

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 Indians to such treaties, papers, maps, correspondence, or reports as they may require in the preparation and prosecution of any suit or suits instituted under this Act.

Counter claims.

SEC. 3. In said suit or suits the court shall also hear, examine, consider, and adjudicate any claims which the United States may have against the said Indians or any of them, but any payment or payments which have been made by the United States upon any such claim or claims shall not operate as an estoppel but may be placed as an off-set in such suit or suits, and the United States shall be allowed to plead and shall be given credit for all sums, including gratuities, paid to or expended for any of said classes of Indians: *Provided, however,* That in any claim sued on by said Cherokees for any part of an interest-bearing fund upon which account any payment or payments shall have been made, such payment or payments shall first be applied to reduction or payment of interest earned to the date of such respective payments, and the balance, if any, shall then be applied to reduce the interest-bearing principal, and not otherwise.

Set-offs.

Proviso.
Priority of payments.

Joinder of other tribes.

Proviso.
Fees, etc., to be included in Court decree.

SEC. 4. Any other tribes or bands of Indians the court may deem necessary to a final determination¹ of any suit or suits brought hereunder may be joined therein as the court may order: *Provided,* That upon final determination of such suit or suits the Court of Claims shall have jurisdiction to fix and determine a reasonable fee, not to exceed 10 per centum of recovery or recoveries, together with all necessary and proper expenses incurred in the preparation and prosecution of such suit or suits, to be paid to the attorney or attorneys employed as herein provided by the said Indians, and the same shall be included in the decree and shall be paid out of any sum or sums adjudged to be due said Indians, or any of them, and the balance of such sum or sums shall be placed in the Treasury of the United States, where it shall draw interest at the rate of 4 per centum per annum, and be disposed of as provided by existing law.

Disposition of balance.

Approved, April 25, 1932.

[CHAPTER 137.]

AN ACT

Relating to the construction of a Federal building at Ponca City, Oklahoma.

April 25, 1932.
[S. 3086.]

[Public, No. 106.]

Ponca City, Okla.
Federal building at,
to provide facilities for
District Court.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in the construction of the Federal building at Ponca City, Oklahoma, authorized by an Act making appropriations to supply deficiencies in certain appropriations (Public, Numbered 519, Seventy-first Congress), the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to provide facilities for the holding of terms of the District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma, provided that the total cost of said building, including the site, shall not exceed the sum of \$250,000 heretofore appropriated and now available for such construction.

Cost limitation.

Approved, April 25, 1932.

¹ So in original.