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and void unless the actual construction of the bridge herein referred to be commenced within one year and completed within three years after the date of the termination of the unlimited national emergency proclaimed by the President on May 27, 1941.

55 Stat. 1647.
50 U. S. C., Supp. IV, app., note prec. § 1.

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

Approved November 14, 1945.

[CHAPTER 470]

November 14, 1945
[S. 1219]
[Public Law 220]

AN ACT

Authorizing the city of Saint Francisville, Illinois, to construct, maintain, and operate a toll bridge across the Wabash River at or near Saint Francisville, Illinois.

Wabash River.
Bridge at Saint Francisville, Ill.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in order to promote interstate commerce, improve the postal service, and provide for the military and other purposes, the city of Saint Francisville, Illinois, be, and is hereby, authorized to construct, maintain, and operate a bridge and approaches thereto across the Wabash River, at a point suitable to the interests of navigation, at or near Saint Francisville, Illinois, in accordance with the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to regulate the construction of bridges over navigable waters", approved March 23, 1906, and subject to the conditions and limitations contained in this Act.

34 Stat. 84.
33 U. S. C. §§ 491–498.

Acquisition of real estate, etc.

SEC. 2. There is hereby conferred on the city of Saint Francisville, Illinois, all such rights and powers to enter upon lands and to acquire, condemn, occupy, possess, and use real estate and other property needed for the location, construction, maintenance, and operation of such bridge and its approaches, as are possessed by railroad corporations for railroad purposes or by bridge corporations for bridge purposes in the State in which such real estate or other property is situated, upon making just compensation therefor, to be ascertained and paid according to the laws of such State, and the proceedings therefor shall be the same as in the condemnation or expropriation of property for public purposes in such State.

Tolls.
34 Stat. 84.
33 U. S. C. §§ 491–498.

SEC. 3. The city of Saint Francisville, Illinois, is hereby authorized to fix and charge tolls for transit over such bridge, and the rates of toll so fixed shall be the legal rates until changed by the Secretary of War under the authority contained in the Act of March 23, 1906.

Application of tolls to maintenance, sinking fund, etc.

SEC. 4. In fixing the rates of toll to be charged for the use of such bridge the same shall be so adjusted as to provide a fund sufficient to pay for the reasonable cost of maintaining, repairing, and operating the bridge and its approaches under economical management, and to provide a sinking fund sufficient to amortize the cost of such bridge and its approaches, including interest at a rate of not to exceed 5 per centum per annum and reasonable financing cost, as soon as possible, under reasonable charges, but within a period of not to exceed thirty years from the completion thereof. After a sinking fund sufficient for such amortization shall have been so provided, such bridge shall thereafter be maintained and operated free of tolls. An accurate record of the cost of the bridge and its approaches, the expenditures for maintaining, repairing, and operating the same, and of the daily tolls collected shall be kept and shall be available for the information of all persons interested.

Operation as free bridge.

SEC. 5. The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved November 14, 1945.