

Appraisal of lands.

SEC. 3. Upon the filing of an application to purchase any lands subject to the operation of this Act, together with the required proof, the Secretary of the Interior shall cause the lands described in said application to be appraised, said appraisal to be on the basis of the value of such lands at the date of appraisal exclusive of any increased value resulting from the development or improvement thereof by the applicant or his predecessor in interest.

Issuance of patent upon payment of appraised value.

SEC. 4. An applicant to purchase under the provisions of this Act, in order to be entitled to a patent, must, within three months from receipt of notice of appraisal, pay to the Commissioner of the General Land Office the appraised value of the lands, and thereupon a patent shall issue to said applicant for such lands as the Secretary of the Interior shall determine that such applicant is entitled to purchase under this Act. The proceeds from such sales shall be covered into the United States Treasury and applied as provided by law for the disposal of the proceeds from the sale of public lands.

Proceeds covered into Treasury.

Rules and regulations.

SEC. 5. The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to prescribe all necessary rules and regulations for administering the provisions of this Act and determining conflicting claims arising hereunder.

Mineral rights reserved.

SEC. 6. All purchases made and patents issued under the provisions of this Act shall be subject to and contain a reservation to the United States of all the coal, oil, gas, and other minerals in the lands so purchased and patented, together with the right to prospect for, mine, and remove the same.

Approved, August 27, 1940.

[CHAPTER 692]

AN ACT

August 27, 1940 [S. 4011] [Public, No. 773]

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to accept payment of an annual equitable overhead charge in connection with the repayment contract between the United States and the Strawberry Water Users' Association of Payson, Utah, in full satisfaction of delinquent billings upon the basis of an annual fixed overhead charge, and for other purposes.

Strawberry Water Users' Association, Payson, Utah. Payment by, of annual overhead charge.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in connection with any amendment heretofore or hereafter made to the repayment contract between the Strawberry Water Users' Association of Payson, Utah, and the United States, dated September 28, 1926, as amended, to pay construction charges under the provisions of the Federal reclamation laws providing for payment annually of an amount as is determined by the Secretary each year to be sufficient to cover the Strawberry Valley project's equitable portion of the expense of the Chief Engineer's office, the field legal office, and the other detached offices of the Bureau of Reclamation, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized, subsequent to the effective date of such an amendment, to accept in full satisfaction for all flat overhead charges owing or allocable to the period up to the effective date of the amendment under the contract provisions in effect prior to such amendment a sum determined at the rate of \$400 for each year.

Approved, August 27, 1940.

[CHAPTER 693]

AN ACT

August 27, 1940 [S. 4137] [Public, No. 774]

Relating to transportation of foreign mail by aircraft.

Postal Service. Transportation of foreign mail by aircraft.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in all cases where, pursuant to the provisions of subsection (i) (2) of section 405 of the Civil Aeronautics Act of 1938, approved June 23, 1938 (52

Stat. 973; U. S. C., 1934 edition, Supp. V, title 49, sec. 401, and the following), the Postmaster General shall have heretofore fixed and put into effect, or shall hereafter fix and put into effect, the rates of compensation to be charged foreign countries for the transportation of their mail by air carriers and where the collections from such foreign countries of the amounts owing by them for such transportation are required by such subsection to be made by the United States for the account of such air carriers, the Postmaster General may simplify and expedite the settlement of accounts for such carriage by offsetting against any balance due a foreign country resulting from the transaction of international money order business or otherwise, such amounts as may be then due from such country to the United States and to the United States for the account of such carriers; and the Postmaster General and the General Accounting Office shall thereupon give the foreign country involved the appropriate credit for such payment by offset, paying to the carrier that portion of the amount so charged as may be owing to the carrier for its services in transporting the mail of such foreign country and depositing as "miscellaneous postal receipts" that portion of the amount so charged as may be due the United States on its own account: *Provided*, That no adjustment of accounts authorized by this Act shall apply to appropriations for fiscal years prior to the fiscal year 1940: *Provided further*, That any adjustments made under the authority of this section shall be subject to the right of the United States to deduct from any sums due or thereafter becoming due to a carrier such amounts as may have been paid it on account of foreign countries which amounts, for any reason, the United States shall have been unable to collect, either by offset or otherwise, from the debtor country.

SEC. 2. In any case where collections are to be made by the United States from a foreign country for the transportation of mails of such countries for the account of an air carrier pursuant to section 405 (i) (2) of the Civil Aeronautics Act, whether such transportation occurred before or after the passage of this Act, the Postmaster General, taking into consideration the state of the balance carried in the appropriation, in his discretion, is hereby authorized to make advances to such air carrier out of sums appropriated for "balances due foreign countries", upon determination by the Postmaster General from time to time of the amounts due from any such foreign countries for transportation, and thereafter such amounts shall be collected by the United States from foreign countries by set-off, or otherwise, in the manner hereinbefore provided, and the appropriation for payment of "balances due foreign countries" shall be reimbursed by collections so made by the United States: *Provided, however*, That if the United States shall fail to collect any such amount or any part of such amount from such foreign country owing same within twelve months after the United States has paid such amount to the carrier, the United States may deduct such uncollected amounts from any sums owing by it to the carrier.

SEC. 3. The General Accounting Office shall make the necessary credits and debits in the respective appropriations and accounts involved and adopt such procedure as may be necessary to conform to and effect the purposes of this Act.

Approved, August 27, 1940.

52 Stat. 996.  
49 U. S. C., Supp. V,  
§ 485 (i) (2).

Settlement of accounts for carriage.

Payment to carrier, etc.

*Provisos.*  
Adjustments not applicable prior to fiscal year 1940.  
Adjustments subject to deductions.

Advances to carriers on foreign accounts.

52 Stat. 996.  
49 U. S. C., Supp. V,  
§ 485 (i) (2).

Collection by set-off, etc.

*Proviso.*  
Deduction of uncollected amounts from sums owing to carriers.

Accounting.