

March 3, 1901.

CHAP. 870.—An Act To amend an Act entitled “An Act conferring on the supreme court of the District of Columbia jurisdiction to take proof of the execution of wills affecting real estate, and for other purposes,” approved June eighth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight.

District of Columbia.
Proof of execution
of wills affecting real
estate.
Vol. 30, p. 434, amend-
ed.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act entitled “An Act conferring on the supreme court of the District of Columbia jurisdiction to take proof of the execution of wills affecting real estate, and for other purposes,” approved June eighth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, be, and it is hereby, amended by adding thereto three sections, to be designated as sections thirteen, fourteen, and fifteen, which will read as follows:

Publication of
notice to “unknown
next of kin” binding.

“**SEC. 13.** In all cases where it is made to appear to the satisfaction of the court that all or any of the next of kin or heirs at law of the deceased are unknown, such unknown next of kin or heirs at law may be proceeded against and described in the publication of notice hereinbefore provided for as ‘the unknown next of kin,’ or ‘the unknown heirs at law,’ as the case may be, of the deceased, and by such publication of such notice under such designation such unknown next of kin and heirs at law shall be as effectually bound and concluded as if known and their names were specifically set forth in said order of publication.

Publication against
unknown heirs in
wills heretofore pro-
bated authorized.

“**SEC. 14.** In case any will shall have been heretofore admitted to probate upon publication against unknown heirs or next of kin, any person interested may file a petition for further probate of such will, alleging that the heirs at law or next of kin of the deceased, or some of them, as the case may be, are unknown, and upon satisfactory showing being made to the court publication of notice may be made against the unknown next of kin or heirs at law of the deceased, and upon such publication being made, as required by the court, a decree may be made confirming such previous probate, and such decree so made shall be as effectual as if the said heirs at law or next of kin were named in the order of publication.

Previous probate
confirmed, etc.

“**SEC. 15.** If any will be hereafter held invalid in any action begun after distribution made of the property by the executor or executrix in good faith, with the approval of the court, without knowledge on his or her part of such invalidity and without notice that such action was intended, the distributees of the property, and not such executor or executrix, shall be answerable for the property or its value to the person or persons entitled thereto.”

Distributee and not
executor answerable
for property under
will afterwards in-
validated.

Approved, March 3, 1901.

March 3, 1901.

CHAP. 871.—An Act To amend section fifty-one hundred and fifty-three of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

National banks de-
positaries of public
moneys, except cus-
toms receipts.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section fifty-one hundred and fifty-three of the Revised Statutes of the United States be amended to read as follows:

—exception not ap-
plicable to Hawaii,
Alaska, etc.

“**SEC. 5153.** All national banking associations, designated for that purpose by the Secretary of the Treasury, shall be depositaries of public money, except receipts from customs, under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary, but receipts derived from duties on imports in Alaska, the Hawaiian Islands, and other islands under the jurisdiction of the United States may be deposited in such depositaries subject to such regulations; and such depositaries may also be employed as financial agents of the Government; and they shall perform all such reasonable duties as depositaries of public moneys

R. S., sec. 5153, p. 996,
amended.

and financial agents of the Government as may be required of them. The Secretary of the Treasury shall require the associations thus designated to give satisfactory security, by the deposit of United States bonds and otherwise, for the safe-keeping and prompt payment of the public money deposited with them, and for the faithful performance of their duties as financial agents of the Government. And every association so designated as receiver or depository of the public money shall take and receive at par all of the national currency bills, by whatever association issued, which have been paid into the Government for internal revenue or for loans or stocks."

Approved, March 3, 1901.

CHAP. 872.—An Act To establish the National Bureau of Standards.

March 3, 1901.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Office of Standard Weights and Measures shall hereafter be known as the National Bureau of Standards.

National Bureau of Standards established.

SEC. 2. That the functions of the bureau shall consist in the custody of the standards; the comparison of the standards used in scientific investigations, engineering, manufacturing, commerce, and educational institutions with the standards adopted or recognized by the Government; the construction, when necessary, of standards, their multiples and subdivisions; the testing and calibration of standard measuring apparatus; the solution of problems which arise in connection with standards; the determination of physical constants and the properties of materials, when such data are of great importance to scientific or manufacturing interests and are not to be obtained of sufficient accuracy elsewhere.

Functions of bureau.

SEC. 3. That the bureau shall exercise its functions for the Government of the United States; for any State or municipal government within the United States; or for any scientific society, educational institution, firm, corporation, or individual within the United States engaged in manufacturing or other pursuits requiring the use of standards or standard measuring instruments. All requests for the services of the bureau shall be made in accordance with the rules and regulations herein established.

—for whom exercised.

—requests for services.

SEC. 4. That the officers and employees of the bureau shall consist of a director, at an annual salary of five thousand dollars; one physicist, at an annual salary of three thousand five hundred dollars; one chemist, at an annual salary of three thousand five hundred dollars; two assistant physicists or chemists, each at an annual salary of two thousand two hundred dollars; one laboratory assistant, at an annual salary of one thousand four hundred dollars; one laboratory assistant, at an annual salary of one thousand two hundred dollars; one secretary, at an annual salary of two thousand dollars; one clerk, at an annual salary of one thousand two hundred dollars; one messenger, at an annual salary of seven hundred and twenty dollars; one engineer, at an annual salary of one thousand five hundred dollars; one mechanic, at an annual salary of one thousand four hundred dollars; one watchman, at an annual salary of seven hundred and twenty dollars, and one laborer, at an annual salary of six hundred dollars.

Officers and employees.

SEC. 5. That the director shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. He shall have the general supervision of the bureau, its equipment, and the exercise of its functions. He shall make an annual report to the Secretary of the Treasury, including an abstract of the work done during the year and a financial statement. He may issue, when necessary, bulletins for

Director, etc. powers,

—report.

Bulletins.