

any changes in said bridge which the Secretary of War may at any time deem necessary and order in the interests of navigation shall be made by the owners thereof at their own expense.

SEC. 5. That this Act shall be null and void if actual construction of the bridge herein authorized be not commenced within one year and completed within three years from the date of approval hereof.

Commencement and completion.

SEC. 6. That Congress hereby expressly reserves the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act.

Amendment.

Approved, May 4, 1900.

CHAP. 346.—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act permitting the building of a dam across Rainy Lake River."

May 4, 1900.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section three of an Act entitled "An Act permitting the building of a dam across Rainy Lake River," approved May fourth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and granting to the Koochiching Company, its successors and assigns, the consent of Congress to construct a dam across the Rainy Lake River, be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

Time extended to the Koochiching Company to dam Rainy Lake River, Minn.
Vol. 30, p. 398.

"That this Act shall be null and void unless the dam herein authorized shall be commenced within three years and completed within five years after the fourth day of May, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight."

Approved, May 4, 1900.

CHAP. 347.—An Act To authorize the New Orleans and Northwestern Railway Company, its successors and assigns, to build and maintain a bridge across Bayou Bartholomew in the State of Louisiana.

May 4, 1900.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the New Orleans and Northwestern Railway Company, a corporation created, organized, and existing under the laws of the States of Louisiana and Mississippi be, and is hereby, authorized to construct and maintain a railway bridge, and approaches thereto, over Bayou Bartholomew, in the State of Louisiana, at a point suitable, in the judgment of the Secretary of War, to the interests of navigation, near the north line of section twenty-five, township twenty-two north, range five east; said bridge shall be constructed for the passage of railway trains, and, at the option of the corporation by which it is built, may be used for the passage of wagons and vehicles of all kinds, for the transit of animals, and for foot passengers, for reasonable rates of toll, to be fixed by the said company and approved by the Secretary of War.

New Orleans and Northwestern Railway may bridge Bayou Bartholomew, La.

Transit.

Toll.

SEC. 2. That the said bridge, to be constructed under this Act, and subject to its limitations, shall be a lawful structure, and shall be recognized and known as a post road, and shall enjoy the rights and privileges of other post roads in the United States; that no higher charges shall be made for the transmission over the same of the mail, troops, and munitions of war of the United States or for through railway passengers or freight passing over said bridge than the rate per mile for their transmission over the roads leading to said bridge; and equal privileges in the use of said bridge shall be granted to all telegraph companies, and the United States shall have the right of way across said bridge for postal telegraph services; that the said bridge shall be constructed either as a drawbridge, or otherwise, so that a free and unobstructed passage may be secured to all water crafts navigating said river at the point aforesaid: *Provided*, That if the said bridge authorized to be constructed under this Act shall be con-

To be lawful structure and post route.

Telegraph companies.

Draw.

Proviso.—opening of.