

Naturalization certificates on declarations filed prior to September 27, 1906, validated.

**SEC. 3.** That all certificates of naturalization granted by courts of competent jurisdiction prior to December thirty-first, nineteen hundred and eighteen, upon petitions for naturalization filed prior to January thirty-first, nineteen hundred and eighteen, upon declarations of intention filed prior to September twenty-seventh, nineteen hundred and six, are hereby declared to be valid in so far as the declaration of intention is concerned, but shall not be by this Act further validated or legalized.

District of Columbia included.  
Vol. 34, pp. 597, 599, 604-607.

The word "District" in sections four, ten, and twenty-seven of the Act which this Act amends is hereby amended to read "the District of Columbia."

Approved, May 9, 1918.

May 10, 1918.  
[S. 3803.]

[Public, No. 145.]

**CHAP. 70.**—An Act Authorizing the President during the existing emergency to sell supplies, materials, equipment, or other property, heretofore or hereafter purchased, acquired, or manufactured by the United States, in connection with, or incidental to, the prosecution of the war.

War supplies, materials, etc.  
Sales allowed to persons, allied Governments, etc., during the war.  
Post, p. 850.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That during the existing emergency the President be, and he hereby is, authorized, in his discretion, and upon such terms as he shall deem expedient, through the head of any executive department, to sell any supplies, materials, equipment or other property heretofore or hereafter purchased, acquired, or manufactured by the United States in connection with, or incidental to, the prosecution of the war, to any person, partnership, association, or corporation, or to any foreign State or Government engaged in war against any Government with which the United States is at war; and any moneys received by the United States as the proceeds of any such sale shall be covered into the Treasury of the United States and a full report of the same shall be forthwith submitted to Congress.

Approved, May 10, 1918.

Disposal of receipts.

May 10, 1918.  
[S. 4208.]

[Public, No. 146.]

**CHAP. 71.**—An Act Authorizing postage rates on aeroplane mail.

Postal service.  
Rate for aeroplane mail.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Postmaster General, in his discretion, may require the payment of postage on mail carried by aeroplane at not exceeding 24 cents per ounce or fraction thereof.

Approved, May 10, 1918.

May 11, 1918.  
[S. 1545.]

[Public, No. 147.]

**CHAP. 72.**—An Act To amend the Act of March third, nineteen hundred and thirteen, entitled "An Act to regulate the officering and manning of vessels subject to the inspection laws of the United States."

Steam vessels.  
Licensed officers and crew.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That section forty-four hundred and sixty-three of the Revised Statutes of the United States be, and it is hereby, amended to read as follows:

Minimum number of, including lifeboat men, to be prescribed.  
R. S., sec. 4463, p. 864, amended.  
Vol. 37, p. 732.

"SEC. 4463. No vessel of the United States subject to the provisions of this title or to the inspection laws of the United States shall be navigated unless she shall have in her service and on board such complement of licensed officers and crew including certificated lifeboat men, separately stated, as may, in the judgment of the local inspectors who inspect the vessel, be necessary for her safe navigation. The local inspectors shall make in the certificate of inspection of the

Changes in certificates of inspection.

vessel an entry of such complement of officers and crew including certificated lifeboat men, separately stated, which may be changed from time to time by indorsement on such certificate by local inspectors by reason of change of conditions or employment. Such entry or indorsement shall be subject to a right of appeal, under regulations to be made by the Secretary of Commerce, to the supervising inspector and from him to the Supervising Inspector General, who shall have the power to revise, set aside, or affirm the said determination of the local inspectors.

Appeal.

“If any such vessel is deprived of the services of any number of the crew including certificated lifeboat men, separately stated, without the consent, fault, or collusion of the master, owner, or any person interested in the vessel, the vessel may proceed on her voyage if, in the judgment of the master, she is sufficiently manned for such voyage: *Provided*, That the master shall ship, if obtainable, a number equal to the number of those whose services he has been deprived of by desertion or casualty, who must be of the same grade or of a higher rating with those whose places they fill. If the master shall fail to explain in writing the cause of such deficiency in the crew including certificated lifeboat men, separately stated, to the local inspectors within twelve hours of the time of the arrival of the vessel at her destination, he shall be liable to a penalty of \$50. If the vessel shall not be manned as provided in this Act, the owner shall be liable to a penalty of \$100, or in case of an insufficient number of licensed officers to a penalty of \$500.”

Continuing voyage if deficiency in crew unavoidable.

*Proviso.*  
Procuring number equal to loss.

Penalty if deficiency not explained.

Other penalties.

SEC. 2. That the board of local inspectors shall make an entry in the certificate of inspection of every ocean and coastwise seagoing merchant vessel of the United States propelled by machinery, and every ocean-going vessel carrying passengers, the minimum number of licensed deck officers required for her safe navigation according to the following scale:

Record of minimum deck officers.  
Vol. 37, p. 733, amended.

Number required.

That no such vessel shall be navigated unless she shall have on board and in her service one duly licensed master.

Master.

That every such vessel of one thousand gross tons and over, propelled by machinery, shall have in her service and on board three licensed mates, who shall stand in three watches while such vessel is being navigated, unless such vessel is engaged in a run of less than four hundred miles from the port of departure to the port of final destination, then such vessel shall have two licensed mates; and every vessel of two hundred gross tons and less than one thousand gross tons, propelled by machinery, shall have two licensed mates.

Mates.  
Vessels of 1,000 tons and over.

Over 200 and less than 1,000 tons.

That every such vessel of one hundred gross tons and under two hundred gross tons, propelled by machinery, shall have on board and in her service one licensed mate, but if such vessel is engaged in a trade in which the time required to make the passage from the port of departure to the port of destination exceeds twenty-four hours, then such vessel shall have two licensed mates.

Smaller vessels.

That nothing in this section shall be so construed as to prevent local inspectors from increasing the number of licensed officers on any vessel subject to the inspection laws of the United States, if, in their judgment, such vessel is not sufficiently manned for her safe navigation: *Provided*, That this section shall not apply to fishing or whaling vessels, yachts, or motor boats as defined in the Act of June ninth, nineteen hundred and ten, or to wrecking vessels.

Increase authorized.

*Proviso.*  
Exceptions, including wrecking vessels.  
Vol. 36, p. 462.

SEC. 3. That it shall be unlawful for the master, owner, agent, or other person having authority to permit an officer of any vessel to take charge of the deck watch of the vessel upon leaving or immediately after leaving port, unless such officer shall have had at least six hours off duty within the twelve hours immediately preceding the time of sailing, and no licensed officer on any ocean or coastwise vessel shall be

Limitation of watch duty of deck officers.

required to do duty to exceed nine hours of any twenty-four while in port, including the date of arrival, or more than twelve hours of any twenty-four at sea, except in a case of emergency when life or property is endangered. Any violation of this section shall subject the person or persons guilty thereof to a penalty of \$100.

SEC. 4. That all laws or parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

Approved, May 11, 1918.

May 14, 1918.  
[S. 3402.]

[Public, No. 148.]

**CHAP. 73.**—An Act To fix the age limits for candidates for admission to the United States Naval Academy.

Naval Academy.  
Age of admission to,  
modified.  
R. S., sec. 1517, p. 261,  
amended.  
*Proviso.*  
Not applicable to cur-  
rent year.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That hereafter all candidates for admission to the Naval Academy must be not less than sixteen years of age nor more than twenty years of age on April first of the calendar year in which they enter the academy: *Provided,* That the foregoing shall not apply to candidates for midshipmen designated for entrance to the academy in nineteen hundred and eighteen.

Approved, May 14, 1918.

May 16, 1918.  
[H. R. 10265.]

[Public, No. 149.]

**CHAP. 74.**—An Act To authorize the President to provide housing for war needs.

Housing for war  
needs.  
President to provide  
houses, etc., for workers  
and their families dur-  
ing the war.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the President, for the purposes of providing housing, local transportation and other general community utilities for such industrial workers as are engaged in arsenals and navy yards of the United States and in industries connected with and essential to the national defense, and their families, and also employees of the United States whose duties require them to reside in the District of Columbia, and whose services are essential to war needs, and their families, only during the continuation of the existing war, is hereby authorized and empowered, within the limits of the amounts herein authorized—

Employees in Dis-  
trict of Columbia.

(a) To purchase, acquire by lease, construct, requisition, or acquire by condemnation or by gift such houses, buildings, furnishings, improvements, local transportation and other general community utilities and parts thereof as he may determine to be necessary for the proper conduct of the existing war.

Powers conferred.

Purchase, condem-  
nation, etc., of houses,  
local transportation,  
etc.

(b) To purchase, lease, requisition, or acquire by condemnation or by gift any improved or unimproved land, or any right, title, or interest therein on which such houses, buildings, improvements, local transportation and other general community utilities and parts thereof have been or may be constructed: *Provided,* That colleges, museums, libraries, State or municipal buildings, and the furnishings in private dwellings shall not be acquired except by contract, nor shall any occupied dwelling or place of abode be taken under the powers in this Act given except by contract unless the necessity thereof shall be determined by a judge of the circuit or district court of the United States exercising jurisdiction in the locality on petition setting forth the reason and necessity for such taking; the hearing on such petition shall be upon notice to the owner and occupant of such dwelling, and the determination of such judge shall be final, but in no event shall any occupied private dwelling house be taken except by contract unless such dwelling be upon lands desired for the construction of a Government structure: *Provided further,* That no existing limitation upon the right of any person to make a contract with the United States shall apply to owners whose property

Lands, buildings  
thereon, etc.

*Proviso.*  
Restriction as to col-  
leges, private furnish-  
ings, etc.

Occupied dwellings.  
Contracts for.

Existing limitations  
on contracts with the  
Government not appli-  
cable.