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struction, financing, and promotion of the bridge, shall be conclusive for the purposes mentioned in section 2 of this Act, subject only to review in a court of equity for fraud or gross mistake.

Right to sell, etc., conferred.

SEC. 5. The right to sell, assign, transfer, and mortgage all the rights, powers, and privileges conferred by this Act is hereby granted to the Bainbridge Island Chamber of Commerce, a corporation, its successors and assigns; and any corporation to which or any person to whom such rights, powers, and privileges may be sold, assigned, or transferred, or who shall acquire the same by mortgage foreclosure or otherwise, is hereby authorized and empowered to exercise the same as fully as though conferred herein directly upon such corporation or person.

Construction contracts to be let to lowest bidder.

Advertising., etc.

SEC. 6. All contracts made in connection with the construction of the bridge authorized by this Act and which shall involve the expenditure of more than $5,000, shall be let by competitive bidding. Such contracts shall be advertised for a reasonable time in some newspaper of general circulation published in the State in which the bridge is located and in the vicinity thereof; sealed bids shall be required and the contracts shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. Verified copies or abstracts of all bids received and of the bid or bids accepted shall be promptly furnished to the highway department of the State in which such bridge is located. A failure to comply in good faith with the provisions of this section shall render null and void any contract made in violation thereof, and the Secretary of War may, after hearings, order the suspension of all work upon such bridge until the provisions of this section shall have been fully complied with.

Contracts void for violations.

Amendment.

SEC. 7. The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved, March 2, 1929.

March 2, 1929.
[H. R. 16131.]
[Public, No. 904.]

CHAP. 478.—An Act To enable the Postmaster General to make contracts for the transportation of mails by air from possessions or Territories of the United States to foreign countries and to the United States and between such possessions or Territories, and to authorize him to make contracts with private individuals and corporations for the conveyance of mails by air in foreign countries.

Foreign mails.
Ante, p. 248. amended.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act of March 8, 1928, entitled "An Act to grant authority to the Postmaster General to enter into contracts for the transportation of mails by air to foreign countries and insular possessions of the United States for periods of not more than ten years and to pay for such service at fixed rates per pound or per mile, and for other purposes," be, and the same is hereby, amended to read as follows:

Ten-year contracts authorized for air mail service between United States and possessions, and foreign countries, etc., both ways.

"SECTION 1. When in his judgment the public interest will be promoted thereby the Postmaster General is authorized to enter into contracts for air-mail service on routes between the United States and possessions or Territories of the United States, between possessions or Territories of the United States, between the United States or possessions or Territories of the United States and foreign countries, and in and between foreign countries, for the transportation of mails of the United States and its possessions or Territories both ways over the routes, and in addition thereto mails of other countries on the outbound or the inbound flights under arrangements he may make with such countries, for periods of not more than ten years, and to pay for such service at fixed rates per pound and/or per mile; and the Postmaster General is

Mails of other countries on outbound and inbound flights.

Payment at pound or mile rates.

Awards to lowest responsible bidders.

hereby authorized to award such contracts to the bidders that he shall find to be the lowest responsible bidders that can satisfactorily perform the service required to the best advantage of the Government: *Provided*, That the rate to be paid for such service for the load of mails provided by the Postmaster General to be carried in a plane shall not in any case exceed $2 per mile each way, plus not exceeding $1 per pound per thousand miles, or pro rata thereof for greater or less mileage, for any mails required to be carried in the same plane in excess of the specified load, and that, at the request of the Postmaster General, domestic mail shall be conveyed without additional charge on that part of the route in the United States to the border of the United States and to intermediate points:

Provisos.
Rates specified.

Arrangements with air-mail concessionaires in foreign countries.

Provided further, That the Postmaster General may make arrangements with concessionaires operating air-mail service in foreign countries for transportation by their service of mails of the United States and its possessions or Territories: *And provided further*, That in the award and interpretation of the contracts herein authorized the decision of the Postmaster General shall be final and not subject to review by any officer or tribunal of the United States except by the President and the Federal courts.

Decision of Postmaster General final.

Rules, etc., to be issued.

"SEC. 2. The Postmaster General shall make and issue such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Contracts under former Act, may be amended.

"SEC. 3. All contracts heretofore made by the Postmaster General under section 1 of the Act of March 8, 1928, entitled 'An Act to grant authority to the Postmaster General to enter into contracts for the transportation of mails by air to foreign countries and insular possessions of the United States for periods of not more than ten years and to pay for such service at fixed rates per pound or per mile, and for other purposes,' as originally enacted, may be amended under agreement of the parties thereto so as to provide for the transportation of excess mails and for transportation not covered by the existing contract of mails of the United States and its possessions or Territories or of foreign countries, at not exceeding the contract rate per mile and not exceeding the rates per pound provided in section 1 hereof for excess mails."

Provision for excess mails, and transportation not covered by existing contracts.

Limitation.

Approved, March 2, 1929.

March 2, 1929.
[H. R. 16612.]
[Public, No. 905.]

CHAP. 479.—An Act Granting the consent of Congress for the construction of dam or dams in Neches River, Texas.

Neches River.
Construction of dam or dams across, above Beaumont, by designated parties, authorized.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the consent of Congress is hereby granted to the Neches Canal Company, Neches Water Company, Beaumont Irrigating Company, the city of Beaumont, Texas, or the city of Port Arthur, Texas, or any one or more of them, to construct a dam or dams across the Neches River, at points suitable to the interests of navigation, above the city of Beaumont, Texas: *Provided*, That the work on such dam or dams shall not be commenced until the plans therefor have been filed with and approved by the Secretary of War and the Chief of Engineers of the United States Army: *And provided further*, That this Act shall not be construed to authorize the use of such dam to develop water power or generate hydroelectric energy.

Provisos.
Approval of plans required.

Use for water power, not authorized.

Amendment.

SEC. 2. That the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved, March 2, 1929.