

March 4, 1931.  
[S. 6271.]

[Public, No. 860.]

**CHAP. 513.**—An Act Relating to the tenure of Congressional Members of the George Washington Bi-centennial Commission.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the membership of Senators and Members of the House of Representatives on the George Washington Bi-centennial Commission shall continue irrespective of their terms as Members of Congress.

Any vacancies arising in the personnel of the said commission shall be filled as follows: Any vacancies occurring among Senators shall be filled by the President of the Senate, and any vacancies occurring among Members of the House of Representatives, before the organization of the Seventy-second Congress, shall be filled by appointment of the present Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Approved, March 4, 1931.

George Washington  
Bi-centennial Com-  
mission.  
Tenure of Congres-  
sional Members of.

Vacancies to be filled.

March 4, 1931.  
[S. 6279.]

[Public, No. 861.]

**CHAP. 514.**—An Act To authorize a suitable memorial in connection with the park and playground system of the National Capital or the George Washington Parkway, to the late Stephen T. Mather.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the National Capital Park and Planning Commission be, and is hereby authorized and directed to provide, in connection with the park and playground system of the National Capital or the George Washington Parkway, a suitable memorial in memory of the late Stephen T. Mather, the first Director of the National Park Service, and formerly ex-officio member of said National Capital Park and Planning Commission, as in the judgment of said Commission shall be appropriate in recognition of his distinguished service to the nation.

Approved, March 4, 1931.

Stephen T. Mather.  
Memorial in National  
Capital, etc., author-  
ized.

March 4, 1931.  
[H. R. 960.]

[Public, No. 862.]

**CHAP. 515.**—An Act To permit the United States to be made a party defendant in certain cases.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That, upon the conditions herein prescribed for the protection of the United States, the consent of the United States be, and it is hereby given, to be named a party in any suit which is now pending or which may hereafter be brought in any United States district court, including those for the districts of Alaska, Hawaii, and Porto Rico, and the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, and in any State court having jurisdiction of the subject matter, for the foreclosure of a mortgage or other lien upon real estate, for the purpose of securing an adjudication touching any mortgage or other lien the United States may have or claim on the premises involved.

**SEC. 2.** Service upon the United States shall be made by serving the process of the court with a copy of the bill of complaint upon the United States Attorney for the district or division in which the suit has been or may be brought and by sending copies of the process and bill, by registered mail, to the Attorney General of the United States at Washington, District of Columbia. The United States shall have sixty days after service as above provided, or such further time as the court may allow, within which to appear and answer, plead or demur.

Federal Government  
liens on real estate.  
Consent to name  
Government party de-  
fendant in case involv-  
ing, granted.

Service of process.

Copies to Attorney  
General.

SEC. 3. Any such suit brought against the United States in any State court may be removed by the United States to the United States district court for the district in which the suit may be pending. The removal shall be effected in the manner prescribed by section 29 of the Judicial Code (title 28, sec. 72, U. S. C.): *Provided*, That the petition for removal may be filed at any time before the expiration of thirty days after the time herein or by the court allowed to the United States to answer, and no removal bond shall be required. The court to which the cause is removed may, before judgment, remand it to the State court if it shall appear that there is no real dispute respecting the rights of the United States, or all the other parties shall concede of record the claims of the United States.

Removal of suit to district court.

Procedure for. Vol. 36, p. 1095. U. S. C., p. 871.

*Proviso.* Petition to be filed.

Remanding to State court authorized.

SEC. 4. Except as herein otherwise provided, a judicial sale made in pursuance of a judgment in such a suit shall have the same effect respecting the discharge of the property from liens and encumbrances held by the United States as may be provided with respect to such matters by the law of the State, Territory, or District in which the land is situated, provided that a sale to satisfy a lien inferior to one of the United States shall be made subject to and without disturbing the lien of the United States, unless the United States, by its attorneys, consents that the property may be sold free of its mortgage or lien and the proceeds divided as the parties may be entitled: *And provided further*, That where a sale is made to satisfy a lien prior to that of the United States, the United States shall have one year from the date of sale within which to redeem. In any case where the debt owing the United States is due, the United States may ask, by way of affirmative relief, for the foreclosure of its own lien or mortgage and in any case where property is sold to satisfy a first mortgage or first lien held by the United States, the United States may bid at the sale such sum not exceeding the amount of its claim with expenses of sale, as may be directed by the chief of the department, bureau or other agency of the Government which has charge of the administration of the laws in respect of which the claim of the United States arises.

Effect of judicial sale.

If to satisfy lien inferior to that of Government.

*Proviso.* Right of redemption.

Foreclosure of Government's liens, etc.

SEC. 5. If any person shall have a lien upon any real or personal property, duly filed of record in the jurisdiction in which the property is located, and a junior lien (other than a lien for any tax) in favor of the United States attaches to such property, such person may make a written request to the officer of the United States charged with the administration of the laws in respect of which the lien of the United States arises, to have the same extinguished. If after appropriate investigation, it appears to such officer that the proceeds from the sale of the property would be insufficient to satisfy, in whole or in part, the lien of the United States, or that the claim of the United States has been satisfied, or by lapse of time or otherwise has become unenforceable, such officer shall so report to the Comptroller General who thereupon may issue a certificate of release, which shall operate to release the property from such lien.

Extinguishing of liens on property against which Government acquires junior lien.

Issue of certificates of release.

SEC. 6. No judgment for costs or other money judgment shall be rendered against the United States in any suit or proceeding which may be instituted under the provisions of this Act. Nor shall the United States be or become liable for the payment of the costs of any such suit or proceeding or any part thereof.

No Federal liability for costs.

Approved, March 4, 1931.