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activities, battlefields, memorials, and cemeteries with respect to which it may exercise any functions.

"Notwithstanding the requirements of existing laws or regulations, under such terms and conditions as the Commission may in its discretion deem necessary and proper, the Commission may contract for work, supplies, materials, and equipment outside of the United States and engage, by contract or otherwise, the services of architects, firms of architects, and other technical and professional personnel.

"The Commission may under such terms and conditions and in such manner as it may deem proper dispose of any land or interest in land in foreign countries which has been or may hereafter be acquired by the Commission in connection with its work: *Provided*, That this subsection shall not be effective until the expiration of the Surplus Property Act of 1944.

58 Stat. 765.
50 U. S. C., Supp. V, app. §§ 1611–1646.
Ante, pp. 168, 169; *post*, pp. 599, 754, 886.

"The Commission may delegate to its Chairman, secretary, or officials in charge of any of its offices, under such terms and conditions as it may prescribe, such of its authority as it may deem necessary and proper."

Delegation of authority.

Approved June 26, 1946.

[CHAPTER 503]

AN ACT

To amend the District of Columbia Alley Dwelling Act, approved June 12, 1934, as amended.

June 26, 1946
[S. 2218]
[Public Law 457]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 4 (b) of the Act known as the "District of Columbia Alley Dwelling Act", approved June 12, 1934, as amended, be further amended to read as follows:

48 Stat. 932.
D. C. Code § 5–106 (b); Supp. V, § 5–106 (b).
Post, p. 801.

"(b) On and after July 1, 1947, it shall be unlawful to use or occupy any alley building or structure as a dwelling in the District of Columbia."

SEC. 2. That section 6 of such Act, as amended, be further amended by striking "1946" and inserting in lieu thereof "1947".

48 Stat. 933.
D. C. Code § 5–108; Supp. V, § 5–108.
Post, p. 801.

Approved June 26, 1946.

[CHAPTER 505]

AN ACT

To govern the effective dates of ratings and awards under the Veterans' Administration revised Schedule for Rating Disabilities, 1945, and for other purposes.

June 27, 1946
[H. R. 5149]
[Public Law 458]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That on and after the first day of April 1946, all initial ratings in claims for disability compensation or pension and awards based thereon under Public Law 2, Seventy-third Congress, March 20, 1933, and the Veterans Regulations issued pursuant thereto, as amended, shall be determined under the Veterans' Administration revised Schedule for Rating Disabilities, 1945, whether the claim covers a period before or after that date. In any case in which the revised schedule authorizes an increase in the rating previously made by a rating board of original jurisdiction under the Schedule for Rating Disabilities, 1933, such increased rating and award based thereon will be effective as of the first day of April 1946.

Veterans.
Disability claims.

48 Stat. 8.
38 U. S. C. §§ 701–724 and note; Supp. V, § 701 *et seq.*