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rented and all necessary expenses, including compensation of persons so designated, shall be paid as directed by the President out of funds which may have been or may be provided to meet expenditures for the national security and defense. The common carriers subject to the Act to regulate commerce or as many of them as desire so to do are hereby authorized without responsibility or liability on the part of the United States, financial or otherwise, to establish and maintain in the city of Washington during the period of the war an agency empowered by such carriers as join in the arrangement to receive on behalf of them all notice and service of such orders and directions as may be issued in accordance with this Act, and service upon such agency shall be good service as to all the carriers joining in the establishment thereof. And it shall be the duty of any and all the officers, agents, or employees of such carriers by railroad or water or otherwise to obey strictly and conform promptly to such orders, and failure knowingly and willfully to comply therewith, or to do or perform whatever is necessary to the prompt execution of such order, shall render such officers, agents, or employees guilty of a misdemeanor, and any such officer, agent, or employee shall, upon conviction, be fined not more than $5,000, or imprisoned not more than one year, or both, in the discretion of the court. For the transportation of persons or property in carrying out the orders and directions of the President, just and reasonable rates shall be fixed by the Interstate Commerce Commission; and if the transportation be for the Government of the United States, it shall be paid for currently or monthly by the Secretary of the Treasury out of any funds not otherwise appropriated. Any carrier complying with any such order or direction for preference or priority herein authorized shall be exempt from any and all provisions in existing law imposing civil or criminal pains, penalties, obligations, or liabilities upon carriers by reason of giving preference or priority in compliance with such order or direction."

Carriers may have agencies in Washington to receive notices, orders, etc.

Orders to be complied with.

Penalty for failure.

Rates for transportation to be fixed by Commission.

Preferences exempt from penalties, etc.

Approved, August 10, 1917.

August 10, 1917.
[H. R. 4188.]
[Public, No. 40.]

CHAP. 52.—An Act To provide further for the national security and defense by stimulating agriculture and facilitating the distribution of agricultural products.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, for the purpose of more effectually providing for the national security and defense and carrying on the war with Germany by gathering authoritative information concerning the food supply, by increasing production, by preventing waste of the food supply, by regulating the distribution thereof, and by such other means and methods as are hereinafter provided, the powers, authorities, duties, obligations, and prohibitions hereinafter set forth are conferred and prescribed.

Agricultural food products, etc.
Powers conferred to gather information, increase supply, etc.

SEC. 2. That the Secretary of Agriculture, with the approval of the President, is authorized to investigate and ascertain the demand for, the supply, consumption, costs, and prices of, and the basic facts relating to the ownership, production, transportation, manufacture, storage, and distribution of, foods, food materials, feeds, seeds, fertilizers, agricultural implements and machinery, and any article required in connection with the production, distribution, or utilization of food. It shall be the duty of any person, when requested by the Secretary of Agriculture, or any agent acting under his instructions, to answer correctly, to the best of his knowledge, under oath or otherwise, all questions touching his knowledge of any matter authorized to be investigated under this section, or to produce all books, letters, papers, or documents in his possession, or under his

Investigation of demand, production, distribution, etc., of designated articles.

Compulsory testimony, etc.

Punishment for refusals, false statements, etc.

control, relating to such matter. Any person who shall, within a reasonable time to be prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture, not exceeding thirty days from the date of the receipt of the request, willfully fail or refuse to answer such questions or to produce such books, letters, papers, or documents, or who shall willfully give any answer that is false or misleading, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding $1,000 or by imprisonment not exceeding one year, or both.

Seeds for seeding may be bought to sell to farmers.

SEC. 3. That whenever the Secretary of Agriculture shall find that there is or may be a special need in any restricted area for seeds suitable for the production of food or feed crops, he is authorized to purchase, or contract with persons to grow such seeds, to store them, and to furnish them to farmers for cash, at cost, including the expense of packing and transportation.

Cooperation with States, etc.

SEC. 4. That the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to cooperate with such State and local officials, and with such public and private agencies, or persons, as he finds necessary, and to make such rules and regulations as are necessary effectively to carry out the preceding sections of this Act.

Two additional Assistant Secretaries of Agriculture authorized. Duties, pay, etc. Vol. 25, p. 659, amended.

SEC. 5. That the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, may appoint two additional Assistant Secretaries of Agriculture, who shall perform such duties as may be required by law or prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture, and who shall each be paid a salary of $5,000 per annum.

Cooperation of other agencies, etc., to avoid duplication.

SEC. 6. That the President is authorized to direct any agency or organization of the Government to cooperate with the Secretary of Agriculture in carrying out the purposes of this Act and to coordinate their activities so as to avoid any preventable loss or duplication of work.

Meaning of terms used.

SEC. 7. That words used in this Act shall be construed to import the plural or the singular as the case demands, and the word "person," wherever used in this Act, shall include individuals, partnerships, associations, and corporations.

Appropriations for specified objects.

SEC. 8. That for the purposes of this Act, the following sums are hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, available immediately and until June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and eighteen: For the prevention, control, and eradication of the diseases and pests of live stock; the enlargement of live-stock production; and the conservation and utilization of meat, poultry, dairy, and other animal products, $885,000.

Eradicating live-stock diseases, etc.

Conserving animal products.

Procuring seeds, etc., for sale.

For procuring, storing, and furnishing seeds, as authorized by section three of this Act, $2,500,000, and this fund may be used as a revolving fund until June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and eighteen.

Eradicating insects, plant diseases, etc.

For the prevention, control, and eradication of insects and plant diseases injurious to agriculture, and the conservation and utilization of plant products, $441,000.

Food conservation demonstrations, etc.

For increasing food production and eliminating waste and promoting conservation of food by educational and demonstrational methods, through county, district, and urban agents and others, $4,348,400.

Gathering information, market news, preventing waste, etc.

For gathering authoritative information in connection with the demand for, and the production, supply, distribution, and utilization of food, and otherwise carrying out the purpose of section two of this Act; extending and enlarging the market news service; and preventing waste of food in storage, in transit, or held for sale; advise concerning the market movement or distribution of perishable products; for enabling the Secretary of Agriculture to investigate and certify to shippers the condition as to soundness of fruits, vegetables, and other food products, when received at such important central markets as the Secretary of Agriculture may from time to time designate and under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe:

Certifying condition of fruits, etc., at central markets.

Provisos.
Effect of certificates.

Provided, That certificates issued by the authorized agents of the department shall be received in all courts as prima facie evidence of the truth of the statements therein contained; and otherwise carrying out the purposes of this Act, $2,522,000: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Agriculture shall, so far as practicable, engage the services of women for the work herein provided for.

Women to be employed.

Miscellaneous items.

For miscellaneous items, including the salaries of Assistant Secretaries appointed under this Act; special work in crop estimating; aiding agencies in the various States in supplying farm labor; enlarging the informational work of the Department of Agriculture; and printing and distributing emergency leaflets, posters, and other publications requiring quick issue or large editions, $650,000.

Proviso.
Employees not exempt from military draft.
Ante, p. 76.

Provided, That the employment of any person under the provisions of this Act shall not exempt any such person from military service under the provisions of the selective draft law approved May eighteenth, nineteen hundred and seventeen.

Report of expenditures.

It shall be the duty of the Secretary of Agriculture to submit to Congress at its regular session in December of each year a detailed report of the expenditure of all moneys herein appropriated.

Cattle quarantine, etc., modified.
Vol. 26, p. 414, amended.
Post, p. 1048.

SEC. 9. That the Act of August thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety, entitled "An Act providing for an inspection of meats for exportation, prohibiting the importation of adulterated articles of food or drink, and authorizing the President to make proclamation in certain cases, and for other purposes" (Twenty-sixth Statutes at Large, page four hundred and fourteen), is hereby amended so as to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture, within his discretion and under such joint regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Treasury, to permit the admission for immediate slaughter at ports of entry of tick-infested cattle which are otherwise free from disease and which have not been exposed to the infection of any other disease within sixty days next before their exportation from Mexico, South and Central America, the islands of the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea into those parts of the United States below the southern cattle quarantine line at such ports of entry as may be designated by said joint regulations and also subject to the provisions of sections seven, eight, nine, and ten of said Act of August thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety: *Provided*, That the importation of tick-infested cattle from any country referred to in this section in which foot-and-mouth disease exists, which existence shall be determined by the Secretary of Agriculture, is prohibited: *Provided further*, That all cattle imported under the provisions of this section shall be slaughtered in accordance with the provisions of the Act of June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and six (Thirty-fourth Statutes at Large, page six hundred and seventy-four), commonly called the meat inspection amendment, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder by the Secretary of Agriculture, and that their hides shall be disposed of under rules and regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Tick infested cattle for immediate slaughter may be imported.

Ports to be designated.
Vol. 26, pp. 416, 417.

Provisos.
Countries excluded.

Meat inspection requirements to govern.

Vol. 34, pp. 674, 1260.

Disposition of hides.

Enlarged homesteads in Idaho.
Vol. 36, p. 532, amended.

SEC. 10. That section six of the Act of Congress approved June seventeenth, nineteen hundred and ten, "An Act to provide for an enlarged homestead," be, and the same is hereby, amended to read as follows:

Lands without water for domestic use, to be designated.

"SEC. 6. That whenever the Secretary of the Interior shall find any tracts of land in the State of Idaho, subject to entry under this Act, do not have upon them such a sufficient supply of water suitable for domestic purposes as would make continuous residence upon the lands possible he may, in his discretion, designate such tracts of land, not to exceed in the aggregate one million acres, and thereafter they shall be subject to entry under this Act without the necessity of residence upon the land entered: *Provided*, That the entryman shall in good faith cultivate not less than one-sixteenth of the entire area of

Area increased.
Residence not required.
Provisos.
Amount to be cultivated reduced.

the entry which is susceptible of cultivation during the first year of the entry, not less than one-eighth during the second year, and not less than one-fourth during the third year of the entry and until final proof: *Provided further*, That after six months from the date of entry and until final proof the entryman shall be a resident of the State of Idaho."

State residence required.

Reclamation Act. Suspension of residence requirement, etc. authorized. Vol. 32, p. 389.

SEC. 11. That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized, in his discretion, to suspend during the continuance of this Act that provision of the Act known as the "Reclamation Act" requiring residence upon lands in private ownership or within the neighborhood for securing water for the irrigation of the same, and he is authorized to permit the use of available water thereon upon such terms and conditions as he may deem proper.

Act to cease after war terminates.

SEC. 12. That the provisions of this Act shall cease to be in effect when the national emergency resulting from the existing state of war shall have passed, the date of which shall be ascertained and proclaimed by the President; but the date when this Act shall cease to be in effect shall not be later than the beginning of the next fiscal year after the termination, as ascertained by the President, of the present war between the United States and Germany.

Date.

Approved, August 10, 1917.

August 10, 1917. [H. R. 4961.]

[Public, No. 41.]

CHAP. 53.—An Act To provide further for the national security and defense by encouraging the production, conserving the supply, and controlling the distribution of food products and fuel.

Food products, fuel, etc. Measures for conserving supply of designated necessities during present war, authorized.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That by reason of the existence of a state of war, it is essential to the national security and defense, for the successful prosecution of the war, and for the support and maintenance of the Army and Navy, to assure an adequate supply and equitable distribution, and to facilitate the movement, of foods, feeds, fuel including fuel oil and natural gas, and fertilizer and fertilizer ingredients, tools, utensils, implements, machinery, and equipment required for the actual production of foods, feeds, and fuel, hereafter in this Act called necessaries; to prevent, locally or generally, scarcity, monopolization, hoarding, injurious speculation, manipulations, and private controls, affecting such supply, distribution, and movement; and to establish and maintain governmental control of such necessaries during the war. For such purposes the instrumentalities, means, methods, powers, authorities, duties, obligations, and prohibitions hereinafter set forth are created, established, conferred, and prescribed. The President is authorized to make such regulations and to issue such orders as are essential effectively to carry out the provisions of this Act.

To prevent scarcity, etc.

To establish governmental control. Means, etc., created.

Regulations and orders to be issued.

Effective powers vested in the President.

SEC. 2. That in carrying out the purposes of this Act the President is authorized to enter into any voluntary arrangements or agreements, to create and use any agency or agencies, to accept the services of any person without compensation, to cooperate with any agency or person, to utilize any department or agency of the Government, and to coordinate their activities so as to avoid any preventable loss or duplication of effort or funds.

Government agents, etc. Inducing contracts, etc., by, forbidden, if pecuniarily interested therein.

SEC. 3. That no person acting either as a voluntary or paid agent or employee of the United States in any capacity, including an advisory capacity, shall solicit, induce, or attempt to induce any person or officer authorized to execute or to direct the execution of contracts on behalf of the United States to make any contract or give any order for the furnishing to the United States of work, labor, or services, or of materials, supplies, or other property of any kind or