

by condemnation or otherwise, that certain parcel of land herein-after more fully described, aggregating approximately three hundred and forty-six thousand two hundred and thirty-four square feet, for the enlargement of the present site of the Bureau of Standards, at a price or cost not to exceed \$173,117, the said land being that lying to the east of the main site of the Bureau of Standards, in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, including the land situated and lying between Tilden and Van Ness Streets, and extending along Connecticut Avenue, bounded and described approximately as follows:

Beginning at the southwest corner of Van Ness Street, sixty feet wide, and Connecticut Avenue, one hundred and thirty feet wide, south twenty-four degrees twenty-six minutes east, eight hundred and forty-five and eighty-two one-hundredths feet to the center line of Tilden Street, one hundred and twenty feet wide, as proposed by District of Columbia highway plan; thence with the arc of a circle whose radius is one thousand two hundred and twenty-six and six-tenths feet, a distance of three hundred and eighty-six and thirty-seven one-hundredths feet, deflecting to the left; thence with the arc of a circle whose radius is one thousand nine hundred feet, a distance of two hundred and seventeen and nineteen one-hundredths feet, deflecting to the right, to the southeast corner of the land of the Bureau of Standards; thence with the east line of the Bureau of Standards' land north four minutes east, eight hundred and ninety and seventy-seven one-hundredths feet to the south line of Van Ness Street, sixty feet wide; thence with the south line of Van Ness Street, south eighty-nine degrees fifty-six minutes east, two hundred and thirty-eight and six one-hundredths feet to the point of beginning, containing approximately three hundred and forty-six thousand two hundred and thirty-four square feet, or seven and nine-thousand-four-hundred-and-eighty-four ten-thousandths acres.

Approved, February 19, 1925.

**CHAP. 268.**—An Act Granting to certain claimants the preference right to purchase unappropriated public lands.

February 19, 1925.  
[H. R. 9765.]  
[Public, No. 427.]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Secretary of the Interior, in his judgment and discretion, is hereby authorized to sell, in the manner hereinafter provided, any of those lands situated in the State of Louisiana which were originally erroneously meandered and shown upon the official plats as water-covered areas, and which are not lawfully appropriated by a qualified settler or entryman claiming under the public lands laws.

Public lands.  
Sale authorized of,  
in Louisiana, erroneously surveyed as  
water-covered areas.

That any citizen of the United States who, or whose ancestors in title in good faith under color of title or claiming as a riparian owner has, prior to this Act, placed valuable improvements upon or reduced to cultivation any of the lands subject to the operation of this Act, shall have a preferred right to file in the office of the register and receiver of the United States land office of the district in which the lands are situated, an application to purchase the lands thus improved by them at any time within ninety days from the date of the passage of this Act if the lands have been surveyed and plats filed in the United States land office; otherwise within ninety days from official notice to such claimant of the filing of such plats. Every such application must be accompanied with satisfactory proof that the applicant is entitled to such preference right and that the lands which he applies to purchase are not in the legal possession of an adverse claimant or in the actual possession of a

Preference right to  
settlers on, in good faith.

Application to be  
filed.

Proof of possession.

person or persons who have improved the property and who have attempted to enter same in compliance with the laws and regulations of the United States land office.

Appraisal of lands.

That 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 for agricultural purposes by the applicant or his predecessor in interest, but inclusive of the stumpage value of any timber cut or removed by the applicant or his predecessor in interest.

Value of improvement by applicant excluded.

Payment and issue of patents.

That an applicant who applies to purchase lands under the provisions of this Act, in order to be entitled to receive a patent, must within six months from receipt of notice of appraisal by the Secretary of the Interior pay to the receiver of the United States land office of the district in which the lands are situated, the appraised price 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 derived by the Government from the sale of the lands hereunder 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.

Regulations to be prescribed.

That 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.

Reservation of mineral rights.

SEC. 2. That 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. February 19, 1925.

February 20, 1925.  
[H. R. 103.]  
[Public No. 428.]

**CHAP. 272.**—An Act For the inclusion of certain lands in the Plumas National Forest, California, and for other purposes.

National forests.  
Exchange of lands  
with private owners  
for inclusion in  
designated.

Vol. 42, p. 465.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That within the following-described areas any lands not in Government ownership which are found by the Secretary of Agriculture to be chiefly valuable for national forest purposes may be offered in exchange under the provisions of the Act of March 20, 1922 (Public, 173, Forty-second United States Statutes at Large, page 465), upon notice as therein provided and upon acceptance of title shall become parts of the Plumas National Forest, the Eldorado National Forest, the Stanislaus National Forest, the Shasta National Forest, and the Tahoe National Forest, respectively, and any of such described areas in Government ownership, chiefly valuable for national forest purposes and not now parts of any national forest may be added to said national forests, as herein provided by proclamation of the President, subject to all valid claims and provisions of existing withdrawals: (1) To the Plumas National Forest, California: Township 22 north, range 4 east, sections 1, 12, and 13; township 23 north, range 4 east; township 20 north, range 6 east, east half of township; township 26 north, range 6 east; township 27 north, range 6 east; township 20 north, range 7 east; township 21 north, range 7 east; township 26 north, range 7 east; township 27

Plumas National  
Forest, Calif.  
Description.