AUTHENTICATED
U.S. GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION
GPO

CHAP. 501.—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue patents for lands held under color of title.

June 8, 1926.
[S. 4055.]
[Public, No. 357.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whenever it shall be shown to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Interior that a tract or tracts of public land, not known to be mineral, in the State of New Mexico, not exceeding in the aggregate one hundred and sixty acres, has or have been held in good faith and in peaceful, adverse possession by a citizen of the United States, his ancestors or grantors, for more than twenty years under claim or color of title, and that valuable improvements have been placed on such land, or some part thereof has been reduced to cultivation, the Secretary may, in his discretion, upon the payment of $1.25 per acre, cause a patent or patents to issue for such land to any such citizen: *Provided*, That where the area or areas so held by any such citizen is in excess of one hundred and sixty acres the Secretary may determine what particular subdivisions, not exceeding one hundred and sixty acres in the aggregate, to any such citizen may be patented hereunder: *Provided further*, That the term "citizen" as used herein shall be held to include a corporation organized under the laws of the United States or any State or Territory thereof.

Public lands.
Patents to citizens holding title by adverse possession for more than 20 years, to lands in New Mexico.

Payment.

Provisos.
Area limited to 160 acres.

Corporation included as citizen.

Approved, June 8, 1926.

CHAP. 502.—An Act To amend and supplement the naturalization laws, and for other purposes.

June 8, 1926.
[S. 4251.]
[Public, No. 358.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 4 of the Act entitled "An Act to establish a Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization, and to provide for a uniform rule for the naturalization of aliens throughout the United States," approved June 29, 1906, as amended, is amended by adding at the end thereof a new subdivision, to read as follows:

Naturalization.
Vol. 34, p. 598.

Vol. 40, p. 546, amended.

"Fourteenth. (a) The judge of any United States district court, or the senior judge of such court if there are more judges than one, is hereby authorized, in his discretion, to designate one or more examiners or officers of the Bureau of Naturalization (including the Naturalization Service) serving as such examiner or officer within the territorial jurisdiction of such court, to conduct preliminary hearings upon petitions for naturalization to such court, and to make findings and recommendations thereon. For such purposes any such designated examiner or officer is hereby authorized to take testimony concerning any matter touching or in any way affecting the admissibility of any petitioner for naturalization, to subpœna witnesses, and to administer oaths, including the oath of the petitioner to his petition and the oath of his witnesses.

Examiners may be designated by district judges to conduct preliminary hearings, etc.

Authority of examiners.

"(b) The findings of any such designated examiner or officer upon any such preliminary hearing shall be submitted to the court at the final hearing upon the petition required by section 9, with a recommendation that the petition be granted or denied or continued, with the reasons therefor. Such findings and recommendations shall be accompanied by duplicate lists containing the names of the petitioners, classified according to the character of the recommendations, and signed by the designated examiner or officer. The judge to whom such findings and recommendations are submitted shall by written order approve such recommendations with such exceptions as he may deem proper, by subscribing his name to each such list when corrected to conform to his conclusions upon such recommendations.

Findings submitted to the court at final hearing.

Lists to accompany.

Action of judge by written order.