

61ST CONGRESS,  
3D SESSION.

---

Calendar No. 867.  
**H. R. 23000.**

[Report No. 920.]

---

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JUNE 16, 1910.

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Pacific Islands and Porto Rico.

DECEMBER 13, 1910.

Reported by Mr. DEPEW, without amendment.

DECEMBER 16, 1910.

Recommitted to the Committee on Pacific Islands and Porto Rico.

JANUARY 20, 1911.

Reported by Mr. DEPEW, with amendments.

[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in italic.]

---

# AN ACT

To provide a civil government for Porto Rico, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That the provisions of this Act shall apply to the island of  
4       Porto Rico and to the adjacent islands and waters of the  
5       islands lying east of the seventy-fourth meridian of longitude  
6       west of Greenwich, which were ceded to the United States  
7       by the Government of Spain by treaty signed at Paris on the  
8       tenth day of December, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight;

1 and proclaimed at Washington on the eleventh day of April,  
2 eighteen hundred and ninety-nine; and the name Porto  
3 Rico as used in this Act shall be held to include not only the  
4 island of that name but all the adjacent islands as aforesaid.

5       SEC. 2. That no law shall be enacted in Porto Rico which  
6 shall deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without  
7 due process of law, or deny to any person therein the equal  
8 protection of the laws.

9       That in all criminal prosecutions the accused shall enjoy  
10 the right to be heard by himself and counsel, to demand the  
11 nature and cause of the accusation against him, to have a  
12 copy thereof, to have a speedy and public trial, to meet the  
13 witnesses face to face, and to have compulsory process to  
14 compel the attendance of witnesses in his behalf.

15       That no person shall be held to answer for a criminal  
16 offense without due process of law; and no person for the  
17 same offense shall be twice put in jeopardy of punishment, nor  
18 shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against  
19 himself.

20       That all persons shall before conviction be bailable by  
21 sufficient sureties, except for capital offenses when the proof  
22 is evident or the presumption great.

23       That no law impairing the obligation of contracts shall  
24 be enacted.

25       That no person shall be imprisoned for debt.

1       That the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not  
2 be suspended, unless when in case of rebellion, insurrection,  
3 or invasion the public safety may require it, in either of  
4 which events the same may be suspended by the President,  
5 or by the governor, wherever during such period the necessity  
6 for such suspension shall exist.

7       That no ex post facto law or bill of attainder shall be  
8 enacted.

9       That no law granting a title of nobility shall be enacted,  
10 and no person holding any office of profit or trust in Porto  
11 Rico shall, without the consent of the Congress of the United  
12 States, accept any present, emolument, office, or title of any  
13 kind whatever from any king, queen, prince, or foreign State.

14       That excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive  
15 fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishment inflicted.

16       That the right to be secure against unreasonable searches  
17 and seizures shall not be violated.

18       That neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except  
19 as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been  
20 duly convicted, shall exist in Porto Rico.

21       That no law shall be passed abridging the freedom of  
22 speech or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to  
23 assemble and petition the Government for redress of griev-  
24 ances.

1       That no law shall be made respecting an establishment  
2 of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, and that  
3 the free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and  
4 worship, without discrimination or preference, shall forever  
5 be allowed, and that no political or religious test, other than  
6 an oath to support the Constitution of the United States,  
7 shall be required as a qualification to any office or public  
8 trust under Porto Rico.

9       That no money shall be paid out of the treasury except  
10 in pursuance of an appropriation by law.

11       That the rule of taxation in Porto Rico shall be uniform  
12 upon the same class of subjects.

13       That no warrant shall issue but upon probable cause,  
14 supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing  
15 the place to be searched and the person or things to be seized.

16       That all money collected on any tax levied or assessed  
17 for a special purpose shall be treated as a special fund in the  
18 treasury and paid out for such purpose only.

19       That eight hours shall constitute a day's work in all  
20 cases of employment by and on behalf of the government or  
21 any municipality of the island.

22       That the employment of children, under the age of  
23 fourteen years, in any occupation injurious to health or morals  
24 or especially hazardous to life or limb, is hereby prohibited.

1       That the right of action to recover damages for injuries  
2 resulting in death, shall never be abrogated, and the amount  
3 recoverable shall not be subject to any statutory limitation.

4       SEC. 3. That no export duties shall be levied or col-  
5 lected on exports from Porto Rico; but taxes and assessments  
6 on property, and license fees for franchises, privileges, and  
7 concessions may be imposed for the purposes of the insular  
8 and municipal governments, respectively, as may be pro-  
9 vided and defined by the legislature of Porto Rico;  
10 and when necessary to anticipate taxes and revenues,  
11 bonds and other obligations may be issued by Porto Rico  
12 or any municipal government therein as may be provided  
13 by law and to protect the public credit: *Provided, how-*  
14 *ever,* That no public indebtedness of Porto Rico or of any  
15 municipality thereof shall be authorized or allowed in excess  
16 of seven per centum of the aggregate tax valuation of its  
17 property.

18       SEC. 4. That the capital of Porto Rico shall be at the  
19 city of San Juan, and the seat of government shall be main-  
20 tained there.

21       SEC. 5. That all inhabitants continuing to reside therein  
22 who were Spanish subjects on the eleventh day of April,  
23 eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, and then resided in Porto  
24 Rico, and their children born subsequently thereto, shall be  
25 deemed and held to be citizens of Porto Rico, and as such

1 entitled to the protection of the United States, except  
2 such as elected to preserve their allegiance to the Crown  
3 of Spain on or before the eleventh day of April, nineteen hun-  
4 dred, in accordance with the provisions of the treaty of peace  
5 between the United States and Spain entered into on the  
6 eleventh day of April, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine;  
7 and they, together with such citizens of the United States as  
8 may reside in Porto Rico, shall constitute a body politic under  
9 the name of the people of Porto Rico, with governmental  
10 powers as hereinafter conferred, and with power to sue and be  
11 sued as such.

12       SEC. 6. That all citizens of Porto Rico, as defined by  
13 the preceding section, are hereby declared and shall be  
14 deemed and held to be citizens of the United States.

15       SEC. 7. That the laws and ordinances of Porto Rico  
16 now in force shall continue in force and effect, except as  
17 altered, amended, or modified herein, and so far as the same  
18 are not inconsistent or in conflict with the statutory laws of  
19 the United States not locally inapplicable, or the provisions  
20 hereof, until altered, amended, or repealed by the legislative  
21 authority herein provided for Porto Rico, or by Act of Con-  
22 gress of the United States.

23       SEC. 8. That the coasting trade between Porto Rico and  
24 the United States shall be regulated in accordance with the

1 provisions of law applicable to such trade between any two  
2 great coasting districts of the United States.

3       SEC. 9. That all expenses that may be incurred on  
4 account of the government of Porto Rico for salaries of offi-  
5 cials and the conduct of their offices and departments, and  
6 all expenses and obligations contracted for the internal im-  
7 provement or development of the island, not, however, in-  
8 cluding defenses, barracks, harbors, light-houses, buoys, and  
9 other works undertaken by the United States, shall, except  
10 as otherwise specifically provided by the Congress, be paid  
11 by the treasurer of Porto Rico out of the revenues in his  
12 custody.

13       SEC. 10. That all property which may have been ac-  
14 quired in Porto Rico by the United States under the cession  
15 of Spain in the treaty of peace entered into on the tenth day  
16 of December, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, in any  
17 public bridges, road houses, water powers, highways, un-  
18 navigable streams, and the beds thereof, subterranean wa-  
19 ters, mines or minerals under the surface of private lands,  
20 and all property which at the time of the cession belonged,  
21 under the laws of Spain then in force, to the various harbor-  
22 works boards of Porto Rico, and all the harbor shores, docks,  
23 slips, and reclaimed lands, but not including harbor areas or  
24 navigable waters, is hereby placed under the control of the  
25 government of Porto Rico to be administered for the benefit

1 of the people of Porto Rico ; and the legislature of Porto Rico  
2 shall have authority, subject to the limitations imposed upon  
3 all its acts, to legislate with respect to all such matters as it  
4 may deem advisable. There is hereby conferred upon the  
5 people of Porto Rico jurisdiction over harbor areas and nav-  
6 igable waters for the enforcement of the police laws of Porto  
7 Rico.

8       SEC. 11. That the statutory laws of the United States  
9 not locally inapplicable, except as hereinbefore or hereinafter  
10 otherwise provided, shall have the same force and effect in  
11 Porto Rico as in the United States, except internal-revenue  
12 laws.

13       SEC. 12. That all judicial process shall run in the name  
14 of "United States of America, ss. the President of the United  
15 States," and all penal or criminal prosecutions in the local  
16 courts shall be conducted in the name and by the authority  
17 of "The People of Porto Rico;" and all officials authorized  
18 by this Act shall, before entering upon the duties of their  
19 respective offices, take an oath to support the Constitution  
20 of the United States and the laws of Porto Rico.

21       SEC. 13. That all reports required by law to be made by  
22 the governor or heads of departments to any official in the  
23 United States shall hereafter be made to an executive depart-  
24 ment of the Government of the United States to be desig-  
25 nated by the President; and the President is authorized to



1 place all matters pertaining to the government of Porto Rico  
2 in the jurisdiction of such department.

3       SEC. 14. That the supreme executive power shall be  
4 vested in an executive officer, whose official title shall be “The  
5 Governor of Porto Rico.” He shall be appointed by the Presi-  
6 dent, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and  
7 hold his office at the pleasure of the President and until his suc-  
8 cessor is chosen and qualified. The governor shall reside in  
9 Porto Rico during his official incumbency, and maintain his  
10 office at the seat of government. He shall have general super-  
11 vision and control of all of the departments and bureaus of the  
12 government in Porto Rico so far as is not inconsistent with  
13 the provisions of this Act, and shall be commander in chief  
14 of the militia. He may grant pardons and reprieves, and  
15 remit fines and forfeitures for offenses against the laws of  
16 Porto Rico, and respites for offenses against the laws of the  
17 United States, until the decision of the President can be  
18 ascertained, and may veto any legislation enacted as here-  
19 inafter provided. He shall commission all officers that he  
20 may be authorized to appoint, and shall at all times faithfully  
21 execute the laws, and in that behalf shall have all the powers  
22 of governors of the Territories of the United States that are  
23 not locally inapplicable. He shall annually and at such other  
24 times as he may be required make such official report of the

1 transactions of the government of Porto Rico to the head of  
2 the executive department designated by the President, and  
3 his said annual report shall be transmitted to Congress, and  
4 he shall perform such additional duties and functions as may  
5 in pursuance of law be delegated or assigned to him by the  
6 President.

7       SEC. 15. That the following executive departments are  
8 hereby created: A department of justice, the head of which  
9 shall be designated as the attorney-general; a department  
10 of finance, the head of which shall be designated as the  
11 treasurer; a department of audits, the head of which  
12 shall be designated as the auditor; a department of inte-  
13 rior, the head of which shall be designated as the com-  
14 missioner of the interior; a department of education, the  
15 head of which shall be designated as the commissioner of  
16 education; and a department of health, the head of which  
17 shall be designated as the commissioner of health who  
18 shall be educated in medicine. The legislature of Porto  
19 Rico may also create an additional department to be  
20 known as the department of agriculture, commerce, and  
21 labor, the head of which department, when created,  
22 shall be designated as the commissioner of agricul-  
23 ture, commerce, and labor. The heads of departments  
24 shall be appointed by the President, by and with the  
25 advice and consent of the Senate of the United States, to

1 hold office for four years unless sooner removed by the Presi-  
2 dent. The commissioner of health may be a medical  
3 officer of the Army of the United States; but the official  
4 pay as such officer shall be deducted while so serving  
5 from the salary or compensation provided for by this  
6 Act. Heads of departments shall reside in Porto Rico  
7 during their official incumbency, but leaves of absence may  
8 be granted to them by the governor. They shall perform  
9 the duties hereinafter prescribed and such other duties, not  
10 inconsistent with law, as the governor, with the approval of  
11 the President, may assign to them; and they shall make  
12 annual and such other reports to the governor as he may  
13 require, which shall be transmitted to the executive depart-  
14 ment designated by the President.

15       SEC. 16. The attorney-general shall have general  
16 charge of the administration of justice in Porto Rico. He  
17 shall be the legal adviser of the governor and the heads  
18 of departments, and shall appear for the people of Porto  
19 Rico and prosecute and defend all actions and proceedings,  
20 civil or criminal, in the supreme court of Porto Rico in which  
21 the people of Porto Rico shall be interested or a party, and  
22 may, if in his judgment the public interest requires, appear  
23 for the people of Porto Rico and prosecute or defend in any  
24 other court, or before any officer, in any cause, civil  
25 or criminal, in which the people of Porto Rico may

1 be a party or interested. He shall have charge of the ad-  
2 ministration of prisons, penitentiaries, and jails, notwith-  
3 standing any provision of law to the contrary, and shall  
4 perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law.

5       SEC. 17. That the treasurer shall give bond, approved  
6 as to form by the attorney-general of Porto Rico, in such  
7 sum as the legislature may require, not less, however,  
8 than the sum of one hundred and twenty-five thou-  
9 sand dollars, with surety approved by the governor, and he  
10 shall collect and be the custodian of public funds, and shall  
11 disburse the same when appropriated by law, on warrants  
12 signed by the auditor and countersigned by the governor, and  
13 perform such other duties as may be provided by law. He  
14 may designate banking institutions in Porto Rico as deposi-  
15 taries of the government of Porto Rico, subject to such condi-  
16 tions as may be prescribed by the governor; and the head of  
17 the executive department of the Government of the United  
18 States designated by the President in pursuance of authority  
19 conferred by this Act may designate banking institutions in  
20 the United States as depositaries of the government of Porto  
21 Rico, after they have filed with him satisfactory evidence  
22 of their sound financial condition and have deposited bonds  
23 of the United States or of the government of Porto Rico  
24 or other security satisfactory to the head of such executive  
25 department in such amounts as may be indicated by him; and

1 no banking institution shall be designated a depositary of the  
2 government of Porto Rico until the foregoing conditions have  
3 been complied with nor used as a depositary except in the  
4 discretion of the treasurer of Porto Rico; other conditions,  
5 including the rate of interest, being equally favorable, pref-  
6 erence shall be given to banking institutions of Porto Rico.

7 SEC. 18. That the auditor shall keep full and accurate  
8 accounts showing all receipts and disbursements and perform  
9 such other duties as may be prescribed by law. Where an  
10 appeal is permitted by law to the governor from the decision  
11 of the auditor as to the legality of any expenditure or payment,  
12 the governor's decision shall be final. The decision of the  
13 auditor shall be final in any question as to the account to  
14 which any expenditure shall be charged.

15 SEC. 19. That the commissioner of the interior shall  
16 superintend all works of a public nature, have charge of all  
17 public buildings, grounds, and lands, except those belonging  
18 to the United States, and shall execute such requirements  
19 as may be imposed by law with respect thereto, and perform  
20 such other duties as may be prescribed by law.

21 SEC. 20. That the commissioner of education shall  
22 superintend public instruction throughout Porto Rico, and  
23 all disbursements on account thereof must be approved by him,  
24 and he shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed  
25 by law.

1        SEC. 21. That the commissioner of agriculture, com-  
2 merce, and labor shall, in the event of the creation of such  
3 department by the legislature as herein provided, have general  
4 charge of such bureaus and branches of government as shall  
5 be legally constituted for the study, advancement, and bene-  
6 fit of agricultural and other industries and of commerce and  
7 labor, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed  
8 by law.

9        SEC. 22. That the commissioner of health shall have  
10 general charge of all matters relating to public health, sanita-  
11 tion, and charities, and shall perform the duties hereinafter  
12 indicated, and such other duties as may be prescribed by law.

13        SEC. 23. That the department of health shall consist of  
14 a commissioner of health, a bureau of sanitation, a bureau of  
15 charities, and a board of sanitation and charities, and shall  
16 include all branches of the public service and public institu-  
17 tions relating to sanitation and charities, including institu-  
18 tions for insane and minors, now existing or that may here-  
19 after be created.

20        SEC. 24. That the commissioner of health shall, subject  
21 to the approval of the governor, appoint, remove, and pre-  
22 scribe the duties of all officials of the department of health  
23 not herein otherwise provided for.

24        SEC. 25. That the commissioner of health may cause to  
25 be removed to proper places designated by the board of sanita-

1 tion and charities any person sick with a quarantinable  
2 disease, or any other rapidly spreading affection, subject to the  
3 sanitary ordinances that may be in force and through the  
4 director of sanitation. He shall have the control of public  
5 hospitals for the treatment of such cases, and shall administer  
6 the funds appropriated for the use and maintenance of such  
7 hospitals. He may occupy in cases of emergency for the purpose  
8 of provisional hospitals such buildings as may be necessary,  
9 without prejudice to the subsequent payment to the owner of a  
10 reasonable indemnity, the amount of which shall be determined  
11 in accordance with the procedure established by law in like  
12 actions; and he may order proper care and attention to be  
13 given to the sick persons removed to the hospital, as herein  
14 provided for, when it comes to his knowledge that such per-  
15 sons are too poor to defray the expenses of their attendance  
16 or when it is necessary to take care of them in the interest of  
17 public health. No person suffering from a quarantinable or  
18 rapidly transmissible disease shall be removed from a vessel  
19 or from any other place set aside by competent authority for  
20 his isolation and treatment without a written permit from the  
21 commissioner, the director of sanitation, or the sanitary  
22 official placed in charge of such vessel or place by the commis-  
23 sioner. *But this provision shall not apply to the administra-*  
24 *tion of maritime quarantine as prescribed by the laws and*  
25 *regulations of the United States.* For the purpose of carry-

1 ing out the duties prescribed, the commissioner, or any duly  
2 authorized officer or employee of his department, may enter  
3 at any time into private properties and dwellings for the  
4 inspection or examination of such premises.

5       SEC. 26. That in addition to the regular municipal sani-  
6 tary services provided for by law, the commissioner of health  
7 may, with the approval of the governor, establish such special  
8 and temporary sanitary detachments and services, with the  
9 necessary personnel therefor, as may be required for disin-  
10 fecting, for the extinction of the mosquito, or for other pre-  
11 ventive measures against epidemic diseases, and may expend  
12 for this purpose the necessary sums for personal services, sup-  
13 plies, and equipment from the funds available therefor or from  
14 the epidemic fund, or both.

15       SEC. 27. That whenever the proper authority of any  
16 municipality fails to perform the works or services required by  
17 the commissioner of health in accordance with the law and  
18 regulations, after a reasonable period, which may be deter-  
19 mined upon by the commissioner, the commissioner may order  
20 the works or services in question to be performed and paid for  
21 from the appropriation available for that purpose or from the  
22 epidemic fund, or both, but the municipality wherein the  
23 failure has occurred shall be obligated to make reimbursement  
24 for the amount expended. The commissioner of health, on  
25 behalf of the government of Porto Rico, may institute suit in



1 the competent court to recover said moneys, and when recov-  
2 ered the amount shall be paid into the insular treasury for the  
3 purposes of the proper reimbursements or may be deducted  
4 by the treasurer of Porto Rico from any moneys collected or  
5 held by him on account of said municipality.

6 SEC. 28. That quarantine stations shall be established  
7 at such places in Porto Rico as the ~~Supervising~~ Surgeon-  
8 General of the *Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service*  
9 of the United States shall direct, and the quarantine regu-  
10 lations relating to the importation of diseases from other  
11 countries shall be under the control of the Government of  
12 the United States.

13 The commissioner of health may at any time inspect  
14 the quarantine stations in Porto Rico and the records of the  
15 same and shall make reports of all such inspections to the  
16 executive department designated by the President, which  
17 reports shall be transmitted to the Surgeon-General of the  
18 Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service.

19 SEC. 29. That the commissioner of health personally or  
20 through an inspector or a committee, or one or more mem-  
21 bers of the board of sanitation and charities, may investigate  
22 the conditions of any establishment or institution subject  
23 to inspection in accordance with the provisions of law; and  
24 the authority or committee appointed to make such investi-

1 gation may subpoena witnesses, require the production of  
2 documents and books, and if such witnesses should fail to  
3 appear or refuse to testify or produce the books or documents  
4 called for, they shall be subject to the penalties prescribed  
5 by law for recalcitrant witnesses.

6 SEC. 30. That no official, employee, or agent of the  
7 bureau of sanitation shall be held personally liable for the  
8 acts done or omitted by him in good faith, and with ordinary  
9 discretion, in the service of the department or in the observ-  
10 ance and enforcement of its ordinances, regulations, or laws.

11 Every person whose property may have been unjustly  
12 or illegally destroyed or injured by the enforcement of any  
13 order, regulation, ordinance, or by any action taken by the  
14 bureau of sanitation, or by its employees or agents exempt  
15 from personal liability, as aforesaid, may maintain the appro-  
16 priate action against the government of Porto Rico for the  
17 recovery of proper damages. But in such cases the claim  
18 must be presented to the commissioner of health, in writing,  
19 within ninety days after the occurrence of the acts which  
20 gave rise thereto, and the date, place, nature, and degree of  
21 the damage or injury suffered, and the estimated value thereof  
22 shall be set forth in the complaint under oath or affirmation.  
23 The commissioner shall render his decision within twenty  
24 days after the receipt of the claim, and after hearing the  
25 official or employee responsible for the loss or damage. No

1 judicial action can be brought against the insular govern-  
2 ment for such damage or injury unless it be established that  
3 the claim was presented to the commissioner of health in  
4 due time and that the commissioner has failed to decide or  
5 has decided adversely or in a form not satisfactory to the  
6 claimant within the period of twenty days allowed him for  
7 decision.

8       SEC. 31. That the bureau of sanitation shall be in  
9 charge of a director of sanitation appointed by the com-  
10 missioner of health with the approval of the governor, and  
11 the said director, under the authority of the commissioner,  
12 shall have the direction of all branches of the service of sani-  
13 tation except as otherwise herein provided, and shall have  
14 control over the chemical and bacteriological laboratory of the  
15 department, the anemia commission with its dispensaries,  
16 the training school for nurses, and all other institutions and  
17 establishments of a sanitary character subject to the jurisdic-  
18 tion of the bureau, and of all sanitary inspectors and local  
19 sanitary officers. He shall be ex officio a member of the board  
20 of sanitation and charities, and the president thereof.

21       SEC. 32. That the sanitary affairs of each municipality  
22 shall be administered by a local sanitary officer, who shall be  
23 the representative of the bureau of sanitation and under the  
24 immediate orders of the director of sanitation. The local  
25 sanitary officer shall appoint the personnel of his office, sub-

1 ject, except in the case of common laborers, to the approval of  
2 the director of sanitation, and shall establish and carry out the  
3 following services, to wit: Street cleaning and sprinkling,  
4 removal of garbage and other waste, and disinfection of public  
5 and private buildings and places. He shall enforce all sani-  
6 tary laws, ordinances, and regulations, both insular and mu-  
7 nicipal, and shall have general supervision of all matters relat-  
8 ing to the public health throughout the district embraced in the  
9 limits of his municipality. He shall transmit with his recom-  
10 mendation through the bureau to the board of sanitation and  
11 charities all resolutions of the municipality relating to sani-  
12 tation and all modifications of the sanitary regulations which  
13 they may propose to meet local conditions.

14 SEC. 33. That the local sanitary officers shall be  
15 qualified doctors of medicine and shall be appointed  
16 by the commissioner of health with the approval of the  
17 governor, to serve for periods of four years. They may be  
18 removed for inefficiency or other causes by the governor,  
19 upon the recommendation of the commissioner of health.  
20 They shall receive such salary and allowances as authorized  
21 by law, but shall not receive expense allowances for any duty  
22 within the limits of their municipalities, except upon special  
23 authority of the commissioner of health, nor shall they travel  
24 on official business outside of their municipalities without  
25 his orders.

1        SEC. 34. That the cost of the sanitary services of  
2 municipalities established by this Act shall be borne by the  
3 insular treasury, except that each municipality shall con-  
4 tribute fifteen per centum of its income for each fiscal year  
5 to the support of its sanitary services. Any amounts of such  
6 contribution not so expended shall revert to the treasuries  
7 of the municipalities whence they came.

8        SEC. 35. That the local sanitary officer of a municipality  
9 may impose the fines provided by law or sanitary regulations  
10 approved by the senate and governor of Porto Rico for  
11 infringement of the law or such regulations, subject to appeal  
12 in each instance to the proper municipal court. Such fines  
13 shall be imposed and collected in accordance with the regu-  
14 lations prescribed by the senate of Porto Rico and approved  
15 by the governor, and when so collected shall be deposited in  
16 the insular treasury, where they shall constitute a permanent  
17 fund to be known as the "Epidemic fund." This fund shall  
18 be reserved for emergency use in case of the appearance of  
19 an epidemic disease to meet the necessary expenses for which  
20 no appropriation exists. All requisitions for funds there-  
21 from shall be made in accordance with resolutions of the  
22 senate of Porto Rico, and they shall be disbursed under the  
23 direction of the commissioner of health and reported in  
24 detail in the annual reports of the department and accounted  
25 for by proper vouchers like other public funds.

1       SEC. 36. That the bureau of sanitation shall have such  
2 organization and personnel as may from time to time be  
3 authorized by the commissioner of health with the approval  
4 of the governor.

5       SEC. 37. That the bureau of charities shall be in charge  
6 of a director of charities, appointed by the commissioner  
7 of health with the approval of the governor, who under  
8 the authority of the commissioner of health shall exercise  
9 control over all branches of the service of charities and of  
10 the hospitals and institutions and establishments of a chari-  
11 table character under the jurisdiction of the bureau, including  
12 public insane asylums and reform schools for children. He  
13 shall be ex officio a member of the board of sanitation and  
14 charities over which he shall preside in the absence of the  
15 director of sanitation. It shall be the duty of the director of  
16 charities to carry into effect the obligations of the insular  
17 government to care for destitute or delinquent children, and  
18 to place them in the custody of the competent authorities or  
19 in charge of families that agree to take care of them or in pre-  
20 paratory or reform schools, as may be deemed advisable by  
21 him in view of the circumstances of each case. The bureau  
22 of charities shall have such organization and personnel as may  
23 from time to time be authorized under the law.

24       SEC. 38. That the board of sanitation and charities shall  
25 be composed of the director of sanitation and the director of

1 charities and seven additional members to be appointed by  
2 the governor, by and with the advice and consent of the senate  
3 of Porto Rico, and to be removable by the governor. The  
4 additional members of the board shall serve without salary,  
5 except a fee of five dollars for attendance at each meeting,  
6 but shall be reimbursed for all actual and necessary expenses  
7 incurred by reason of their absence from their homes on  
8 business pertaining to the duties of their office. The board  
9 shall meet at such times as the commissioner of health may  
10 prescribe. The commissioner of health shall appoint a  
11 secretary to the board of sanitation and charities, whose duty  
12 it shall be to keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the  
13 board and to conduct all its correspondence. He shall receive  
14 such compensation as shall be fixed by the commissioner of  
15 health with the approval of the governor. It shall be the  
16 duty of the board of sanitation and charities to act as a general  
17 advisory body in respect to all matters pertaining to the  
18 public health and charities of Porto Rico, and as a body to  
19 frame rules and regulations for carrying out the provisions  
20 of this Act with regard to conditions to be observed by all  
21 persons in Porto Rico in matters pertaining to the public  
22 health of the island and to the administration of the  
23 institutions under the bureaus of sanitation and charities.  
24 It shall prepare rules for the regulation of the manu-  
25 facture and sale of food products, drugs, and liquors, to-

1 bacco, cigars, and cigarettes, and for the prevention of the  
2 sale of adulterated articles, or of the sale of articles under  
3 other than genuine labels setting forth exactly the nature and  
4 character of the articles sold. It shall prepare rules for the  
5 regulation of conditions surrounding employees in factories  
6 and places of business, in so far as such regulation is necessary  
7 in the interest of the public health, and of the conditions to  
8 be maintained in dairies and bakeries and in connection  
9 with the slaughter of animals for food, and governing the  
10 transportation and sale of milk and other dairy products,  
11 bread and other bakery products, and meat and meat prod-  
12 ucts. It shall prepare regulations for the disposal of garbage  
13 and refuse of all kinds, define the character of sanitary ap-  
14 pliances to be installed and maintained in public and private  
15 buildings, and prepare rules for the burial, exhumation, and  
16 transportation of cadavers, and the regulations to be observed  
17 in respect to reporting, isolating, and treating infectious or  
18 contagious diseases, and in guarding from contamination all  
19 streams from which water for drinking or domestic purposes  
20 is taken, and it shall prepare all necessary rules for the en-  
21 forcement of the laws governing the admittance of persons to  
22 the practice of medicine, veterinary medicine, pharmacy,  
23 dentistry, midwifery, embalming, undertaking, and for the  
24 control of offensive and dangerous industries or occupations.



1       The members of the board of sanitation and charities may  
2 at any time examine the reports of inspections of institutions  
3 on file in the bureaus of the department and the reports made  
4 by the officers of such institutions in accordance with the pro-  
5 visions of this law, as well as any other documents relating to  
6 such institutions.

7       The board of sanitation and charities shall report to the  
8 commissioner of health upon all matters which he may refer  
9 to it for that purpose.

10       Complaints and petitions of a general character may  
11 be referred to the board by the commissioner of health, the  
12 director of sanitation, or the director of charities, for report.

13       The board shall give hearings to the committees which,  
14 as representatives of business or other interests, claim to have  
15 been injured by the sanitary measures adopted, and its reso-  
16 lutions on such complaints and petitions shall be laid before  
17 the commissioner of health for his decision.

18       The foregoing enumeration shall not be deemed to be  
19 inclusive of all subjects concerning which the board of sani-  
20 tation and charities shall formulate rules and regulations, but  
21 the board shall have power to formulate rules and regulations  
22 relative to any matter touching or affecting public health,  
23 cleanliness, or the sanitary condition of the island.

24       SEC. 39. That all rules and regulations of every char-  
25 acter formulated by the board of sanitation and charities shall

1 be submitted to the commissioner of health, who shall indorse  
2 upon them his views, and may, if he so desires, return them  
3 to the board for revision, but when again forwarded by the  
4 board to the commissioner of health he shall transmit them,  
5 whether approved by him or not, with his views indorsed  
6 thereon, to the senate of Porto Rico for action. The senate  
7 shall then have power to amend or alter such rules and regu-  
8 lations as it sees fit, and all such rules and regulations ap-  
9 proved by the senate of Porto Rico and the governor shall  
10 have the force and effect of law, and it shall be the duty  
11 of all health officers and other public officials, within the  
12 scope of their duties, to take all necessary steps for their  
13 enforcement.

14       SEC. 40. That as soon as practicable after its organiza-  
15 tion under this Act the board of sanitation and charities shall  
16 in like manner and in accordance with the procedure pre-  
17 scribed in the preceding section submit a codification of all  
18 the rules and regulations that it desires to have approved.  
19 These shall be in complete substitution of all existing laws,  
20 rules, and regulations and general orders relative to the pub-  
21 lic health of the island. Such and all subsequent rules and  
22 regulations as are approved by the senate shall be printed  
23 in English and Spanish, together with all pertinent subject-  
24 matter; and said compilation shall be distributed for the in-

1 formation of the public as the commissioner of health shall  
2 prescribe

3       SEC. 41. That within sixty days after the passage of this  
4 Act the alcalde of each municipality shall forward to the sec-  
5 retary of the board of sanitation and charities copies of all  
6 ordinances in force in his municipality which relate to sanita-  
7 tion or public health, which ordinances shall be considered by  
8 the board in making its recommendations. All ordinances  
9 or parts of ordinances which are not approved by the senate  
10 and governor shall be null and void, but municipal ordi-  
11 nances in force at the date of approval of this Act shall  
12 remain in force until the alcaldes of the municipalities con-  
13 cerned shall be informed of the action taken by the senate  
14 with reference thereto.

15       SEC. 42. That on July first, nineteen hundred and ten,  
16 or as soon thereafter as an official shall be designated by the  
17 commissioner of health to receive them, all carts, draft animals,  
18 harness, tools, and other articles of equipment and material used  
19 for sanitary purposes or intended for such use in each munici-  
20 pality, whether property of the municipality or of the insular  
21 government and in use by such municipality, shall be turned  
22 over to the local sanitary officer or other official of the depart-  
23 ment designated to receive them, who shall give a receipt and  
24 become responsible therefor, and shall use them for sanitary  
25 purposes in the municipality; likewise all municipal buildings

1 in use for sanitary purposes at the date of the approval of this  
2 Act shall continue in such use without payment of rent to the  
3 municipality until the department of health shall acquire by  
4 purchase or otherwise other buildings for this purpose.

5       SEC. 43. That there is hereby appropriated and set  
6 apart annually from the funds in the insular treasury of Porto  
7 Rico for a period of five fiscal years immediately subsequent  
8 to the passage of this Act one hundred and thirty thousand  
9 dollars, to be expended for sanitary work in accordance with  
10 the provisions of this Act; and the sum thus appropriated  
11 shall be in addition to such other appropriations as may be  
12 made by the legislature of Porto Rico for the support of char-  
13 itable institutions and for sanitary purposes.

14       SEC. 44. There shall be appointed by the President a  
15 director of civil service who shall be paid an annual salary  
16 of four thousand dollars and who shall reside in Porto Rico  
17 during his official incumbency. Such director shall ex officio  
18 exercise the functions and perform the duties now assigned  
19 by law to the chairman of the Porto Rican civil-service  
20 board as now established by the laws of Porto Rico and who  
21 shall be the chief officer of any civil-service board or commis-  
22 sion which may be hereafter created by the legislature of  
23 Porto Rico.

24       No law shall be effective in Porto Rico which shall pre-  
25 vent in the case of positions requiring expert scientific knowl-

1 edge the free transfer of persons in the classified service be-  
2 tween Porto Rico and the United States, or which shall  
3 prevent any citizen of the United States or of Porto Rico  
4 from taking civil-service examinations for such position  
5 at any time upon application therefor or the appoint-  
6 ment of eligibles as a result thereof without preference  
7 to residence at the time of such examination or appointment.

8       SEC. 45. That there shall be appointed by the Presi-  
9 dent by and with the advice and consent of the Senate  
10 an executive secretary for Porto Rico, at an annual  
11 salary of four thousand dollars, who shall record and  
12 preserve the minutes and proceedings of the public  
13 service commission hereinafter provided for and the laws  
14 enacted by the legislature and all acts and proceedings of  
15 the governor, and promulgate all proclamations and orders  
16 of the governor, and all laws enacted by the legislature, and  
17 perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the  
18 governor of Porto Rico. Any duties heretofore assigned to  
19 the secretary of Porto Rico by existing law may be assigned  
20 to the executive secretary herein provided for, or to any  
21 other department or bureau of the government as may be  
22 determined by the governor.

23       SEC. 46. That the governor of Porto Rico, within sixty  
24 days after the end of each session of the legislature, shall  
25 transmit to the head of the department designated by the

1 President in pursuance of authority conferred by this Act,  
2 who shall in turn transmit the same to the Congress of the  
3 United States copies of all laws enacted during the session.

4 SEC. 47. That the President may from time to time  
5 designate the head of an executive department of Porto Rico  
6 to act as governor in the case of the temporary removal,  
7 resignation, or disability of the governor, or his temporary  
8 absence, and the head of the department thus designated  
9 shall exercise all the powers and perform all the duties of  
10 the governor during such vacancy, disability, or absence.

11 SEC. 48. That all local legislative powers in Porto Rico,  
12 except as herein otherwise provided, shall be vested in a leg-  
13 islature which shall consist of two houses, one the senate and  
14 the other the house of representatives, and the two houses  
15 shall be designated "the legislature of Porto Rico."

16 SEC. 49. That the senate of Porto Rico shall consist of  
17 thirteen members, who shall be ~~chosen~~ *appointed* quadren-  
18 nially ~~as herein provided.~~ ~~Eight members of the senate~~  
19 ~~shall be appointed~~ by the President, *by and with the advice*  
20 *and consent of the Senate* of the United States, ~~and at the~~  
21 ~~next regular election after the approval of this Act, five shall~~  
22 ~~be elected by the qualified electors of Porto Rico as herein~~  
23 ~~after provided.~~ ~~The thirteen members thus chosen shall~~  
24 ~~serve for four years from the date of the expiration of the~~  
25 ~~terms of the present elected members of the executive coun-~~

1 ~~eil.—At the first and second quadrennial elections thereafter,~~  
2 ~~six members shall be elected by the people and seven ap-~~  
3 ~~pointed by the President of the United States to serve for~~  
4 ~~terms of four years each.—At the next succeeding quadren-~~  
5 ~~nial election seven shall be elected by the people and six~~  
6 ~~appointed by the President of the United States, and there-~~  
7 ~~after the number to be elected by the people shall at each~~  
8 ~~quadrennial election be increased by one, and the number to~~  
9 ~~be appointed by the President shall be reduced by one, until~~  
10 ~~by that process the senate shall become entirely elective.~~  
11 No person shall be a member of the senate of Porto Rico  
12 who is not over twenty-five years of age, and who is not able  
13 to read and write either the Spanish or English language,  
14 and who is not a resident of Porto Rico, and who does not  
15 own in his individual right taxable property in Porto Rico  
16 to the value of not less than one thousand dollars, ~~and no~~  
17 ~~person shall be an elective member of the senate of Porto~~  
18 ~~Rico who has not been a bona fide resident of the senatorial~~  
19 ~~district from which chosen for a period of at least two years~~  
20 ~~prior to his election.~~ Except as herein otherwise provided,  
21 the senate of Porto Rico shall exercise all of the purely legis-  
22 lative powers and functions heretofore exercised by the execu-  
23 tive council, including confirmation of appointments; but  
24 appointments made while the senate is not in session shall be

1 effective either until disapproved or until the next adjourn-  
2 ment of the senate.

3       SEC. 50. That the house of representatives of Porto Rico  
4 shall consist of thirty-five members elected quadrennially by  
5 the qualified electors of Porto Rico as hereinafter provided.  
6 No person shall be a member of the house of representatives who  
7 is not over twenty-five years of age, and who is not able to read  
8 and write either the Spanish or English language, and who  
9 does not own in his individual right taxable property, real or  
10 personal, situated in Porto Rico, and who has not been a bona  
11 fide resident of the district from which elected for at least one  
12 year prior to his election.

13       SEC. 51. That for the purpose of elections hereafter to  
14 the house of representatives, the island of Porto Rico shall be  
15 divided into thirty-five representative districts, composed of  
16 contiguous territory and established, so far as practicable, upon  
17 the basis of equal population. The division into and the  
18 demarcation of electoral districts shall be made by a commis-  
19 sion of three persons to be appointed by the governor, one  
20 member of which shall be chosen by him from each of the two  
21 political parties casting the highest number of votes at the  
22 last general election, and the third member of which shall  
23 be chosen at his discretion. Division of districts shall be  
24 made as nearly as practicable to conform to the topographical  
25 nature of the land, with regard to roads and other means of



1 communication, and to natural barriers. Each of the repre-  
2 sentative districts shall be entitled to one member in the  
3 house of representatives.

4 ~~SEC. 52.—That for the purpose of elections hereafter to~~  
5 ~~the senate the island of Porto Rico shall be divided into five~~  
6 ~~senatorial districts, each of which districts shall consist of~~  
7 ~~seven of the representative districts hereinbefore provided for,~~  
8 ~~and the division into and demarcation of senatorial districts~~  
9 ~~shall be made by the commission appointed by the governor~~  
10 ~~under the preceding section of this Act.—Senatorial districts~~  
11 ~~shall in every case be composed of seven representative dis-~~  
12 ~~tricts, which shall be selected so that each senatorial district~~  
13 ~~shall be composed of contiguous territory, and, so far as practi-~~  
14 ~~cable, the division shall be made with reference to the topo-~~  
15 ~~graphical nature of the land with regard to roads and other~~  
16 ~~means of communication and natural barriers.—Each of the~~  
17 ~~senatorial districts shall be entitled to one elective member in~~  
18 ~~the senate.—At each of the elections, when under the terms~~  
19 ~~of this Act six members of the senate are to be elected, the~~  
20 ~~sixth member shall be elected by the qualified voters of~~  
21 ~~Porto Rico at large.—Thereafter the island shall from time~~  
22 ~~to time be divided into as many convenient and contiguous~~  
23 ~~districts as there are members of the senate to be elected.~~  
24 ~~One member shall be elected from each district and shall be~~  
25 ~~a resident of the district from which he is elected.~~

1        SEC. ~~53~~ 52. That the next election in Porto Rico shall be  
2 held at the time and in the manner now provided by law, and  
3 there shall be chosen then senators and representatives as  
4 herein provided. Thereafter elections shall be held only on  
5 such days and under such regulations as to ballots and voting  
6 as may be prescribed by the legislature of Porto Rico.

7        SEC. ~~54~~ 53. That the terms of office of senators and rep-  
8 resentatives shall be four years from the first of the January  
9 following their ~~election or~~ appointment *or election*. In case  
10 of vacancy occurring through death or resignation or removal  
11 from any other cause of ~~an appointive~~ a senator, the President  
12 may fill the vacancy, but such appointment shall hold only for  
13 the unexpired portion of the term wherein the vacancy oc-  
14 curred. In case of vacancy among the ~~elective~~ members of  
15 the ~~senate or~~ house of representatives, special elections may  
16 be held in the districts wherein such vacancy occurred under  
17 such regulations as may be prescribed by law, but ~~senators or~~  
18 representatives elected in such cases shall hold office only for  
19 the unexpired portion of the term wherein the vacancy  
20 occurred.

21        SEC. ~~55~~ 54. That members of the senate and house of rep-  
22 resentatives of Porto Rico shall receive compensation at the  
23 rate of seven dollars per day while in session, and mileage at  
24 the rate of eight cents per kilometer for each kilometer actually  
25 and necessarily traveled in going from their legislative districts

1 to the capital and therefrom to their places of residence in  
2 their districts by the usual routes of travel.

3       SEC. 56 55. That the ~~senate and~~ house of representa-  
4 tives, ~~respectively~~, shall be the sole ~~judges~~ *judge* of the elec-  
5 tions, returns, and qualifications of ~~their elective~~ *its* members,  
6 and ~~they~~ *both the senate and house of representatives* shall  
7 have and exercise all the powers with respect to the con-  
8 duct of their proceedings that usually pertain to parliamen-  
9 tary legislative bodies. Both houses shall convene at  
10 the capital on the second Monday in January following the  
11 next election, and organize by the election of a speaker or a  
12 presiding officer, a clerk, and a sergeant-at-arms for each  
13 house, and such other officers and assistants as may be  
14 required.

15       SEC. 57 56. That the regular sessions of the legislature  
16 of Porto Rico shall be biennial and shall not continue longer  
17 than sixty days: *Provided*, That the legislature may, by a  
18 majority vote of each house, continue the session for a period  
19 not exceeding thirty days, but without compensation to  
20 its members. The governor may call special sessions of  
21 the legislature or of the senate at any time when in his  
22 opinion the public service requires it, but no special session  
23 shall continue longer than ten days and no legislation shall  
24 be considered at such session other than that specified in  
25 the call.

1        SEC. 58 57. That the enacting clause of the laws shall be  
2 as to acts, "Be it enacted by the legislature of Porto Rico,"  
3 and as to joint resolutions, "Be it resolved by the legislature  
4 of Porto Rico." All bills and joint resolutions may originate  
5 in either house. The general appropriation bill may be pre-  
6 pared by the governor and shall be introduced as prepared or  
7 approved by him within the first ten days of the session  
8 of the legislature, but shall be subject to amendment as  
9 in the case of any other bill; no bill shall become a law  
10 unless it be passed in each house by a majority vote of  
11 all of the members belonging to such house and be  
12 approved by the governor within ten days thereafter.  
13 If when a bill that has been passed is presented to the  
14 governor for his signature, he approves the same, he shall sign  
15 it, or if not, he shall return it, with his objections, to that  
16 house in which it originated, which house shall enter his  
17 objections at large on its journal. If any bill shall not be  
18 returned by the governor within ten days (Sundays excepted)  
19 after it shall have been presented to him, it shall be a law  
20 in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the legislature  
21 by adjournment prevents its return, in which case it shall  
22 be a law if signed by the governor within ten days after  
23 receipt by him, otherwise it shall not be a law; but all laws  
24 enacted by the legislature of Porto Rico shall be reported to the  
25 Congress of the United States, which hereby reserves the

1 power and authority to annul the same. If at the termination  
2 of any fiscal year the appropriations necessary for the  
3 support of government for the ensuing fiscal year shall not  
4 have been made an amount equal to the sums appropriated  
5 in the last appropriation bills for such purpose shall be deemed  
6 to be appropriated; and until the legislature shall act in such  
7 behalf the treasurer may, with the advice of the governor,  
8 make the payments necessary for the purposes aforesaid.

9       SEC. ~~59~~ 58. That hereafter no person shall be eligible for  
10 election or appointment to any office in Porto Rico under  
11 the Government of the United States or the government of  
12 Porto Rico who is not a citizen of the United States.

13       SEC. ~~60~~ 59. That the qualified electors of Porto Rico  
14 after the general election of nineteen hundred and ten and for  
15 any election whatsoever shall consist of those citizens already  
16 registered as voters under the laws of Porto Rico, and of those  
17 that will be thereafter registered in accordance with the terms  
18 of this Act and of the laws of Porto Rico. That after the  
19 approval of this Act no person shall be allowed to register as  
20 a voter in Porto Rico who is not a citizen of the United  
21 States, over twenty-one years of age, and who is not able to  
22 read and write, or on the date of registration shall not own  
23 taxable real estate in his own right or name, either personally  
24 or as a bona fide member of a firm or copartnership.

1        SEC. ~~61~~ 60. That the qualified electors of Porto Rico  
2 shall, at the general election in nineteen hundred and ten,  
3 and every four years thereafter, choose a Resident Commis-  
4 sioner to the United States, whose term of office shall be four  
5 years, from the fourth of March following, and who shall be  
6 entitled to receive official recognition as such Commissioner  
7 by all of the departments of the Government of the United  
8 States, upon presentation, through the Department of State,  
9 of a certificate of election of the governor of Porto Rico.  
10 The Resident Commissioner shall receive a salary, payable  
11 monthly by the United States, of seven thousand five hun-  
12 dred dollars per annum. Such Commissioner shall be allowed  
13 the same sum for stationery and for the pay of necessary  
14 clerk hire as is now allowed to Members of the House of  
15 Representatives of the United States; the sum of five hun-  
16 dred dollars as mileage for each session of the House of Rep-  
17 resentatives; and the franking privilege now enjoyed by  
18 Members of the House of Representatives. No person shall  
19 be eligible to election as Resident Commissioner who is not  
20 a bona fide citizen of Porto Rico and who is not more than  
21 thirty years of age, and who does not read and write the  
22 English language.

23        SEC. ~~62~~ 61. That the legislative authority herein pro-  
24 vided shall extend to all matters of a legislative character not  
25 locally inapplicable, including power to create, consolidate,

1 and reorganize the municipalities so far as may be necessary,  
2 and to provide and repeal laws and ordinances therefor, also  
3 the power to alter, amend, modify, and repeal any and all  
4 laws and ordinances of every character now in force in Porto  
5 Rico or any municipality or district thereof, not inconsistent  
6 with the provisions of this Act.

7 No executive department not provided for in this Act  
8 shall be created, but the legislature may from time to time  
9 create additional bureaus, including a bureau for the study  
10 and promotion of agriculture, commerce, and labor, in any of  
11 the departments created or authorized hereby, and each  
12 additional bureau so created shall be subject to the super-  
13 vision and control of the head of the executive department  
14 in which it is established.

15 SEC. 63 62. That all grants of franchises, rights, and  
16 privileges or concessions of a public or quasi public nature  
17 shall be made by a public-service commission, consisting of  
18 the attorney-general of Porto Rico, the treasurer, the  
19 auditor, the commissioner of the interior, and two others to  
20 be elected by the people, who shall be natives of Porto  
21 Rico and receive such per diem and other compensa-  
22 tion as the senate shall determine. The said commission  
23 is also empowered and directed to discharge all the execu-  
24 tive functions heretofore conferred by law upon the executive  
25 council not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act,

1 including the powers and duties prescribed by an act of the  
2 legislative assembly of Porto Rico entitled "An act con-  
3 cerning the regulation of public-service corporations in  
4 Porto Rico," approved March twelfth, nineteen hundred  
5 and eight, and all amendments which may be or have been  
6 made thereto by the legislature of Porto Rico and including  
7 all the powers and duties heretofore exercised by the execu-  
8 tive council with regard to all municipal loans and bonds, and  
9 advancements of insular funds to municipalities and school  
10 boards; and all franchises granted by the said commission  
11 shall be subject to the approval of the senate and the gov-  
12 ernor, and shall be reported to Congress, which hereby reserves  
13 the power to annul or modify the same. Whenever the  
14 legislature shall have authorized the borrowing of money  
15 or the creation of any indebtedness by the insular govern-  
16 ment, the commission may, within the authorization of the  
17 legislature, prescribe the terms of all notes, bonds or other  
18 instruments to be issued as evidences of said indebtedness,  
19 and the price or prices for which they shall be sold or dis-  
20 posed of. When the action of the commission in that regard  
21 shall have been approved by the governor, the treasurer  
22 shall dispose of such securities in pursuance thereof, and turn  
23 the proceeds into the public treasury.

24       SEC. 6463. That all railroad, street railway, telegraph, and  
25 telephone franchises, privileges, or concessions granted under



1 the section last preceding shall be approved by the President  
2 of the United States, and no such franchise, privilege, or con-  
3 cession shall be operative until it shall have been so approved ;  
4 and all grants of franchises, privileges, and concessions under  
5 said section shall provide that the same shall be subject to  
6 amendment, alteration, or repeal ; and shall forbid the issue  
7 of stocks or bonds, except in exchange for actual cash or prop-  
8 erty at a fair valuation equal in amount to the par value of the  
9 stocks or bonds issued ; and shall forbid the declaring of stock  
10 or bond dividends, and in the case of public-service corpora-  
11 tions, shall provide for the effective regulation of charges  
12 thereof, and for the purchase or taking of their property by  
13 the authorities at a fair and reasonable valuation.

14 ~~SEC. 65. That no corporation shall be authorized to~~  
15 ~~conduct the business of buying and selling real estate or be~~  
16 ~~permitted to hold or own real estate, except such as may~~  
17 ~~be reasonably necessary to enable it to carry out the purposes~~  
18 ~~for which it was created, but the ownership, lease or culti-~~  
19 ~~vation of lands for the growth of sugar cane by a corporation~~  
20 ~~organized for the manufacture or refining of sugar only, shall~~  
21 ~~not be construed as one of the purposes for which it was~~  
22 ~~created.~~

23 ~~That every corporation engaged in agriculture shall be~~  
24 ~~restricted to the ownership or control by lease or otherwise~~

1 ~~of not to exceed three thousand acres of land, and it shall~~  
2 ~~be unlawful for any corporation engaged in agriculture to~~  
3 ~~be in anywise interested in any other corporation engaged~~  
4 ~~in agriculture or for any member or stockholder of a corpo-~~  
5 ~~ration engaged in agriculture, to hereafter acquire and hold~~  
6 ~~any interest of any kind in any other corporation engaged in~~  
7 ~~agriculture.~~

8 ~~All persons or corporations hereafter holding stock in~~  
9 ~~two or more corporations engaged in agriculture shall, within~~  
10 ~~three months from the acquisition of stock in more than one~~  
11 ~~of said corporations, dispose in good faith of their stock in~~  
12 ~~all but one of said corporations, and upon the failure so to do,~~  
13 ~~all of the stock held by them in said corporations shall escheat~~  
14 ~~to the people of Porto Rico, which escheat shall be deter-~~  
15 ~~mined by legal proceedings in the name of the people of~~  
16 ~~Porto Rico, conducted by the Attorney General in the United~~  
17 ~~States district court for Porto Rico or in the circuit court of~~  
18 ~~the United States having jurisdictions of the persons of the~~  
19 ~~defendants: *Provided*, That persons or corporations holding~~  
20 ~~stock at the passage of this Act, in two or more corporations~~  
21 ~~engaged in agriculture, may retain the same, but upon~~  
22 ~~acquisition by them of stock in any other corporation en-~~  
23 ~~gaged in agriculture, they shall dispose of such after-acquired~~  
24 ~~stock within three months or the same shall escheat to the~~

1 ~~people of Porto Rico upon proceedings in the courts and by~~  
2 ~~the authority as above provided.~~

3 ~~That no corporation shall be permitted to engage in~~  
4 ~~agriculture except those created and organized under the~~  
5 ~~laws of Porto Rico and those created and organized under the~~  
6 ~~laws of other States or countries engaged in agriculture in~~  
7 ~~Porto Rico at the passage of this Act. Every corporation~~  
8 ~~engaged in agriculture, except those foreign corporations~~  
9 ~~engaged in agriculture at the passage of this Act, shall main-~~  
10 ~~tain its general offices in Porto Rico and shall keep therein~~  
11 ~~all the books and records of said corporation, and all stock of~~  
12 ~~said corporation shall be transferable only upon the books~~  
13 ~~of said corporation and no transfer thereof shall be of any~~  
14 ~~validity until so transferred; that all records of the issuance~~  
15 ~~of stock or certificates thereof and of all assignments and~~  
16 ~~transfers shall be open at all times to the inspection of the~~  
17 ~~Attorney General; that every corporation engaged in agri-~~  
18 ~~culture, not created under the laws of Porto Rico, shall~~  
19 ~~maintain an office in Porto Rico in charge of some official of~~  
20 ~~said corporation; that there shall be kept in said office a correct~~  
21 ~~list of the names of all stockholders of said corporation with~~  
22 ~~the number of shares of stock owned by each and the date~~  
23 ~~of the issuance or transfer of said shares to each stockholder,~~  
24 ~~which list shall at all times be open to the inspection of the~~  
25 ~~Attorney General; that failure to maintain such office and~~

1 ~~failure to keep such list of stockholders as provided in this~~  
2 ~~section shall be cause for forfeiture of charter or ouster of a~~  
3 ~~corporation from Porto Rico.~~

4 ~~All contracts, agreements and combinations between~~  
5 ~~two or more corporations engaged in agriculture for the joint~~  
6 ~~ownership, control or cultivation by said corporations of~~  
7 ~~more than three thousand acres of land and all agreements,~~  
8 ~~contracts, combinations, transactions or devices by or between~~  
9 ~~officers, agents, trustees or stockholders of two or more of~~  
10 ~~such corporations, the object of which is to secure the joint~~  
11 ~~ownership or control by two or more of such corporations of~~  
12 ~~more than three thousand acres of land, are hereby declared~~  
13 ~~to be unlawful, and all corporations and persons making,~~  
14 ~~forming, or participating in the making or formation of such~~  
15 ~~an unlawful agreement, contract or combination, or engaging~~  
16 ~~in any such unlawful transaction or device, are hereby de-~~  
17 ~~clared to be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall~~  
18 ~~be fined not less than five hundred dollars nor more than ten~~  
19 ~~thousand dollars, and the corporation making or participating~~  
20 ~~in or directly accepting the benefits of such an unlawful con-~~  
21 ~~tract, agreement, combination, transaction or device, if a~~  
22 ~~domestic corporation, forfeits its charter, and if a foreign~~  
23 ~~corporation, shall be ousted from Porto Rico upon suit by the~~  
24 ~~Attorney General in any court of competent jurisdiction.~~  
25 ~~Concurrent jurisdiction for the trial of the misdemeanor~~

1 ~~herein created and defined is hereby conferred upon the~~  
2 ~~district courts of Porto Rico and the United States district~~  
3 ~~court of Porto Rico.~~

4       ~~Any transaction, device or contrivance, the legal effect~~  
5 ~~of which would be to vest in any corporation ownership in or~~  
6 ~~control of, by lease or otherwise, of more than three thousand~~  
7 ~~acres of land, shall not be effective as to the excess over the~~  
8 ~~amount vesting such ownership or control of said three thou-~~  
9 ~~sand acres and the excess acreage in question shall, by virtue~~  
10 ~~of such attempted purchase, contract, device or contrivance,~~  
11 ~~escheat to the people of Porto Rico, which escheat shall be~~  
12 ~~determined by a legal proceeding in the name of the people~~  
13 ~~of Porto Rico, conducted in the United States court for Porto~~  
14 ~~Rico, by the Attorney General, and any stock issued by a~~  
15 ~~corporation for the purpose of obtaining, directly or indirectly,~~  
16 ~~control of land in excess of three thousand acres, as aforesaid,~~  
17 ~~and any land hereafter purchased by any corporation in excess~~  
18 ~~of the amount required to enable it to carry out the purposes~~  
19 ~~for which it was created, shall also escheat to the people of~~  
20 ~~Porto Rico upon proceedings in the court and by the authority~~  
21 ~~as above provided. Any corporation engaged in agriculture~~  
22 ~~or holding lands in excess of the three thousand acre limit,~~  
23 ~~and any corporation holding lands in excess of the amount~~  
24 ~~required to enable it to carry out the purposes for which it~~  
25 ~~was created at the time this law goes into effect, shall be~~

1 ~~required to dispose of the excess over and above the amount~~  
2 ~~it may lawfully hold, within a period of five years, and until~~  
3 ~~they do dispose of the said excess, the same shall be subject~~  
4 ~~to a graduated increase in taxation, said excess being taxable,~~  
5 ~~at the end of one year, at the rate of fifty per centum more than~~  
6 ~~ordinary taxes as provided by law for similar property, and~~  
7 ~~at the end of two years at twice said rates, and thereafter said~~  
8 ~~rate of taxation on said excess shall annually increase at the~~  
9 ~~rate of fifty per centum until the same is so disposed of.—Cor-~~  
10 ~~porations, however, may loan funds upon real estate security,~~  
11 ~~and purchase real estate when necessary for the collection of~~  
12 ~~said loans, but shall dispose of the real estate so obtained,~~  
13 ~~where the same would constitute an excess over three thou-~~  
14 ~~sand acres, within five years after such purchase, under like~~  
15 ~~taxation penalties as aforesaid.—Corporations not organized~~  
16 ~~or residing in Porto Rico and doing business therein shall~~  
17 ~~be bound by the provisions of this section.—Whenever the~~  
18 ~~excess over the amount which a corporation may lawfully~~  
19 ~~hold shall be a part of a tract or tracts of lands, the acquisition~~  
20 ~~of which constitutes the excess in question, the acreage~~  
21 ~~which shall be treated as such excess shall be segregated and~~  
22 ~~set off by selection of the corporation interested.—And in the~~  
23 ~~event of its refusal or failure so to select, then the same shall~~  
24 ~~be determined by the court which takes jurisdiction of the~~  
25 ~~matter: *Provided*, That nothing herein shall invalidate the~~

1 ~~title to any lands acquired prior to April twelfth, nineteen~~  
2 ~~hundred, or the title by will or inheritance to any lands the~~  
3 ~~title to which was lawfully acquired prior to said date:—~~*Pro-*  
4 ~~vided further, That corporations engaged in agriculture may~~  
5 ~~take leases on land in excess of the three thousand acre limit~~  
6 ~~prescribed herein if the said leases do not exceed a term of~~  
7 ~~five years.~~

8       *SEC. 64. That no corporation shall be authorized to con-*  
9 *duct the business of buying and selling real estate or be permitted*  
10 *to hold or own real estate, except for the purposes for which*  
11 *it is organized. Corporations not organized in Porto Rico*  
12 *and doing business therein shall be bound by the provisions*  
13 *of this section.*

14       *If any corporation engaged in agriculture, except a corpo-*  
15 *ration engaged in the cultivation of sugar cane or in the manu-*  
16 *facture of sugar, shall in any calendar year own or control*  
17 *lands actually planted or cultivated in any such year in*  
18 *excess of three thousand acres, and if a corporation engaged*  
19 *in the cultivation of sugar cane or in the manufacture of*  
20 *sugar shall in any calendar year own or control lands*  
21 *actually planted or cultivated with sugar cane for any one*  
22 *crop, whether the same be reaped before or after the date of*  
23 *assessment of taxes, in excess of five thousand acres, except*  
24 *lands leased for terms not exceeding twenty years, said lands*  
25 *so actually planted or cultivated in excess of the amounts*

1 above set forth shall be subject for said year to a graduated  
2 increase in taxation, as follows: On the first one thousand  
3 acres or fraction thereof in excess of the number of acres above  
4 set forth, at a rate fifty per centum in excess of the rate at  
5 which ordinary taxes as provided by law are assessed on  
6 similar property; on the second additional one thousand  
7 acres or fraction thereof, at a rate one hundred per centum  
8 in excess of the rate at which ordinary taxes as provided by  
9 law are assessed on similar property; on the third additional  
10 one thousand acres or fraction thereof, at a rate one hundred  
11 and fifty per centum in excess of the rate at which ordinary  
12 taxes as provided by law are assessed on similar property;  
13 and said rate shall be increased by an additional fifty per  
14 centum over and above the rate at which ordinary taxes as  
15 provided by law are assessed on similar property on each  
16 one thousand additional acres or fraction thereof so owned  
17 or controlled and actually so planted or cultivated, as above  
18 provided, during any calendar year: Provided, however, That  
19 leases of lands for terms not exceeding twenty years and  
20 contracts made by a corporation for grinding sugar cane  
21 grown upon lands not owned by it shall not be held to be  
22 ownership or control of lands within the meaning of this  
23 section.

24 In case any corporation shall own or control any lands  
25 subject to increased taxation, as above provided, such corpo-



1 *ration shall, upon request, designate the lands upon which such*  
2 *increased taxation shall operate, and if such lands, subject*  
3 *to increased taxation exceed one thousand acres, such corpo-*  
4 *ration shall further designate the specific lands to be subject*  
5 *to each graduated increase. In case such corporation shall*  
6 *refuse or neglect to so designate the lands so subject to in-*  
7 *creased taxation, the appropriate taxing authority or author-*  
8 *ities of Porto Rico shall designate and select the same.*

9       SEC. 66 65. That the judicial power shall be vested in the  
10 courts and tribunals of Porto Rico as already established and in  
11 operation under and by virtue of existing laws. The juris-  
12 diction of said courts and the form of procedure in them, and  
13 the various officers and attachés thereof shall also continue  
14 to be as now provided until otherwise provided by law: *Pro-*  
15 *vided, however,* That the chief justice and associate justices  
16 of the supreme court, and the marshal thereof, shall be ap-  
17 pointed by the President by and with the advice and consent  
18 of the Senate, and the legislature of Porto Rico shall have  
19 authority, from time to time as it may see fit, not inconsis-  
20 tent with this act to organize, modify, or rearrange the  
21 courts and their jurisdiction and procedure, except the  
22 district court of the United States for Porto Rico.

23       SEC. 67 66. That Porto Rico shall constitute a judicial  
24 district to be called "The district of Porto Rico." The

1 President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate,  
2 shall appoint one district judge and a district attorney and  
3 a marshal for said district, each for a term of four years unless  
4 sooner removed by the President. The district court for  
5 said district shall be called “The district court of the United  
6 States for Porto Rico,” and shall have power to appoint all  
7 necessary officials and assistants, including the clerk, inter-  
8 preter, and such commissioners as may be necessary, who  
9 shall be entitled to the same fees and have like powers and  
10 duties as are exercised and performed by United States com-  
11 missioners. Such court shall have jurisdiction of all cases cog-  
12 nizable in the district and circuit courts of the United States,  
13 and shall proceed in the same manner; and in addition shall  
14 have jurisdiction for the naturalization of aliens and shall  
15 have jurisdiction of all controversies where all of the parties  
16 on either side of the controversy are citizens or subjects of a  
17 foreign state or states, or citizens of the United States or a  
18 State, Territory, or district thereof, or territory under the juris-  
19 diction thereof whose domicile is not in Porto Rico, wherein  
20 the matter in dispute exceeds, exclusive of interest or cost, the  
21 sum or value of two thousand dollars, and of all controversies  
22 in which there is a separable controversy involving such  
23 jurisdictional amount, and in which all of the parties on  
24 either side of such separable controversy are citizens or sub-  
25 jects of the character aforesaid: *Provided*, That nothing in

1 this Act shall be deemed to impair the jurisdiction of the  
2 “district court of the United States for Porto Rico” to hear  
3 and determine all controversies pending in said court at the  
4 date of the approval of this Act: *Provided further*, That  
5 hereafter the salaries of the judge and officials of the district  
6 court of the United States for Porto Rico, together with the  
7 court expenses, shall be paid from the United States revenues  
8 in the same manner as in other United States district courts.  
9 In case of the death, absence, or other legal disability on the  
10 part of the judge of the said “the district court of the United  
11 States for Porto Rico,” the President is authorized to designate  
12 one of the judges of the supreme court of Porto Rico to dis-  
13 charge the duties of judge of said court until such absence or  
14 disability shall be removed, and thereupon such judge so  
15 designated for said service shall be fully authorized and em-  
16 powered to perform the duties of said office during such ab-  
17 sence or disability of such regular judge, and to sign all  
18 necessary papers and records as the acting judge of said court,  
19 without extra compensation.

20       SEC. 68 67. That the laws of the United States relating  
21 to appeals, writs of error, and certiorari, removal of causes,  
22 and other matters and proceedings as between the courts of  
23 the United States and the courts of the several States, shall  
24 govern in such matters and proceedings as between the dis-  
25 trict court of the United States and the courts of Porto Rico.

1 Regular terms of said court shall be held at San Juan, com-  
2 mencing on the second Monday in April and October of each  
3 year, and also at Ponce on the second Monday in January  
4 of each year, and special terms may be held at Mayaguez at  
5 such other stated times as said judge may deem expedient.  
6 All pleadings and proceedings in said court shall be conducted  
7 in the English language. The said district court shall be  
8 attached to and included in the third circuit of the United  
9 States, with the right of appeal and review by said circuit  
10 court of appeals in all cases where the same would lie from  
11 any district or circuit court to a circuit court of appeals of the  
12 United States.

13       SEC. 69 68. That writs of error and appeals from the final  
14 decisions of the supreme court of Porto Rico and the district  
15 court of the United States for Porto Rico shall be allowed,  
16 and may be taken to the Supreme Court of the United States  
17 in the same manner and under the same regulations and in  
18 the same cases as from the supreme courts of Territories of the  
19 United States and from the circuit and district courts of the  
20 United States, respectively, and such writs of error and  
21 appeal shall be allowed in all cases where the Constitution  
22 of the United States, or a treaty thereof, or an Act of Con-  
23 gress, is brought in question and the right claimed thereunder  
24 is denied. All such proceedings in the Supreme Court of the  
25 United States shall be conducted in the English language.

1        SEC. ~~70~~ 69. That the qualifications of jurors as fixed by  
2 the local laws of Porto Rico shall not apply to jurors selected  
3 to serve in the district court of the United States for Porto  
4 Rico; but the qualifications required of jurors in said court  
5 shall be that each shall be of the age of twenty-one years,  
6 and not over sixty-five years, a resident of Porto Rico for not  
7 less than one year, and have a sufficient knowledge of the  
8 English language to enable him to serve as a juror, they shall  
9 also be citizens of the United States. Juries for the said  
10 court shall be selected and drawn in accordance with the  
11 laws of Congress regulating the same in United States courts,  
12 but exemption from jury duty allowed by the local laws shall  
13 be respected by the court when insisted upon by veniremen.

14        SEC. ~~71~~ 70. That all such fees, fines, costs, and forfeitures  
15 as would be deposited to the credit of the United States if  
16 collected and paid into a district court of the United States  
17 shall become revenues of the United States if collected and  
18 paid into the district court of the United States for Porto  
19 Rico.

20        SEC. ~~72~~ 71. That the Attorney-General of the United  
21 States shall from time to time determine the salaries of all  
22 officials and assistants appointed by the United States district  
23 court, including the clerk, his deputies, interpreter, ste-  
24 nographer, and other officials and employees, the same to be

1 paid by the United States as other salaries and expenses of  
2 like character in United States courts.

3       SEC. ~~73~~ 72. That jurors and witnesses in the district court  
4 of the United States for Porto Rico shall be entitled to and  
5 receive fifteen cents for each mile necessarily traveled over  
6 any stage line or by private conveyance and ten cents for  
7 each mile over any railway in going to and returning from  
8 said courts. But no constructive or double mileage fees  
9 shall be allowed by reason of any person being summoned  
10 both as witness and juror, or as witness in two or more cases  
11 pending in the same court and triable at the same term  
12 thereof. Such jurors shall be paid two dollars per day, and  
13 such witnesses one dollar per day, while in attendance upon  
14 the court.

15       SEC. 74 73. That the supreme and district courts of Porto  
16 Rico and the respective judges thereof may grant writs of  
17 habeas corpus in all cases in which the same are grantable  
18 by the judges of the district courts of the United States, and  
19 the district courts may grant writs of mandamus in all proper  
20 cases.

21       SEC. ~~75~~ 74. That hereafter all judges, *marshals*, and *sec-*  
22 *retaries* of courts now established or that may hereafter be  
23 established in Porto Rico, and whose appointment by the  
24 President is not provided for by law, shall be appointed by

1 the governor by and with the advice and consent of the  
2 senate of Porto Rico.

3       SEC. 7675. That except as in this Act otherwise provided,  
4 the salaries of all the officials of Porto Rico not appointed by  
5 the President, including deputies, assistants, and other help,  
6 shall be such, and be so paid out of the revenues of Porto Rico,  
7 as shall from time to time be determined by the senate of  
8 Porto Rico and approved by the governor, and if the legisla-  
9 ture shall fail to make an appropriation for such salaries, the  
10 salaries so fixed shall be paid without the necessity of further  
11 appropriations therefor. The salaries of all officers and all ex-  
12 penses of the offices of the various officials of Porto Rico ap-  
13 pointed as herein provided by the President shall also be paid  
14 out of the revenues of Porto Rico, on warrant of the auditor,  
15 countersigned by the governor. The annual salaries of  
16 the officials appointed by the President and so to be  
17 paid shall be as follows: The governor, ten thousand dol-  
18 lars; in addition thereto he shall be entitled to the occu-  
19 pancy of the buildings heretofore used by the chief executive  
20 of Porto Rico, with the furniture and effects therein, free of  
21 rental; attorney-general, five thousand dollars; treasurer,  
22 five thousand dollars; auditor, five thousand dollars; com-  
23 missioner of the interior, five thousand dollars; commis-  
24 sioner of education, five thousand dollars; commissioner of  
25 agriculture, commerce, and labor, when that department

1 shall be created as authorized by this Act, five thousand  
2 dollars; commissioner of health, five thousand dollars; chief  
3 justice of the supreme court, six thousand dollars; associate  
4 justices of the supreme court, five thousand five hundred  
5 dollars each; marshal of the supreme court, three thousand  
6 dollars; United States district judge, six thousand dollars;  
7 United States attorney, ~~three~~ *four* thousand five hundred  
8 dollars; United States marshal, three thousand five hundred  
9 dollars.

10 Where any officer whose salary is fixed by this Act is  
11 required to give a bond, the premium thereof shall be paid  
12 from the insular treasury, except upon bonds of officers of the  
13 United States courts.

14 SEC. ~~77~~ 76. That the provisions of the foregoing section  
15 shall not apply to municipal officials; their salaries and the  
16 compensation of their deputies, assistants, and other help, as  
17 well as all other expenses incurred by the municipalities, shall  
18 be paid out of the municipal revenues, in such manner as the  
19 legislature shall provide.

20 SEC. ~~78~~ 77. That wherever in this Act officers of the gov-  
21 ernment are provided for under the same names as in the here-  
22 tofore existing Acts of Congress affecting Porto Rico, the  
23 present incumbents of those offices shall continue in office in  
24 accordance with the terms and at the salaries prescribed by  
25 this Act. The office of secretary of Porto Rico is hereby abol-



1   ished. Authority is given to the respective appointing authori-  
2   ties to appoint and commission persons to fill the new offices  
3   created by this Act. All powers and duties now imposed  
4   by law on the president of the executive council shall, after  
5   the organization of the senate of Porto Rico as herein provided,  
6   be performed by the presiding officer of the senate.

7       SEC. ~~79~~ 78. That the police department shall continue to  
8   be under the direct authority of the governor of Porto Rico,  
9   the general plan of organization thereof being as at present  
10  provided by law and so to continue until otherwise provided.

11       SEC. ~~80~~ 79. That any bureau or office belonging to any  
12  of the regular departments of the government, or hereafter  
13  created, or not assigned, may be transferred or assigned to  
14  any department by the governor upon the approval of the  
15  President of the United States.

16       SEC. ~~81~~ 80. That there is hereby transferred to the com-  
17  missioner of the interior all of the administrative and execu-  
18  tive powers and duties conferred upon the executive council  
19  by the public irrigation law of Porto Rico approved Sep-  
20  tember eighteenth, nineteen hundred and eight, and the  
21  act approved on the same date, authorizing the issuance of  
22  bonds for the construction of an irrigation system, together  
23  with any and all amendments to either of said acts.

24       SEC. ~~82~~ 81. That deeds and other instruments affecting  
25  land situate in the District of Columbia, or any other Terri-

1 tory of the United States, may be acknowledged in Porto  
2 Rico before any notary public appointed therein by proper  
3 authority, or any officer therein who has ex officio the  
4 powers of a notary public: *Provided*, That the certificate  
5 by such notary shall be accompanied by the certificate of  
6 the attorney-general of Porto Rico to the effect that the  
7 notary taking such acknowledgment is in fact such notarial  
8 officer.

9       SEC. 82. That nothing in this Act shall be deemed to  
10 impair or interrupt the jurisdiction of existing courts over mat-  
11 ters pending therein upon the approval of this Act, which  
12 jurisdiction is in all respects hereby continued, the purpose  
13 of this Act being to preserve the integrity of all of said  
14 courts and their jurisdiction until otherwise provided by law,  
15 except as in this Act otherwise specifically provided.

16       SEC. 83. That this Act shall take effect upon approval,  
17 but until its provisions shall severally become operative, as  
18 hereinbefore provided, the corresponding legislative and  
19 executive functions of the government in Porto Rico shall con-  
20 tinue to be exercised and in full force and operation as now  
21 provided by law; and for the purpose of fulfilling its functions  
22 as the upper house of the legislative assembly and for action  
23 upon appointments by the governor and for all other necessary  
24 purposes the executive council shall, until the assembly and  
25 organization of the legislature of Porto Rico as herein pro-

1 vided, consist of the attorney-general, the treasurer, the  
2 auditor, the commissioner of the interior, the commissioner  
3 of education, and the commissioner of health, and the  
4 five additional members as now provided by law. And any  
5 functions herein assigned to the senate of Porto Rico may,  
6 until the said senate has assembled and organized, as herein  
7 provided, be exercised by the executive council as thus con-  
8 stituted.

9       SEC. 85 84. That all laws or parts of laws applicable to  
10 Porto Rico not in conflict with any of the provisions of this  
11 Act, and including the laws relating to tariffs, customs, and  
12 duties on importations into Porto Rico prescribed by the Act  
13 of Congress entitled "An Act temporarily to provide revenues  
14 and a civil government for Porto Rico, and for other pur-  
15 poses," approved April twelfth, nineteen hundred, are  
16 hereby continued in force and effect.

Passed the House of Representatives June 15, 1910.

Attest:

A. McDOWELL,

*Clerk.*

By WM. J. BROWNING,

*Chief Clerk.*

CALENDAR NO. 867.

61<sup>ST</sup> CONGRESS, }  
3<sup>D</sup> Session. }

**H. R. 23000.**

[Report No. 920.]

# AN ACT

To provide a civil government for Porto Rico,  
and for other purposes.

---

JUNE 16, 1910.—Read twice and referred to the Committee on Pacific Islands and Porto Rico.

DECEMBER 13, 1910.—Reported without amendment.

DECEMBER 16, 1910.—Recommitted to the Committee on Pacific Islands and Porto Rico.

JANUARY 20, 1911.—Reported with amendments.