

**CHAP. 282.**—An Act To authorize the Valley Transfer Railway Company, a corporation, to construct and operate a line of railway in and upon the Fort Snelling Military Reservation in the State of Minnesota.

March 4, 1923.  
[H. R. 14082.]  
[Public, No. 533.]

*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 to give to the Valley Transfer Railway Company, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Minnesota, its successors and assigns, a revocable permit to locate, construct, maintain, and operate a line of railway, with single or double tracks, across the Fort Snelling Military Reservation in the State of Minnesota, upon such location and under such regulations and conditions as shall be approved by the Secretary of War.

Fort Snelling Military Reservation, Minn.  
Valley Transfer Railway granted right of way across.

SEC. 2. That the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Amendment.

Approved, March 4, 1923.

**CHAP. 283.**—An Act For the creation of an American Battle Monuments Commission to erect suitable memorials commemorating the services of the American soldier in Europe, and for other purposes.

March 4, 1923.  
[H. R. 14087.]  
[Public, No. 534.]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That a commission is hereby created and established, to be known as the American Battle Monuments Commission (hereinafter referred to as the commission), to consist of seven members who shall be appointed by the President, who shall also appoint one officer of the Regular Army to serve as its secretary. The members and secretary shall serve at the pleasure of the President who shall fill any vacancies that from time to time occur. The secretary shall also serve as disbursing officer of the commission, who shall make disbursements upon vouchers approved by its chairman.

American Battle Monuments Commission.  
Creation and composition of.

The members of the commission shall serve without compensation except that their actual expenses in connection with the work of the commission may be paid from any funds appropriated for the purposes of this Act, or acquired by other means hereinafter authorized.

Secretary's duties.

Only actual expenses to be paid.

Upon the request of the commission the President is authorized to designate such personnel of any department or of the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps as may be necessary to assist in carrying out the purposes of this Act, and the commission is authorized to employ such further personnel as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act, within the limits of any appropriation or appropriations made for such purposes.

Personnel from departments, Army, Navy, and Marine Corps to assist.

SEC. 2. That the commission shall prepare plans and estimates for the erection of suitable memorials to mark and commemorate the services of the American forces in Europe and erect memorials therein at such places as the commission shall determine, including works of architecture and art in the American cemeteries in Europe.

Memorials to American forces in Europe, to be planned, etc., by.

The commission shall control as to materials and design, provide regulations for and supervise the erection of all memorial monuments and buildings in the American cemeteries in Europe.

Memorials in American cemeteries subject to commission.

The commission shall cause such photographs to be secured or taken of the terrain of the various battle fields of Europe, upon which units of the armed forces of the United States were actively engaged with the enemy, as will complete the historical photographic record of the operations of such units; and the commission shall transmit such record when completed to the Secretary of War for permanent file with the records of the War Department.

Photographs of battlefield where American forces were engaged to be secured.

Approval of designs, etc., by Fine Arts Commission.

Arrangements with foreign authorities requested.

Donations accepted from States, etc.

Deposit and accounting.

Preparation of models, memorials, etc., at arsenals, navy yards, etc., authorized.

Use of captured war materials.

*Proviso.*  
Selection restricted.

Replicas of memorials, etc., may be furnished at cost.

Cooperation with citizens, States, etc.

*Proviso.*  
Approval of plans.

Maintenance.

Report to President.

Authority for appropriations.

Final deposit of records and archives.

SEC. 3. That before any design or material for memorials is accepted by the commission, the same shall be approved by the National Commission of Fine Arts.

SEC. 4. That the President is requested to make the necessary arrangements with the proper authorities of the countries concerned to enable the commission to carry out the purposes of this Act.

SEC. 5. That the commission is authorized to receive funds from any State, municipal, or private source for the purposes of this Act, and such funds shall be deposited by the commission with the Chief of Finance of the United States Army and shall be kept by him in separate accounts and shall be disbursed upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the commission.

SEC. 6. That authority is hereby given for the preparation of models and designs and the fabrication of memorials, and the materials for such memorials, at arsenals or navy yards or by other governmental agencies, if the commission shall so determine.

Authority is hereby given for the use of captured war materials, not otherwise disposed of by congressional action, in the fabrication of not to exceed ten thousand pounds of bronze to be used on the memorials constructed under the provisions of this Act: *Provided*, That in the selection of materials the commission shall refrain from utilizing material which might otherwise be available for decorative or memorial purposes.

SEC. 7. That the commission is authorized to furnish replicas of any memorial, or any part thereof, to States, municipalities, or interested private persons or associations at actual cost, and to apply any proceeds from such sales to the purposes of this Act.

SEC. 8. That the commission is authorized and directed to cooperate with American citizens, States, municipalities, or associations desiring to erect war memorials in Europe in such manner as may be determined by the commission: *Provided*, That no assistance in erecting any such memorial shall be given by any administrative agency of the United States unless the plan has been approved in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 9. That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of War to maintain the memorials erected by the commission under authority of this Act, and the commission shall advise the Secretary of War of the location and date of completion of each memorial.

SEC. 10. That the commission shall transmit to the President of the United States annually on the 1st of July a statement of all its financial and other transactions during the preceding fiscal year.

SEC. 11. That such sum or sums as Congress may hereafter appropriate for the purposes of this Act are hereby authorized to be appropriated.

SEC. 12. That the records and archives of the commission shall, upon the termination of its duties, be deposited with the Secretary of War.

Approved, March 4, 1923.

March 4, 1923.  
[H. R. 14144.]  
[Public, No. 535.]

CHAP. 284.—An act to limit and fix the time within which suits may be brought or rights asserted in court arising out of the provisions of subdivision 3 of section 302 of the Soldiers and Sailors' Civil Relief Act, approved March 18, 1918, being chapter 20, volume 40, General Statutes of the United States.

Soldiers and Sailors' Civil Relief Act.  
Time limit for bringing claims to real estate foreclosed, etc., under  
Vol. 40, p. 444.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That any person entitled to claim any right, title to, or interest in any real estate because of any failure to comply with the provisions of subdivision 3 of section 302 of the Soldiers and Sailors' Civil Relief Act, approved March 18, 1918, being chapter 20, volume 40, General Statutes of the