

commerce," as amended, and who are now or may hereafter be actually engaged in any capacity in the operation of trains used for the transportation of persons or property on railroads, except railroads independently owned and operated not exceeding one hundred miles in length, electric street railroads, and electric interurban railroads, from any State or Territory of the United States or the District of Columbia to any other State or Territory of the United States or the District of Columbia, or from one place in a Territory to another place in the same Territory, or from any place in the United States to an adjacent foreign country, or from any place in the United States through a foreign country to any other place in the United States: *Provided*, That the above exceptions shall not apply to railroads though less than one hundred miles in length whose principal business is leasing or furnishing terminal or transfer facilities to other railroads, or are themselves engaged in transfers of freight between railroads or between railroads and industrial plants.

Proviso.
Terminal or transfer
lines not excepted.

Commission to in-
vestigate effects, etc.,
of Act.

Report.

Appropriation.

No reduction of
wages pending report.

Punishment for vio-
lations.

SEC. 2. That the President shall appoint a commission of three, which shall observe the operation and effects of the institution of the eight-hour standard workday as above defined and the facts and conditions affecting the relations between such common carriers and employees during a period of not less than six months nor more than nine months, in the discretion of the commission, and within thirty days thereafter such commission shall report its findings to the President and Congress; that each member of the commission created under the provisions of this Act shall receive such compensation as may be fixed by the President. That the sum of \$25,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, be, and hereby is, appropriated, out of any money in the United States Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the necessary and proper expenses incurred in connection with the work of such commission, including salaries, per diem, traveling expenses of members and employees, and rent, furniture, office fixtures and supplies, books, salaries, and other necessary expenses, the same to be approved by the chairman of said commission and audited by the proper accounting officers of the Treasury.

SEC. 3. That pending the report of the commission herein provided for and for a period of thirty days thereafter the compensation of railway employees subject to this Act for a standard eight-hour workday shall not be reduced below the present standard day's wage, and for all necessary time in excess of eight hours such employees shall be paid at a rate not less than the pro rata rate for such standard eight-hour workday.

SEC. 4. That any person violating any provision of this Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined not less than \$100 and not more than \$1,000, or imprisoned not to exceed one year, or both.

Approved, September 3, 1916.

Approved, September 5, 1916.

September 5, 1916.
[S. 5496.]

[Public, No. 253.]

CHAP. 437.—An Act To amend sections five and six of an Act entitled "An Act to authorize the drainage of certain lands in the State of Minnesota," approved May twentieth, nineteen hundred and eight.

Public lands.
Minnesota drainage
assessments, charges.

Patents to purchasers
of unentered lands on
paying Government
price, etc.
Vol. 35, p. 170,
amended.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section five of the Act entitled "An Act to authorize the drainage of certain lands in the State of Minnesota," approved May twentieth, nineteen hundred and eight, be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

"SEC. 5. That at any time after any sale of unentered lands has been made in the manner and for the purposes mentioned in this Act patent shall issue to the purchaser thereof upon payment to the receiver of the minimum price of \$1.25 per acre, or such other price

as may have been fixed by law for such lands, together with the usual fees and commissions charged in entry of like lands under the homestead laws. But purchasers at a sale of unentered lands shall have the qualification of homestead entrymen, and not more than one hundred and sixty acres of such lands shall be sold to any one purchaser under the provisions of this Act. This limitation shall not apply to sales to the State, but shall apply to purchases from the State of unentered lands bid in for the State. Any part of the purchase money arising from the sale of any lands in the manner and for the purposes provided in this Act which shall be in excess of the drainage charges then delinquent shall be paid to and used by the county in which such land is located for the purpose of maintenance, improving, and extending such drainage works within the area benefited by the drainage project in which such land shall have been assessed for such drainage charge."

That section six of said Act be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

"SEC. 6. That any entered lands sold in the manner and for the purposes mentioned in this Act may be patented to the purchaser thereof at any time after the expiration of the period of redemption provided for in the drainage laws under which it may be sold (there having been no redemption) upon the payment to the receiver of the fees and commissions and the price mentioned in the preceding section, or so much thereof as has not already been paid by the entryman; and if the sum received at any such sale shall be in excess of the payments herein required and of the drainage assessments and cost of the sale, such excess shall be paid to the proper county officer for the benefit of and payment to the entryman. That unless the purchasers of unentered lands shall, within ninety days after the sale provided for in section three, pay to the proper receiver the fees, commissions, and purchase price to which the United States may be entitled, as provided in section five, and unless the purchasers of entered lands shall, within ninety days after the right of redemption has expired, make like payments, as provided for in this section, any person having the qualifications of a homestead entrymen may pay to the proper receiver for not more than one hundred and sixty acres of land for which such payment has not been made: First, the unpaid fees, commissions, and purchase price to which the United States may then be entitled; and, second, the sum due at the sale for drainage charges; and, in addition thereto, if bid in by the State, interest on the amount bid by the State at the rate of seven per centum per annum from the date of such sale, and thereupon the person making such payment shall become subrogated to the rights of such purchaser to receive a patent for said land. When any payment is made to effect such subrogation the receiver shall transmit to the treasurer of the county where the land is situated the amount paid for drainage charges, together with the interest paid thereon."

Approved, September 5, 1916.

CHAP. 438.—An Act Authorizing the Kansas City and Memphis Railway and Bridge Company to make settlement with Crittenden County, Arkansas, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War is hereby authorized and empowered to release the Kansas City and Memphis Railway and Bridge Company, a corporation, from the duty now imposed upon it by the Act entitled "An Act to authorize the construction of a bridge across the Mississippi River at Memphis, Tennessee," approved April twenty-fourth, eighteen hundred and

Limitations.

Sales to State excepted.

Excess of drainage charges to be used for maintenance, etc.

Patents to purchasers of entered lands on paying Government price, etc. Vol. 35, p. 170, amended.

Disposal of excess.

Forfeiture if charges, etc., not paid in 90 days.

Rights of subsequent purchaser.

Payment to be made.

Disposal of drainage charges.

September 5, 1916.
[H. R. 10251.]

[Public, No. 254.]

Mississippi River.
Kansas City and Memphis Railway and Bridge Company released from wagon, etc., bridge, Memphis, Tenn. Vol. 25, p. 92; Vol. 33, p. 543, amended.