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"Third. The township shall be subdivided into sections, containing, as nearly as may be, six hundred and forty acres each, by running parallel lines through the same from east to west and from south to north at the distance of one mile from each other, and marking corners at the distance of each half mile. The sections shall be numbered, respectively, beginning with the number one in the northeast section and proceeding west and east alternately through the township with progressive numbers, until the thirty-six be completed."

SEC. 2. Section 2410, Revised Statutes (43 U. S. C., sec. 770), is amended to read as follows:

"The Secretary of the Interior may, by regulation, provide that departures may be made from the system of rectangular surveys whenever it is not feasible or economical to extend the rectangular surveys in the regular manner or whenever such departure would promote the beneficial use of lands."

SEC. 3. Section 1 of the Act of April 13, 1926, entitled "An Act to authorize a departure from the rectangular system of surveys of homestead claims in Alaska, and for other purposes" (44 Stat. 243; 48 U. S. C., sec. 379), is hereby amended by deleting the following words: "and the provisions of the Act of June 28, 1918 (40 Stat. L. 632), insofar as they require that surveys executed thereunder, without expense to the claimant, must follow the general system of the public land surveys."

Repeals.

SEC. 4. Section 2408, Revised Statutes (43 U. S. C., sec. 768), and section 2409, Revised Statutes (43 U. S. C., sec. 769), are hereby repealed.

Approved April 29, 1950.

[CHAPTER 135]

AN ACT

April 29, 1950
[H. R. 3482]
[Public Law 491]

Granting the consent of the Congress to the negotiation of a compact relating to the waters of the Canadian River by the States of Oklahoma, Texas, and New Mexico.

Canadian River compact.
Consent of Congress.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the consent of the Congress is hereby given to the States of Oklahoma, Texas, and New Mexico to negotiate and enter into a compact not later than June 30, 1953, providing for an equitable apportionment among the said States of the waters of the Canadian River and its tributaries, upon the condition that one suitable person, who shall be appointed by the President of the United States, shall participate in said negotiations as the representative of the United States and shall make report to the Congress of the proceedings and of any compact entered into. Said compact shall not be binding or obligatory upon any of the parties thereto unless and until the same shall have been ratified by the legislature of each of the States aforesaid and approved by the Congress of the United States.

Approved April 29, 1950.

[CHAPTER 136]

AN ACT

April 29, 1950
[H. R. 4285]
[Public Law 492]

To amend the Act of July 31, 1946, in order retroactively to advance in grade, time in grade, and compensation certain employees in the postal field service who are veterans of World War II.

Postal field service.
Adjustment in grade, etc., of certain employees.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That subsection (a) of the first section of the Act entitled "An Act to provide benefits for