

I suggest that the States of Ohio, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Maine be honored by changing the names of certain diagonal highways in the District of Columbia as follows:

For Ohio Avenue, rename Concord Avenue and Riggs Road.

For Oklahoma Avenue, rename Benning Road or Nichols Avenue.

For Maine Avenue, rename Reno Road.

For Missouri Avenue, rename Linnean Avenue.

Under this set-up the two States of Maine and Missouri would be paired as they were in the Mall, a relationship which the congressional representatives from those States thought important to perpetuate. As alternatives for Maine and Missouri Avenues, I also suggest that Water Street might be renamed Maine Avenue and that Potomac Avenue could be renamed Missouri Avenue. The surveyor of the District of Columbia has been contacted and sees no objection to a change in these existing street names.

For the reasons which I have set out herein I am convinced that House Joint Resolution No. 171 should not become law.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

On August 30, 1937:

WALTER W. JOHNSTON

H. R. 2860. I am withholding my approval of bill H. R. 2860, entitled "An act for the relief of Walter W. Johnston."

The bill authorizes and directs the Secretary of the Treasury to pay to Walter W. Johnston, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$5,495 for personal services claimed to have been rendered to the United States Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation and for the use of appliances personally owned and operated by him in connection with the launching of ships for the United States Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation for carrying on the war.

The record in this case shows that the claimant was fully compensated for his personal services and for the use of his devices for launching ships, by virtue of a decision of the Court of Claims rendered on April 30, 1930, wherein it was determined that the fair and reasonable compensation for the services rendered by the claimant in this connection was \$20,000, and that he had received approximately \$5,495 to apply on his compensation. The court therefore rendered a judgment in favor of the claimant in the sum of \$14,505, which judgment was paid by the United States on September 6, 1930.

In the light of the record in this case, which discloses that the claim of Walter W. Johnston has been fully litigated and a judgment had and paid for the fair and reasonable value of the services rendered, I do not feel justified in approving this bill.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

RED LAKE BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS IN MINNESOTA

H. R. 4539 would authorize a per-capita payment of \$25 to the members of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians in Minnesota from the proceeds of the sale of timber and lumber on the Red Lake Reservation.

The Acting Secretary of the Interior advises that (a) a large number of the old people are being provided for under the Social Security Act; (b) that employment opportunities are plentiful for able-bodied Indians in road and emergency conservation work; (c) that to provide labor to conduct timber operations on the reservation it was necessary to discontinue some of the emergency relief activities; and (d) that the proposed payment would reduce the capital of this tribe to such a point that future timber operations may be seriously handicapped.

For these reasons I am withholding approval of H. R. 4539.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

On August 31, 1937:

CLEVELAND L. SHORT

H. R. 1093. I have withheld my approval from H. R. 1093, "An act for the relief of Cleveland L. Short."

This measure would authorize and direct the Secretary of the Treasury to pay to Cleveland L. Short the sum of

\$1,572.50 in full settlement of all claims against the United States for permanent injuries sustained by him on June 14, 1909, while employed by the Isthmian Canal Commission.

The compensation law in effect at the time Mr. Short was injured provided that, in the event of injury resulting from hazardous employment, the employee would be entitled to receive for a year thereafter the same rate of pay as if he continued to be employed, unless, in the opinion of the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, the employee could return to work sooner.

The record in this case shows that Mr. Short was incapacitated for 45½ days; that he returned to work after that period; and that, in accordance with the provisions of the then-existing law, he received benefits of \$227.50 to cover his lost time.

The present bill provides for paying the employee the difference between \$227.50 and his rate of pay for a full year, or an additional payment of \$1,572.50.

Apparently this is the first bill of this kind; and if this were the only case of a full year's compensation to a Federal employee who returned to work after a disability that existed for only a portion of the year, I would have no hesitancy whatever in approving the bill, particularly in view of the fact that the employee lost a foot in the accident. But there are hundreds of cases of employees who sustained injuries during the period from May 30, 1908, to September 7, 1916, and who returned to work after varying periods of disability of less than 1 year without receiving a full year's compensation on account of such disabilities.

I therefore feel that the enactment of this bill would create a precedent which might result in numerous claims for additional compensation by others who were injured and who have received the benefits to which they were entitled under the law.

For these reasons I withhold approval of the bill.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

AUTHORIZING ADVANCE OF AMOUNTS DUE ON DELINQUENT HOMESTEAD ENTRIES ON CERTAIN INDIAN RESERVATIONS

H. R. 2888 is a bill to grant relief to homesteaders and purchasers of public and ceded Indian lands and to authorize advance of amounts due on delinquent homestead entries on certain Indian reservations.

Sections 1 and 2 thereof authorize the granting of leave of absence and exemption from payment of installments on the purchase price of their land to homestead settlers and entrymen who, because of economic conditions, find it necessary during the calendar year 1937 to leave their homesteads to seek employment. Section 5 would permit any entryman or purchaser of ceded Indian land to relinquish a portion of his entry or purchase so that the payments on the whole of such entry or purchase will be sufficient to complete payment on the lands retained. To these three sections I have no serious objection, in view of the previous extensions that have been granted by the Congress.

But I am unable to find any satisfactory basis for approving sections 3 and 4 of the bill. These two sections provide for the advance payment to the Indians from the general fund of the Treasury of the indebtedness of entrymen and purchasers of ceded Indian land. With the opening of these ceded Indian lands to entry, the United States accepted no responsibility to purchase or find purchasers for such lands, but acted only as a trustee to sell the lands and pay over the proceeds to the Indians. The delinquency that has occurred on the part of entrymen and purchasers in making their payments on these lands constitutes no justification for the proposed shifting from the Indians to the Government of the burden of waiting for the completion of the payments. The fact of the delinquency indicates, indeed, that this is simply the transfer of bad debts from one payee to another.

I would have no objection to the enactment of legislation that would provide for the cancelation of these entries and for the reversion of the lands to the Indians for their own use.

For the foregoing reasons I am withholding approval of H. R. 2888.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.