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ment: *Provided*, That postage shall be fully prepaid thereon at the rate required by law for a single piece of such matter."

Proviso.
Prepayment required.

SEC. 14. That the Act approved January twenty-first, nineteen hundred and fourteen (Thirty-eighth Statutes, page two hundred and seventy-eight), authorizing the Postmaster General to adjust certain claims of postmasters for loss by burglary, fire, or other unavoidable casualty, be so amended as to include Navy mail clerks and assistant Navy mail clerks.

Claims for losses.
Vol. 38, p. 278, amended.

Navy mail clerks included.

SEC. 15. That hereafter the Postmaster General may enter into contracts for the conduct of contract stations for a term not exceeding two years.

Contract stations.
Two-year term allowed.

SEC. 16. That on and after July first, nineteen hundred and sixteen, when the total compensation of any postmaster at a post office of the fourth class for four consecutive quarters shall amount to $1,000, exclusive of commissions on money orders issued, and the receipts of such post office for the same period shall aggregate as much as $1,900, the Auditor for the Post Office Department shall so report to the Postmaster General, who shall, in pursuance of such report, assign such post office to its proper class, to become effective at the beginning of the next succeeding quarterly period, and fix the salary of the postmaster accordingly.

Fourth class postmasters.
Vol. 22, p. 602.
Assignment to higher class.
Post, p. 418.

SEC. 17. That all laws or parts of laws in conflict with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.

Conflicting laws repealed.

Approved, May 18, 1916.

May 18, 1916.
[H. R. 759.]
[Public, No. 82.]

CHAP. 127.—An Act To provide for the removal of what is now known as the Aqueduct Bridge, across the Potomac River, and for the building of a bridge in place thereof.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to cause to be constructed a bridge across the Potomac River at or near what is now known as the Aqueduct Bridge, replacing said bridge with a substantial structure, at a cost for the bridge and the necessary approaches thereto of not more than $1,000,000.

Potomac River, D.C.
Aqueduct Bridge to be replaced by a new one.
Cost.

SEC. 2. That the Secretary of War is further authorized, if in his judgment it should be necessary, to acquire any lands, easements, rights, or property on each side of the Potomac River, by purchase or condemnation, as may be necessary for the construction of said bridge and the approaches thereto.

Acquirement of lands for approaches, etc.

SEC. 3. That in the discharge of his duties hereunder, the Secretary of War is hereby authorized and directed to employ the services of such engineers and other persons as he shall determine to be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Employment of engineers, etc.

SEC. 4. That the sum of $150,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of securing proper plans and for the payment of any lands, easements, rights, or property necessary in the construction of said bridge: *Provided*, That the plans and specifications herein authorized shall be so drawn and prepared as to insure the construction of a bridge and approaches thereto within the limit of cost of $1,000,000 as fixed herein. The Secretary of War shall advise with the Commission of Fine Arts in regard to the location, plans and specifications of said bridge and approaches. As soon as the plans and specifications are approved the Secretary of War shall give public notice of the specifications and invite competitive bids for the construction of the bridge and

Appropriation for plans, lands, etc.

Proviso.
Limit of cost.

Advice of Commission of Fine Arts.

Bids for construction.

approaches thereto according to the specifications, reserving the right to reject any or all such bids.

Highway, etc., bridge.

SEC. 5. That the said bridge shall be used as a highway for traffic, and for gas and water mains, power, telegraph and telephone wires or cables, and interurban railroads upon such conditions and for such compensation as may from time to time be prescribed by the Secretary of War: *Provided*, That the Washington and Old Dominion Railway, now using the Aqueduct Bridge, shall be permitted, with the approval of the Secretary of War, to change its location so as to cross with a double track the new bridge and approaches herein provided for, and to connect its railway, located in Alexandria County, Virginia, and in the District of Columbia, with the tracks of said new bridge; and that all plans for such change are to be approved by the Secretary of War: *And provided further*, That a standard system of electric propulsion shall be installed by said railway on said new bridge, and no dynamo furnishing power to this portion of the road of said railway shall be in any manner connected with the ground, and that the cost of paving and maintaining in good condition between the tracks and two feet outside thereof shall be paid by said railway: *And provided further*, That any electric railway shall have the right to use said new bridge and the double track above described upon terms determined by the Secretary of War, who is hereby authorized and directed to hear the interested parties and to fix the terms of joint trackage. And all electric railways, including the Washington and Old Dominion Railway, using said new bridge shall, in addition to taxes and other charges, pay monthly into the Treasury of the United States the sum of one-half of 1 cent for each passenger transported each way over said new bridge, and just and reasonable rates or charges on all freight transported thereon, and of these sums, when paid into the Treasury, one-half shall be credited to the District of Columbia.

Provisos.
Washington and Old Dominion Railway.
Double tracks, etc., permitted.

Restriction on electric system employed.

Use by other electric railways.

Payment for passengers, etc., transported by railways.

Half to credit of District.

Construction and maintenance.
District of Columbia to pay one-half.

SEC. 6. That one-half of the entire expense of constructing said bridge, and its maintenance when constructed, including the amount appropriated in section four of this Act, shall be paid by the District of Columbia.

Appropriation for repair, etc., of present bridge.

SEC. 7. That the sum of $25,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of maintaining and repairing the present Aqueduct Bridge until the new bridge herein provided for is completed.

Approved, May 18, 1916.

May 18, 1916.
[S. J. Res. 119.]
[Pub. Res., No. 19.]

CHAP. 128.—Joint Resolution To permit the issuance of medical and other supplies to the American National Red Cross for a temporary period.

American National Red Cross.
Loan of sanitary equipment, etc., for instruction of volunteers May 1, to June 1, 1916.
Vol. 38, p. 771.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the provisions of section one of the joint resolution approved May eighth, nineteen hundred and fourteen, authorizing the issue of military and naval equipment to the American National Red Cross be, and they are hereby, so extended as to permit the issue of the same to the American National Red Cross for the instruction of persons who may volunteer to receive training by that association from May first to June first, nineteen hundred and sixteen.

Approved, May 18, 1916.