as may be lawfully established in relation thereto.

Trustees.

SEC. 3. That the said library shall be in charge of a board of library trustees, who shall purchase the books, magazines, and newspapers, and

Composition.

procure the necessary appendages for such library. The said board of trustees shall be composed of nine members, each of whom shall be a taxpayer in the District of Columbia, and shall serve without compensation. They shall be appointed by the Commissioners of the District

Appointment.
Proviso.
Division for first service.

of Columbia and shall hold office for six years: *Provided*, That at the first meeting of the said board the members shall be divided by lot into three classes. The first class, composed of three members, shall hold office for two years; the second class, composed of three members, shall hold office for four years; the third class, composed of three members, shall hold office for six years. Any vacancy occurring in said board shall be filled by the District Commissioners. Said board shall have power to provide such regulations for its own organization and government as it may deem necessary.

Powers of trustees.

SEC. 4. That the said board shall have power to provide for the proper care and preservation of said library, to prescribe rules for taking and returning books, to fix, assess, and collect fines and penalties for the

loss of or injury to books, and to establish all other needful rules and regulations for the management of the library as the said board shall deem proper. The said board of trustees shall appoint a librarian to have the care and superintendence of said library, who shall be responsible to the board of trustees for the impartial enforcement of all rules and regulations lawfully established in relation to said library. The said librarian shall appoint such assistants as the board shall deem necessary to the proper conduct of the library. The said board of library trustees shall make an annual report to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia relative to the management of the said library.

Librarian, etc.

Annual report.

SEC. 5. That said library shall be located in some convenient place in the city of Washington to be designated by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia upon the recommendation of the trustees of said library: *Provided*, That in any municipal building to be hereafter erected in said District suitable provision shall be made for said library and reading room sufficient to accommodate not less than one hundred thousand volumes.

Location.

Proviso. Public building.

Approved, June 3, 1896.

CHAP. 316.—An Act For the relief of settlers on the Northern Pacific Railroad indemnity lands.

June 3, 1896.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That those persons, their heirs, or legal representatives, who, between the fifteenth day of August, anno Domini eighteen hundred and eighty-seven, and the first day of January, anno Domini eighteen hundred and eighty-nine, settled upon and made final proof and entry, under the homestead or preemption laws, of lands within the so-called second indemnity belt of the Northern Pacific Railway Company's grant in the State of Minnesota, which entries were afterwards, without their fault, canceled, upon establishing these facts before the register and receiver of the local land office, in such mode and under such rules as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior, shall be allowed to make final homestead entry, and receive a patent therefor, of a quantity of land of any of the unappropriated public lands of the United States subject to homestead entry, equal in acreage to the land proved up and entered in the said second indemnity belt, as aforesaid, without being required to make any settlement or improvement upon or cultivation of such land so entered prior to such entry; and those persons, their heirs or legal representatives, who, within the period aforesaid for the space of six months settled upon, improved, and cultivated any of said indemnity lands with a view of entering the same under the homestead or preemption laws, being competent to make such entries, and who were not permitted to make such entries, upon establishing these facts before the register and receiver of the local land office, in such mode and under such rules as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe, shall be allowed to enter under the homestead laws of the United States a quantity of land of the unappropriated public lands of the United States, subject to homestead entry, equal in amount to the land settled upon, improved, and cultivated, as aforesaid, and under the homestead entry so made, shall, when making proof and final entry, receive credit for the settlement, improvement, and cultivation made upon the said indemnity land as aforesaid: *Provided*, That the law in force in eighteen hundred and eighty-nine governing the commutation of homestead entries shall apply to the commutation of entries under this section.

Public lands. Settlers on Northern Pacific second indemnity grant, Minnesota, allowed other lands for canceled entries.

Allowance for entries not completed.

Proviso. Commutations permitted.

SEC. 2. That those who are entitled to make the homestead entries prescribed in the preceding section may make such entries of any of the agricultural lands embraced in the provisions of an Act entitled "An Act for the relief and civilization of the Chippewa Indians in the State of Minnesota," approved January fourteenth, eighteen hundred

Entries on Chippewa lands.

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