

CHAP. 180.—An Act To authorize the construction of certain naval vessels and for other purposes.

February 13, 1929.
[H. R. 11526.]
[Public, No. 726.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States is hereby authorized to undertake prior to July 1, 1931, the construction of fifteen light cruisers and one aircraft carrier according to the following program:

Navy.
Light cruisers and aircraft carrier authorized.

(a) Five light cruisers during each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 1929, 1930, and 1931, to cost, including armor and armament, not to exceed \$17,000,000 each.

Five cruisers in 1929, 1930, 1931.
Cost.
Post, p. 1468.

(b) One aircraft carrier prior to June 30, 1930, to cost, including armor and armament, not to exceed \$19,000,000: *Provided*, That if the construction of any vessel herein authorized to be undertaken in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1929 or 1930, is not undertaken in that fiscal year, such construction may be undertaken in the next succeeding fiscal year: *And provided further*, That the first and each succeeding alternate cruiser upon which work is undertaken, together with the main engines, armor, and armament for such eight cruisers, the construction and manufacture of which is authorized by this Act, shall be constructed or manufactured in the Government navy yards, naval gun factories, naval ordnance plants, or arsenals of the United States, except such material or parts as are not customarily manufactured in such Government plants.

Aircraft carrier.
Post, p. 1468.
Provisos.
Continuance of construction.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Navy is directed to submit annually to the Bureau of the Budget estimates for the construction of the foregoing vessels.

Construction of alternate cruisers in Government plants, etc.

SEC. 3. The construction of the light cruisers and of the aircraft carrier herein authorized shall be subject to the limitations prescribed by the treaty limiting naval armament, ratified August 17, 1923, so long as such treaty shall remain effective.

Annual construction estimates.

SEC. 4. In the event of an international agreement, which the President is requested to encourage, for the further limitation of naval armament, to which the United States is signatory, the President is hereby authorized and empowered to suspend in whole or in part any of the naval construction authorized under this Act.

Treaty limitations.
Vol. 43, p. 1655.

SEC. 5. First. That the Congress favors a treaty, or treaties, with all the principal maritime nations regulating the conduct of belligerents and neutrals in war at sea, including the inviolability of private property thereon.

Construction suspended if further naval limitation internationally agreed to.

Second. That such treaties be negotiated if practically possible prior to the meeting of the conference on the limitation of armaments in 1931.

Treaties with all-maritime nations favored by Congress.

SEC. 6. The Secretary of the Navy is hereby directed to present to the Congress on or before December 10, 1929, preliminary plans, specifications, and estimates of cost for the construction of two salvage vessels for use in ship disasters.

Negotiation of, prior to limitation conference.

Salvage vessels.
Plans for two authorized.

Approved, February 13, 1929.

CHAP. 181.—An Act Authorizing and directing the Secretary of War to lend to the Governor of North Carolina three hundred pyramidal tents, complete; nine thousand blankets, olive drab, numbered 4; five thousand pillow-cases; five thousand canvas cots; five thousand cotton pillows; five thousand bed sacks; and nine thousand bed sheets to be used at the encampment of the United Confederate Veterans to be held at Charlotte, North Carolina, in June, 1929.

February 13, 1929.
[H. R. 15427.]
[Public, No. 727.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, authorized to lend, at his discretion, to the entertainment committee of the United Confederate Veterans, whose encampment is to be held at Charlotte, North Carolina, June

United Confederate Veterans.
Loan of Army tents, etc., for reunion of, at Charlotte, N. C.

4, 5, 6, and 7, 1929, three hundred pyramidal tents, complete with all poles, pegs, and other equipment necessary for their erection; nine thousand blankets, olive drab, numbered 4; five thousand pillowcases; five thousand canvas cots; five thousand cotton pillows; five thousand bed sacks; and nine thousand bed sheets: *Provided*, That no expense shall be caused the United States Government by the delivery and return of said property, the same to be delivered from the nearest quartermaster depot at such time prior to the holding of said encampment as may be agreed upon by the Secretary of War and the business manager of the said entertainment committee: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of War, before delivering such property, shall take from said business manager of the Thirty-ninth Annual Confederate Reunion a good and sufficient bond for the safe return of said property in good order and condition and the whole without expense to the United States.

Provisos.
No Government expense, etc.

Bond required.

Approved, February 13, 1929.

February 13, 1929.
[S. 1347.]
[Public, No. 728.]

☞ **CHAP. 182.**—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act to provide relief in cases of contracts connected with the prosecution of the war, and for other purposes," approved March 2, 1919, as amended.

War minerals contracts.
Review of, in District of Columbia Supreme Court on questions of law.
Vol. 40, p. 1274.

Decisions on questions of fact not subject to review.

Procedure.

Jurisdiction conferred.

Appeal allowed.

Adjustment of final decree.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any claimant who has heretofore filed with the Secretary of the Interior within the time and manner provided by existing law a claim under said Acts generally known as the War Minerals Acts (Fortieth Statutes, page 1272, and its amendments) may within one year from the date of the passage and approval hereof petition the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia to review the final decision of the Secretary of the Interior upon any question of law which has arisen or which may hereafter arise in the adjustment, liquidation, and payment of his claim under said Acts, but the decision of the Secretary of the Interior on all questions of fact shall be conclusive and not subject to review by any court.

SEC. 2. In any proceeding brought under the provisions of section 1 of this Act the Secretary of the Interior shall be designated as the defendant or respondent, and upon the filing of the petition the cause shall follow the usual procedure, subject to such rules or orders as the court may make with respect thereto.

SEC. 3. Jurisdiction is hereby conferred upon the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, as a district court of the United States, to hear and determine all such suits and enter all orders, judgments, and decrees therein, subject to the usual right of appeal by either party to the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia, whose final judgment may be reviewed by the Supreme Court of the United States by petition for certiorari or by appeal as provided by law and the rules of the court.

SEC. 4. Upon the final disposition of such proceeding, the clerk of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia shall without delay certify to the Secretary of the Interior the final judgment or decree rendered therein, whereupon the Secretary of the Interior shall proceed with the final adjustment of said claim in accordance with the law as construed by the court in such judgment or decree.

Approved, February 13, 1929.