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prorated over the months such office is open for business during a fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the salaries of postmasters at newly established offices of the fourth class shall be fixed at the lowest salary rate, except that whenever unusual conditions prevail at such an office the Postmaster General, in his discretion, may advance any such office to the appropriate salary rate indicated by the receipts of the preceding quarter.

Newly established offices.

SEC. 3. The salaries of postmasters of the fourth class shall be readjusted at the beginning of each fiscal year: *Provided*, That only 85 per centum of the gross postal receipts during the period the increased rate of postage, authorized by the Revenue Act of June 6, 1932, as amended (July 6, 1932, to July 1, 1943), remains in force shall be counted for the purpose of determining the compensation or allowances of such postmasters and the classification of post offices: *Provided further*, That for the purpose of fixing the compensation and allowances at offices of the fourth class, credits shall be allowed only for the postage collected in addition to the regular rate on business reply cards and letters in business reply envelopes delivered at such offices.

Annual readjustments.

47 Stat. 285; 57 Stat. 157.
39 U. S. C., Supp. III, § 280 note.

SEC. 4. All laws or parts of laws inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed: *Provided*, That nothing in this Act shall be construed to repeal the provisions of section 717 of title 39 of the United States Code authorizing the payment of fees on domestic or international money orders issued at money-order post offices of the fourth class, nor allowances for rent, fuel, light, and equipment as provided in the Thirty-ninth United States Code, section 60a.

Repeal of inconsistent laws.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect July 1, 1944.

Effective date.

Approved March 29, 1944.

[CHAPTER 144]

AN ACT

To extend for an additional ninety days the period during which certain grains and other products to be used for livestock and poultry feed may be imported from foreign countries free of duty.

March 29, 1944
[H. R. 4410]
[Public Law 272]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 1 of the joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution to permit the importation from foreign countries free of duty, during a period of ninety days, of certain grains and other products to be used for livestock and poultry feed, and suspending for two months the increase in the tax rates under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act", approved December 22, 1943 (Public Law 211, Seventy-eighth Congress), is amended to read as follows:

Importation of certain grains free of duty.
57 Stat. 607.
19 U. S. C., Supp. III, § 1001, par. 722 note.

"That (a) notwithstanding the provisions of the Tariff Act of 1930, the following, when imported into the United States from foreign countries, and when entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption, at any time after December 22, 1943, and before June 20, 1944, shall be exempt from duty:

Time extension.
46 Stat. 590.
19 U. S. C. §§ 1001–1654; Supp. III, § 1001 *et seq.*
Post, pp. 269, 722.

"(1) Wheat, oats, barley, rye, flax, cottonseed, corn, or hay, or products in chief value of one or more of the foregoing or derivatives thereof, any of the foregoing if to be used as, or as a constitutent part of, feed for livestock and poultry.

Grains for feed.

"(2) Flaxseed, if the entry or withdrawal is after the date this paragraph takes effect.

Flaxseed.

"(3) Oats to be used for purposes of human consumption, if the entry or withdrawal is after the date this paragraph takes effect.

Oats for human consumption.

"(b) This joint resolution shall not be construed to authorize the importation of wheat for milling purposes.

Wheat for milling, restriction.

"United States."

"(c) As used in this joint resolution the term 'United States' means the several States, the District of Columbia, the Territories, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands."

Approved March 29, 1944.

[CHAPTER 146]

AN ACT

March 29, 1944
[S. 250]
[Public Law 273]

To promote sustained-yield forest management in order thereby (a) to stabilize communities, forest industries, employment, and taxable forest wealth; (b) to assure a continuous and ample supply of forest products; and (c) to secure the benefits of forests in regulation of water supply and stream flow, prevention of soil erosion, amelioration of climate, and preservation of wildlife.

Cooperative sustained-yield forest management.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in order to promote the stability of forest industries, of employment, of communities, and of taxable forest wealth, through continuous supplies of timber; in order to provide for a continuous and ample supply of forest products; and in order to secure the benefits of forests in maintenance of water supply, regulation of stream flow, prevention of soil erosion, amelioration of climate, and preservation of wildlife, the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior are severally authorized to establish by formal declaration, when in their respective judgments such action would be in the public interest, cooperative sustained-yield units which shall consist of federally owned or administered forest land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary establishing the unit and, in addition thereto, land which reasonably may be expected to be made the subject of one or more of the cooperative agreements with private landowners authorized by section 2 of this Act.

Agreements with private landowners.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of Agriculture, with respect to forest land under his jurisdiction, and the Secretary of the Interior, with respect to forest land under his jurisdiction, are severally authorized, for the purposes specified in section 1 of this Act, to enter into cooperative agreements with private owners of forest land within a cooperative sustained-yield unit, established pursuant to section 1 of this Act, providing for the coordinated management of such private forest land and of federally owned or administered forest lands within the sustained-yield unit involved.

Noncompetitive purchases of forest products.

Each cooperative agreement may give the cooperating private landowner the privilege of purchasing without competitive bidding at prices not less than their appraised value, subject to periodic readjustments of stumpage rates and to such other conditions and requirements as the Secretary may prescribe, timber and other forest products from federally owned or administered forest land within the unit, in accordance with the provisions of sustained-yield management plans formulated or approved by the Secretary for the unit; shall limit the time, rate, and method of cutting or otherwise harvesting timber and other forest products from the land of the cooperating private landowner, due consideration being given to the character and condition of the timber, to the relation of the proposed cutting to the sustained-yield plan for the unit, and to the productive capacity of the land; shall prescribe the terms and conditions, but not the price, upon which the cooperating private landowner may sell to any person timber and other forest products from his land, compliance by the purchaser with such conditions to be required by the contract of sale; shall contain such provisions as the Secretary deems necessary to protect the reasonable interest of other owners of forest land within the unit; and shall contain such other provisions as the Secretary believes necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

Limitation on harvesting.

Sales.

Protection of landowners' interest.