

Functions conferred. be fixed by the Secretary of War. The Secretary of War may delegate to the chairman any of the functions vested in the Secretary by this Act."

Approved, February 28, 1927.

March 1, 1927.
[H. R. 14831.]
[Public, No. 664.]

CHAP. 244.—An Act To amend section 107 of the Judicial Code.

Tennessee western
judicial district.
Vol. 42, p. 1521,
amended.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the seventh sentence of section 107 of the Judicial Code is amended to read as follows:

Terms of court, at
Memphis and Jackson.

"Terms of the district court for the western division of said district shall be held at Memphis on the first Mondays in April and October; and for the eastern division, at Jackson, on the fourth Mondays in March and September."

Approved, March 1, 1927.

March 1, 1927.
[S. 5722.]
[Public, No. 665.]

CHAP. 245.—An Act To authorize the construction of new conservatories and other necessary buildings for the United States Botanic Garden.

Botanic Garden,
D. C.
Construction direct-
ed of new conserva-
tories, etc., for.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Architect of the Capitol, under the direction and supervision of the Joint Committee on the Library, is authorized and directed to provide for the construction of new conservatories and other necessary buildings for the United States Botanic Garden, in accordance with the report submitted to Congress pursuant to paragraph (4) of section 1 of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for enlarging and relocating the United States Botanic Garden, and for other purposes," approved January 5, 1927. The Architect of the Capitol is authorized to enter into such contracts in the open market, to make such expenditures (including expenditures for material, supplies, equipment, accessories, advertising, travel, and subsistence), and to employ such professional and other assistants, without regard to the provisions of section 35 of the Public Buildings Omnibus Act, approved June 25, 1910, as amended, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Ante, p. 932.

Open market con-
tracts, etc., authorized.

Outside professional
assistants, etc., may be
employed.
Vol. 36, p. 699.

Sum authorized.

Disbursements.

SEC. 2. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated the sum of \$876,398, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to carry out the provisions of this Act. Appropriations made under authority of this Act or under authority of section 2 of such Act of January 5, 1927, shall be disbursed by the disbursing officer of the Library of Congress.

Approved, March 1, 1927.

March 2, 1927.
[S. 722.]
[Public, No. 686.]

CHAP. 249.—An Act To authorize the selection of certain publicly owned lands by the State of Oregon.

Public lands.
Oregon authorized
common school lieu
selections.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture, and under such conditions as they may prescribe, the publicly owned lands within the following-described areas are hereby made available for selection by the State of Oregon under the Act of February 28, 1891 (Twenty-sixth Statutes, page 796), for a period of five years from the passage of this Act:

Description.

Township 23 south, range 10 west, Willamette meridian: Sections 3, 11, 15, 21, 23, 27, and west half northeast quarter, northwest

quarter, northwest quarter southwest quarter of section 33; section 9, east half and east half west half; section 29, east half east half.

Township 22 south, range 10 west, Willamette meridian: Section 15, southeast quarter southeast quarter; section 21, all; section 23, southwest quarter northeast quarter, west half, southeast quarter; section 27, all; section 33, east half and east half west half.

Approved, March 2, 1927.

CHAP. 250.—An Act Conferring jurisdiction upon the Court of Claims to hear, examine, adjudicate, and enter judgment in any claims which the Assiniboine Indians may have against the United States, and for other purposes.

March 2, 1927.
[S. 2141.]
[Public, No. 667.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That jurisdiction be, and is hereby, conferred upon the Court of Claims, with right of appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States by either party, notwithstanding the lapse of time or statutes of limitation, to hear, examine, and adjudicate, and render judgment in any and all claims arising under or growing out of the Treaty of Fort Laramie of September 17, 1851 (Eleventh Statutes, page 749), between the Government of the United States and the Assiniboine Indian Nation, and other Indian nations therein specified; and the treaty of October 17, 1855 (Eleventh Statutes, page 657), between the Government of the United States and the Blackfeet Indian Nation and other Indian nations therein specified; or any subsequent Act of Congress, treaty, agreement or Executive order, or treaty with any other Indian tribe or any nation that violates any of the treaty rights of the Assiniboine Indian Nation which the said Assiniboine Nation or Tribe may have against the United States, which claims have not heretofore been determined and adjudicated on their merits by the Court of Claims or the Supreme Court of the United States; and jurisdiction is hereby conferred upon the said courts to determine whether or not any provision in any such treaty has been violated or breached by the Government of the United States by Acts of Congress or otherwise, and, if so, to render judgment for the damages resulting therefrom.

Assiniboine Indians.
Claims of, growing
out of Fort Laramie
treaty, etc., submitted
to Court of Claims.
Vol. 11, p. 749.

Vol. 11, p. 657.

Jurisdiction confer-
red.

SEC. 2. Any and all claims against the United States within the purview of this Act shall be forever barred unless suit be instituted or petition filed as herein provided in the Court of Claims within five years from the date of approval of this Act, and such suit shall make the Assiniboine Nation or Tribe party plaintiff and the United States party defendant. The petition shall be verified by the attorney or attorneys employed to prosecute such claim or claims under contract with the Assiniboines approved by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and the Secretary of the Interior; and said contract shall be executed in their behalf by a committee chosen by them under the direction and approval of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and the Secretary of the Interior. Official letters, papers, documents, and records, or certified copies thereof, may be used in evidence, and the departments of the Government shall give access to the attorney or attorneys of said Indian nation to such treaties, papers, correspondence, or records as may be needed by the attorney or attorneys of said Indian nation.

Time for filing pe-
tition.

Verification, etc.

Evidence admitted.

SEC. 3. That if any claim or claims be submitted to said court it shall determine the rights of the parties thereto, notwithstanding lapse of time or statutes of limitation, and any payment which may have been made by the United States upon any claim so submitted shall not be pleaded as an estoppel, but may be pleaded as a set-off in any suit; and the United States shall be allowed credit subsequent

Statutes of limitation
not a bar.

Set-offs.